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The Rebellion of Absalom 13:1-19:8

- Absalom's return to Jerusalem
 - Joab, David's sister's son and commander of the armies of Israel, knew David had been thinking about Absalom and devised a plan to prompt David to order his return.

2

The Rebellion of Absalom 13:1-19:8

- Absalom's return to Jerusalem
 - At this point Absalom was probably the next in line to the throne.
 - Amnon, the firstborn, had been killed by Absalom
 - Chileab (a.k.a. Daniel, 1 Chronicles 3:1), son of Abigail and second born, is never mentioned again and assumed deceased by the time of David's death or perhaps by the time Absalom came back to Jerusalem.

3

The Rebellion of Absalom 13:1-19:8

- Absalom's return to Jerusalem
 - At this point Absalom was probably the next in line to the throne.
 - 2 Samuel 3:2-5 lists the sons of David born at Hebron. Adonijah is next after Absalom.
 - As we will see in 1 Kings 1, Adonijah sets himself up as king when David's health is declining.

4

The Rebellion of Absalom 13:1-19:8

- Absalom's return to Jerusalem
 - Joab, who always seems to have his best interest in mind, would want to have a position of favor with the next king of Israel.
 - Joab fabricated a story for this "actress" to present to David designed to help him think through a plausible scenario in which Absalom could return.

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The Rebellion of Absalom 13:1-19:8

- Absalom's return to Jerusalem
 - The woman presented the scenario and then the corresponding message to King David regarding how this related to the banishment of Absalom.
 - Joab cleverly had the woman tactfully point out that God had pardoned and restored David after his sin. v14

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The Rebellion of Absalom 13:1-19:8

- Absalom's return to Jerusalem
 - Now having confronted the king in this manner, the woman quickly goes "off script" to seek protection of the king from "the man" who arranged this meeting.
 - David quickly comprehended that it was Joab who was behind this and received confirmation from the woman.

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The Rebellion of Absalom 13:1-19:8

- Absalom's return to Jerusalem
 - After what was certainly a tense moment, David addressed Joab and gave him permission to bring Absalom back.
 - Absalom returned but was not allowed to see David. This statement that Absalom did not enjoy the king's favor would limit his influence.

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The Rebellion of Absalom 13:1-19:8

- Absalom's return to Jerusalem
 - Absalom is described as a dashing handsome man.
 - His hair that was cut once per year weighed about 5 pounds.
 - There had been three sons and one daughter born to him. The daughter has the same name as his sister who was assaulted by Amnon.

9

The Rebellion of Absalom 13:1-19:8

- Absalom's return to Jerusalem
 - Joab found it necessary to distance himself from Absalom to assure David of his loyalty.
 - Absalom remained in this local exile for two years before coercing Joab into interceding for an audience with the king.
 - David at this meeting restored his favor to Absalom.

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Lessons

- Departure from God's instruction creates instability often leading to chaotic circumstances.
 - Israel's insistence on having a king. 1 Samuel 8
 - David's disregard for instructions given for a king. Deuteronomy 17:14-20
 - Assimilation of the judicial system to the office of king. Deuteronomy 16:18-20; 17:8-13

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Lessons

- Never act based solely or even predominately on emotion.
 - Note that earlier in David's life he would not make a move without consulting God, now there is no indication that he did so.

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