



Introduction

Civil war follows when David is made king over Judah and Ishbosheth is made king over Israel.



Questions

1. Why was David pleased with the men of Jabesh Gilead?
2. What did Abner do to Ishbosheth?
3. How did the fighting end?



Summary Points

- **v 1 to 7** At God's instruction, David goes to Hebron (see map) and is anointed king over Judah following Saul's death
- **v 8 to 11** Abner, Saul's army captain, makes Ishbosheth, Saul's son, king over northern Israel
- **v 12 to 16** There is an initial confrontation at Gibeon (see map) between the servants of Ishbosheth and those of David
- **v 17 to 32** A fierce battle then follows. Abner's army is defeated by Joab's (see theme) army. Joab's brother Asahel is killed by Abner. At the end of the day Joab and Abner agree to stop the fighting and the men return home

Timeline 1050 BC (see below)



Theme / Information

Bible character - Joab

A selection of verses showing what the Bible tells us about Joab, captain of king David's army.

Joab was David's nephew, son of his sister Zeruiah:

1 Chronicles 2 verses 15 and 16

Joab attained pre-eminence among David's fighting men by leading the capture of Jerusalem from the Jebusites:

1 Chronicles 11 verse 6

During the battle that followed the death of Saul, Abner killed Asahel, Joab's brother. Joab took revenge by murdering Abner:

2 Samuel 3 verse 30

David condemned this act of treachery and noted the ruthlessness of Joab and his brother Abishai:

2 Samuel 3 verse 39

David's son Absalom led a rebellion and was killed by Joab in the battle that followed, causing great distress to David:

2 Samuel 18 verse 14, 19 verses 1 and 2

However he supported Adonijah's attempt to usurp the throne which had been promised to Solomon:

1 Kings 1 verses 5 and 7

David instructed Solomon to execute Joab for his treachery:

1 Kings 2 verses 5 and 6

Beniah carried out this execution:

1 Kings 2 verse 34



Israel in the time of the kings

Map showing some places mentioned in the time of the kings of Israel including Hebron and Gibeon. A question mark after a place name indicates that the exact location is not certain:



? Answers to questions

Verses which answer the questions:

Q 1: v 5, Q 2: v 8 and 9, Q 3: v 28



Bible timeline

