

JOCKEYING FOR POWER NEAR DAVID'S THRONE

Abner
Absalom
Amasa
Joab

Have you ever been able to sort out why there seems to be several “generals” in David's army who trade places?

I hope this helps, although it will take some sorting out.

I Chronicles 11.6 **Joab** becomes David's chief & captain

II Samuel 3.12,21 **Abner** asks David for Joab's job [*sort of*] and gets it.

II Sam 14.19 **Joab** defects [*from David*] & conspires to bring Absalom back from exile.

II Sam 15.6 **Absalom** stole the hearts of the people. . . .

II Sam 15.7 It came to pass after 40 years that **Absalom** said to the king. . . .
* *An obvious scribal error. David did not live that long. Should be 4 [four, not forty] years.*

II Sam 15.10 **Absalom** reigneth in Hebron. . .

II Sam 17.25 **Absalom** made Amasa captain of the host instead of [*Amasa's cousin*] Joab. . .

II Sam 18.2 **Joab** [defects back to David] and is promoted over a third part of the soldiers [*over his cousin Amasa*].

II Sam 18.14 **Joab**. . . took three darts [*daggers*] in his hand, and thrust them through the heart and murders [*his cousin*] **Absalom** [*last week Absalom was Joab's boss*].

II Sam 19.13 David promotes **Amasa**. . . to be captain of the host before me continually in the room [*over*] Joab
*Amasa & Joab are **cousins**, David's nephews, and also **cousins** of David's sons, Absalom & Solomon. *II Sam 17.25*

II Sam 20.9,10 **Joab** took **Amasa** by the beard. . . smote him therewith in the fifth rib.

I Kg 2.5,6 [*David to Solomon*]. . . let not [*Joab's*] hoar head go down to the grave in peace [kill him].
The crime of disrespect is not punishable by death.

This does not fit in the above list, but Solomon kills his brother after he makes the request.

After Solomon becomes king, Adonijah asks Solomon for Abishag to become his wife. I Kings 2.22