

~HUSHAI (181)

(Hu'shai) [possibly a shortened form of Hoshabiah, meaning, Yehowah Has Accounted or Considered]

- **A loyal Archite friend of King David who helped thwart Absalom's rebellion.**
- **And Ahithophel was a counselor of the king, and **Hushai** the Archite was the king's companion. (1 Chronicles 27:33)**
- ****Hushai**, with his robe ripped and dirt on his head, met the fleeing king on the Mount of Olives. He followed David's suggestion that he go back into the city, feign loyalty to Absalom, endeavor to frustrate Ahithophel's counsel, and keep David informed through the priests Zadok and Abiathar.**
- **And David was going up by the ascent of the Olives, weeping as he went up, with his head covered, and he was walking barefoot, and all the people that were with him covered each one his head, and they went up weeping as they went up. (2 Samuel 15:30)**
- **And it came about that when David himself came to the summit where people used to bow down to God, here to meet him was **Hushai** the Archite, with his robe ripped apart and dirt upon his head. (2 Samuel 15:32)**
- **However, David said to him; If you actually went across with me, you would then certainly become a load upon me. (2 Samuel 15:33)**
- **But if you return to the city and you actually say to Absalom, I am your servant, O King. I used to prove myself the servant of your father, even I at that time, but now even I am your servant, you must then frustrate the counsel of Ahithophel for me. (2 Samuel 15:34)**
- **Are not Zadok and Abiathar the priests there with you? And it must occur that everything that you may hear from the house of the king you should tell to Zadok and Abiathar the priests. (2 Samuel 15:35)**
- **Look! There with them are their two sons, Ahimaaz belonging to**

Zadok and Jonathan belonging to Abiathar, and by means of them you men must send to me everything that you may hear. (2 Samuel 15:36)

- So **Hushai**, David's companion, came into the city. As for Absalom, he proceeded to come into Jerusalem. (2 Samuel 15:37)
- At first Absalom was suspicious, but **Hushai** succeeded in winning his confidence.
- And it came about that, as soon as **Hushai** the Archite, David's companion, came in to Absalom, **Hushai** proceeded to say to Absalom; Let the king live! Let the king live! (2 Samuel 16:16)
- At this Absalom said to **Hushai**; This is the loving-kindness of yours toward your companion, is it? Why did you not go with your companion? (2 Samuel 16:17)
- So **Hushai** said to Absalom; No, but the one whom Yehowah has chosen and also this people and all the men of Israel, his I shall become, and with him I shall dwell. (2 Samuel 16:18)
- And for the second time I must say; Whom shall I myself serve? Is it not before his son? Just as I served before your father, so I shall prove to be before you. (2 Samuel 16:19)
- When Absalom called for **Hushai's** opinion concerning the best military strategy, **Hushai** spoke contrary to Ahithophel and recommended a course that would in fact allow David time to get organized.
- **Hushai** presented his idea in a way that made it appear better to Absalom and his associates than Ahithophel's advice to attack immediately. **Hushai** then informed the priests of what had happened.
- And Ahithophel proceeded to say to Absalom; Let me choose, please, twelve thousand men and rise up and chase after David tonight. (2 Samuel 17:1)
- And I shall come upon him when he is weary and feeble in both hands, and I shall certainly drive him into trembling, and all the people that are with him will have to flee, and I shall certainly strike down the king by himself. (2 Samuel 17:2)

- And let me bring all the people back to you. Equivalent to the returning of all is the man whom you are seeking, and all the people will themselves come to be at peace. (2 Samuel 17:3)
- And the word was just right in the eyes of Absalom and in the eyes of all the older men of Israel. (2 Samuel 17:4)
- However, Absalom said; Call, please, Hushai the Archite also, and let us hear what is in his mouth, even his. (2 Samuel 17:5)
- So Hushai came in to Absalom. Then Absalom said to him; According to this word is the way Ahithophel spoke. Shall we act upon his word? If not, you yourself speak. (2 Samuel 17:6)
- At this Hushai said to Absalom; The counsel with which Ahithophel has counseled is not good in this instance! (2 Samuel 17:7)
- And Hushai went on to say; You yourself well know your father and the men of his, that they are mighty, and they are bitter of soul, like a female bear that has lost her cubs in the field, and your father is a warrior, and he will not spend the night with the people. (2 Samuel 17:8)
- Look! Now he is in hiding in one of the hollows or in one of the other places, and it will certainly occur that, just as soon as he falls upon them at the start, the one hearing of it will then be bound to hear and say; A defeat has taken place among the people that are following Absalom! (2 Samuel 17:9)
- And even the valiant man whose heart is as the heart of the lion will himself surely soften in weakness, for all Israel is aware that your father is a mighty man and so, too, are the valiant men that are with him. (2 Samuel 17:10)
- I myself do say in counsel; Let all Israel without fail be gathered to you, from Dan to Beer-sheba, as the sand particles that are by the sea for multitude, with your own person going into the fight. (2 Samuel 17:11)
- And we must come against him in one of the places where he is certain to be found, and we ourselves will be upon him just as the dew falls upon the ground, and there will certainly not be left

even a single one among him and all the men that are with him.
(2 Samuel 17:12)

- And if it is into some city that he will withdraw, all Israel must also carry ropes to that city, and we shall certainly drag it down to the torrent valley, until there shall not be found there even a pebble. (2 Samuel 17:13)
- Then Absalom and all the men of Israel said; The counsel of **Hushai** the Archite is better than the counsel of Ahithophel! And Yehowah himself had given command to frustrate the counsel of Ahithophel although good, in order, that Yehowah might bring calamity upon Absalom. (2 Samuel 17:14)
- Later **Hushai** said to Zadok and Abiathar the priests; This and that was the way that Ahithophel counseled Absalom and the older men of Israel, and this and that was the way that I myself counseled. (2 Samuel 17:15)
- And now send speedily and tell David, saying; Do not lodge in the desert plains of the wilderness tonight, but you also ought to cross over without fail, for fear that the king and all the people that are with him may be swallowed up. (2 Samuel 17:16)
- **Hushai's** counsel frustrated that of Ahithophel, just as David had petitioned God, and thus Yehowah brought calamity upon Absalom.
- And to David the report was made, saying; Ahithophel himself is among those conspiring with Absalom. At this David said; Turn, please, the counsel of Ahithophel into foolishness, O Yehowah! (2 Samuel 15:31)
- Then Absalom and all the men of Israel said; The counsel of **Hushai** the Archite is better than the counsel of Ahithophel! And Yehowah himself had given command to frustrate the counsel of Ahithophel although good, in order, that Yehowah might bring calamity upon Absalom. (2 Samuel 17:14)

See Also FRIEND (Friend, Companion of the King)