

¹وَلَمَّا سَمِعَ ابْنُ شَاوُلَ أَنَّ أَبْنَرَ قَدْ مَاتَ فِي حَبْرُونَ
ارْتَحَثَ يَدَاهُ، وَارْتَاعَ جَمِيعُ إِسْرَائِيلَ.² وَكَانَ لِابْنِ شَاوُلَ
رَجُلَانِ رَئِيسَا عَزَاةٍ، اسْمُ الْوَاحِدِ بَعْنَةُ وَاسْمُ الْآخَرِ
رَكَابُ، ابْنَا رُمُونَ التَّيْرُوتِيِّينَ لَأَنَّ بَنِيَامِينَ لَمْ يَتَّيَرُوا
خُسْبَتَ لَبِيَامِينَ.³ وَهَرَبَ التَّيْرُوتِيُّونَ إِلَى جَتَايِمَ وَتَعَرَّبُوا
هُنَاكَ إِلَى هَذَا الْيَوْمِ.⁴ وَكَانَ لِيُونَاتَانَ بْنِ شَاوُلَ ابْنُ
مَضْرُوبِ الرِّجْلَيْنِ، كَانَ ابْنُ خَمْسِ سِنِينَ عِنْدَ مَجِيءِ
حَبْرِ شَاوُلَ وَيُونَاتَانَ مِنْ يَزْرَعِيلَ، فَحَمَلَتْهُ مَرْيَسُهُ
وَهَرَبَتْ. وَلَمَّا كَانَتْ مُسْرِعَةً لَتَهْرَبَ وَقَعَ وَصَارَ أَعْرَجَ.
وَاسْمُهُ مَفْبُوشَتُ.⁵ وَسَارَ ابْنَا رُمُونَ التَّيْرُوتِيِّينَ، رَكَابُ
وَبَعْنَةُ، وَدَخَلَا عِنْدَ حَزِّ النَّهَارِ إِلَى بَيْتِ إِشْبُوشَتَ وَهُوَ
تَائِمٌ تَوْمَةُ الطَّهْبَةِ.⁶ فَدَخَلَا إِلَى وَسْطِ الْبَيْتِ لِيَأْخُذَا
جَنْطَةً، وَصَرَبَاهُ فِي بَطْنِهِ. ثُمَّ أَقْلَتِ رَكَابُ وَبَعْنَةُ
أُخُوهُ.⁷ فَعِنْدَ دُخُولِهِمَا الْبَيْتِ كَانَ هُوَ مُصْطَجِعاً عَلَى
سَرِيرِهِ فِي مَخْدَعِ تَوْمِهِ قَصْرَبَاهُ وَقَتْلَاهُ وَقَطَعَ رَأْسَهُ،
وَأَجَدَا رَأْسَهُ وَسَارَا فِي طَرِيقِ الْعَرَةِ اللَّيْلِ كُلَّهُ.⁸ وَأَتَا
بِرَاسِ إِشْبُوشَتَ إِلَى دَاوُدَ إِلَى حَبْرُونَ، وَقَالَا لِلْمَلِكِ،
هُوَذَا رَأْسُ إِشْبُوشَتَ بْنِ شَاوُلَ عَدُوِّكَ الَّذِي كَانَ
يَطْلُبُ تَفْسَكَ. وَقَدْ أَعْطَى الرَّبُّ لِسَيِّدِي الْمَلِكِ انْتِقَاماً
فِي هَذَا الْيَوْمِ مِنْ شَاوُلَ وَمِنْ تَسْلِهِ.⁹ فَأَجَابَ دَاوُدَ رَكَابَ
وَبَعْنَةَ أَخَاهُ، ابْنَي رُمُونَ التَّيْرُوتِيِّينَ، حَيُّ هُوَ الرَّبُّ الَّذِي
قَدَى نَفْسِي مِنْ كُلِّ ضَيْقٍ.¹⁰ إِنَّ الَّذِي أَحْبَرَنِي قَائِلاً، هُوَذَا
قَدْ مَاتَ شَاوُلُ وَكَانَ فِي عَيْنَي نَفْسِهِ كَمُبَشِّرٍ قَبَضْتُ
عَلَيْهِ وَقَتَلْتُهُ فِي صِفْلَعٍ. ذَلِكَ أَعْطَيْتُهُ بَشَارَةً.¹¹ فَكَمْ
بِالْحَرْبِ إِذَا كَانَ رَجُلَانِ بَاغِيَانِ يَقْتُلَانِ رَجُلًا صَدِيقًا فِي
بَيْتِهِ عَلَى سَرِيرِهِ. قَالَا أَمَا أَطْلُبُ دَمَهُ مِنْ أَيْدِيكُمَا
وَأُنْزِعُكُمَا مِنَ الْأَرْضِ.¹² وَأَمَرَ دَاوُدُ الْعِلْمَانَ فَقَتَلُوهُمَا،
وَقَطَعُوا أَيْدِيَهُمَا وَأَرْجُلَهُمَا وَعَلَّقُوهُمَا عَلَى الْيَرْكَةِ فِي
حَبْرُونَ. وَأَمَّا رَأْسُ إِشْبُوشَتَ فَأَخَذُوهُ وَدَفَنُوهُ فِي قَبْرِ
أَبْنَرَ فِي حَبْرُونَ.

¹And when Saul's son heard that Abner was dead in Hebron, his hands were feeble, and all the Israelites were troubled.² And Saul's son had two men that were captains of bands: the name of the one was Baanah, and the name of the other Rechab, the sons of Rimmon a Beerothite, of the children of Benjamin: (for Beeroth also was reckoned to Benjamin:³ And the Beerothites fled to Gittaim, and were sojourners there until this day.)⁴ And Jonathan, Saul's son, had a son that was lame of his feet. He was five years old when the tidings came of Saul and Jonathan out of Jezreel, and his nurse took him up, and fled: and it came to pass, as she made haste to flee, that he fell, and became lame. And his name was Mephibosheth.⁵ And the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, Rechab and Baanah, went, and came about the heat of the day to the house of Ishbosheth, who lay on a bed at noon.⁶ And they came thither into the midst of the house, as though they would have fetched wheat; and they smote him under the fifth rib: and Rechab and Baanah his brother escaped.⁷ For when they came into the house, he lay on his bed in his bedchamber, and they smote him, and slew him, and beheaded him, and took his head, and gat them away through the plain all night.⁸ And they brought the head of Ishbosheth unto David to Hebron, and said to the king, Behold the head of Ishbosheth the son of Saul thine enemy, which sought thy life; and the LORD hath avenged my lord the king this day of Saul, and of his seed.⁹ And David answered Rechab and Baanah his brother, the sons of Rimmon

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the Beerothite, and said unto them, As the LORD liveth, who hath redeemed my soul out of all adversity,¹⁰ When one told me, saying, Behold, Saul is dead, thinking to have brought good tidings, I took hold of him, and slew him in Ziklag, who thought that I would have given him a reward for his tidings:¹¹ How much more, when wicked men have slain a righteous person in his own house upon his bed? shall I not therefore now require his blood of your hand, and take you away from the earth?¹² And David commanded his young men, and they slew them, and cut off their hands and their feet, and hanged them up over the pool in Hebron. But they took the head of Ishbosheth, and buried it in the sepulchre of Abner in Hebron.