

The Arameans at war with "David"

2 SAMUEL 8.3-12

David also struck down King **Hadadezer** son of Rehob of Zobah, as he went to restore his monument at the river Euphrates. David took from him one thousand seven hundred horsemen, and twenty thousand foot soldiers. David hamstringed all the chariot horses, but left enough for a hundred chariots. When the **Arameans*** of Damascus came to help King **Hadadezer** of Zobah, David struck twenty-two thousand men of the **Arameans**. Then David put garrisons among the **Arameans** of Damascus; and the **Arameans** became servants to David and brought tribute. YHWH gave all to David wherever he went. David took the gold shields that were carried by the servants of **Hadadezer**, and brought them to Jerusalem. From Bethah and from Berothai, towns of **Hadadezer**, King David took a great amount of bronze. When King Toi of Hamath heard that David had struck the whole army of **Hadadezer**, Toi sent his son Joram to King David, ask his peace and to bless him because he had fought against **Hadadezer** and struck him. Now **Hadadezer** had often been at war with Toi. Joram brought with him articles of silver, gold, and bronze; these also King David dedicated to YHWH, together with the silver and gold that he dedicated from all the nations he subjected, from Edom, Moab, the Ammonites,[#] the Philistines, Amalek, and from the spoil of King **Hadadezer** son of Rehob of Zobah

2 SAMUEL 10.6-19

When the Ammonites saw that they had become odious to David, the Ammonites sent and hired the **Arameans** of Beth-rehob and the **Arameans** of Zobah, twenty thousand foot soldiers, as well as the king of Maacah, one thousand men, and the men of Tob, twelve thousand men. When David heard of it, he sent Joab and all the army with the warriors. The Ammonites came out and arrayed in battle at the entrance of the gate; but the **Arameans** of Zobah and of Rehob, and the men of Tob and Maacah, were by themselves in the open country. When Joab saw that the battle was set against him both in front and in the rear, he chose some of the chosen men of Israel, and arrayed them against the **Arameans**; the rest of his men he put in the charge of his brother Abishai, and he arrayed them against the Ammonites. He said, "If the **Arameans** are too strong for me, then you shall save me; but if the Ammonites are too strong for you, then I will come and save you. Be strong, yes strong, and let us be courageous for the sake of our people, and for the cities of our God; and may YHWH do what seems good in his eyes." So Joab and the people who were with him moved forward into battle against the **Arameans**; and they fled before him. When the Ammonites saw that the **Arameans** fled, they likewise fled before Abishai, and entered the city. Then Joab returned from fighting against the Ammonites, and came to Jerusalem. But when the **Arameans** saw that they had been smitten by Israel, they gathered themselves together. **Hadadezer** sent and brought out the **Arameans** who were beyond the Euphrates; and they came to Helam, with Shobach the commander of the army of **Hadadezer** at their head. When it was told David, he gathered all Israel together, and crossed the Jordan, and came to Helam. The **Arameans** arrayed themselves against David and fought with him. The **Arameans** fled before Israel; and David struck of the **Arameans** seven hundred chariot teams, and forty thousand horsemen, and wounded Shobach the commander of their army, so that he died there. When all the kings who were servants of **Hadadezer** saw that they had been smitten by Israel, they made peace with Israel, and became subject to them. So the **Arameans** were afraid to help the Ammonites any more.