

## Ahithophel's vs. Hushai's advice in 2 Samuel 16.15-17.14

ELEMENT	AHITHOPHEL	HUSHAI
<b>FOCUS</b>	<b>Self: first person singular used seven times</b>	<b>David and his men: twelve references</b>
<b>STYLE</b>	<b>Linear, unembellished</b>	<b>Flowery, repetitive, contingent</b>
<b>HOW DAVID IS ADDRESSED</b>	<b>As "David" or "king"</b>	<b>As "your father"</b>
<b>PROPOSED PERSONNEL</b>	<b>12,000 men gathered around Ahithophel</b>	<b>All Israel gathered around Absalom</b>
<b>PROPOSED OUTCOME</b>	<b>Ahithophel will strike down only the king and all the others will flee and there will be <i>shalom</i></b>	<b>"We will find him" and neither he nor any with him shall "remain", not even one</b>
<b>PROBLEMS WITH THEIR ADVICE</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How could he choose 12,000 soldiers and pursue David "tonight"?</li> <li>2. How will he know where to find David?</li> <li>3. What if David isn't "weary" or "slack-handed"?</li> <li>4. What if the approach doesn't create a "panic"?</li> <li>5. What if the people don't run away?</li> <li>6. What if the people don't want to "return"?</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What if David is not "bitter"?</li> <li>2. What if David is in "one of the other places" or can't be found?</li> <li>3. Why would "our" soldiers be more scared than "their" soldiers?</li> <li>4. How will he gather "all Israel...from Dan to Beer-sheba" in a short time?</li> <li>5. What if "all Israel" won't go?</li> <li>6. If David hides in a city, what if the city people protect him?</li> </ol>