

Shimei in Samuel-Kings

2 SAMUEL 16.5-13

When King David came to Bahurim, a man of the family of the house of Saul came out whose name was **Shimei son of Gera; he came out cursing**. He threw stones at David and at all the servants of King David; now all the people and all the warriors were on his right and on his left. Shimei shouted while he cursed, "Out! Out! Murderer! Scoundrel! YHWH has avenged on all of you the blood of the house of Saul, in whose place you have reigned; and YHWH has given the kingdom into the hand of your son Absalom. See, disaster has overtaken you; for you are a man of blood." **Then Abishai son of Zeruiah said to the king, "Why should this dead dog curse my lord the king? Let me go over and take off his head." But the king said, "What have I to do with you, you sons of Zeruiah? If he is cursing because YHWH has said to him, 'Curse David,' who then shall say, 'Why have you done so?'"** David said to Abishai and to all his servants, "My own son seeks my life; how much more now may this Benjaminite! Let him alone and let him curse; for **YHWH has bidden him. It may be that YHWH will look on my distress, and YHWH will repay me with good for this cursing of me today.**" So David and his men went on the road, while Shimei went along on the hillside opposite him and cursed as he went, throwing stones and flinging dust at him.

2 SAMUEL 19.16-23

Shimei son of Gera, the Benjaminite, from Bahurim, hurried to come down with the people of Judah to meet King David; with him were a thousand people from Benjamin. And Ziba, the servant of the house of Saul, with his fifteen sons and his twenty servants, rushed down to the Jordan ahead of the king, while the crossing was taking place, to bring over the king's household, and to do his pleasure. **Shimei son of Gera fell down before the king, as he was about to cross the Jordan, and said to the king, "May my lord not hold me guilty or remember how your servant did wrong on the day my lord the king left Jerusalem; may the king not bear it in mind.** For your servant knows that I have sinned; therefore, see, I have come this day, the first of all the house of Joseph to come down to meet my lord the king." **Abishai son of Zeruiah answered, "Shall not Shimei be put to death for this, because he cursed YHWH's anointed?" But David said, "What have I to do with you, you sons of Zeruiah, that you should today become an adversary to me? Shall anyone be put to death in Israel this day? For do I not know that I am this day king over Israel?"** The king said to Shimei, "You shall not die." And the king gave him his oath.

1 KINGS 1.8

But the priest Zadok, and Benaiah son of Jehoiada, and the prophet Nathan, and **Shimei**, and Rei, and David's own warriors **did not side with Adonijah.**

1 KINGS 2.8-9

[David to Solomon] "There is also with you **Shimei son of Gera**, the Benjaminite from Bahurim, who cursed me with a terrible curse on the day when I went to Mahanaim; but when he came down to meet me at the Jordan, **I swore to him by YHWH, 'I will not put you to death with the sword.'** Therefore do not hold him **guiltless, for you are a wise man; you will know what you ought to do to him, and you must bring his gray head down with blood to Sheol.**"

1 KINGS 2.36-46

Then the king sent and summoned Shimei, and said to him, "Build yourself a house in Jerusalem, and live there, and do not go out from there to any place whatever. For on the day you go out, and cross the Wadi Kidron, know for certain that you shall die; your blood shall be on your own head." And Shimei said to the king, "The sentence is fair; as my lord the king has said, so will your servant do." So Shimei lived in Jerusalem many days. But it happened at the end of three years that two of Shimei's slaves ran away to King Achish son of Maacah of Gath. **When it was told Shimei, "Your slaves are in Gath," Shimei arose and saddled a donkey, and went to Achish in Gath, to search for his slaves;** Shimei went and brought his slaves from Gath. **When Solomon was told that Shimei had gone from Jerusalem to Gath and returned, the king sent and summoned Shimei, and said to him, "Did I not make you swear by YHWH, and solemnly adjure you, saying, 'Know for certain that on the day you go out and go to any place whatever, you shall die'? And you said to me, 'The sentence is fair; I accept.' Why then have you not kept your oath to YHWH and the commandment with which I charged you?"** The king also said to Shimei, "You know in your own heart all the evil that you did to my father David; so YHWH will bring back your evil on your own head. But King Solomon shall be blessed, and the throne of David shall be established before YHWH forever." **Then the king commanded Benaiah son of Jehoiada; and he went out and struck him down, and he died. So the kingdom was established in the hand of Solomon.**