

Adam Clarke:

Introduction

David sends a congratulatory message to Hanun, king of Ammon, 1 Chronicles 19:1, 1 Chronicles 19:2. He treats the messengers with great incivility, 1 Chronicles 19:3, 1 Chronicles 19:4. David is exasperated, but condoles with the degraded messengers, 1 Chronicles 19:5. The Ammonites prepare for war, and hire thirty-two thousand chariots, and besiege Medeba, 1 Chronicles 19:6, 1 Chronicles 19:7. David sends Joab to attack them; he defeats the Syrians and Ammonites, 1 Chronicles 19:8-15. The discomfited Syrians recruit their army, and invade David's territories beyond Jordan; he attacks them, kills Shophach their general, seven thousand charioteers, and forty thousand of their infantry, 1 Chronicles 19:16-18. The Syrians abandon the Ammonites and make a separate peace with David, 1 Chronicles 19:19.

Verse 1

Now it came to pass - See the same history, 2 Samuel 10:1 (note), etc., and the notes there.

Verse 4

And cut off their garments in the midst - *Usque ad eorum, pudenda*. So the Targum, Jarchi, and others; leaving exposed what nature and decency require to be concealed. See on 2 Samuel 10:4 (note).

Verse 6

Chariots and horsemen out of Mesopotamia - These are not mentioned in the parallel place in Samuel; probably they did not arrive till the Ammonites and their other allies were defeated by the Israelites in the first battle.

Verse 7

Thirty and two thousand - The whole number mentioned in Samuel is, Syrians, of Beth-rehob, and of Zoba, twenty thousand; of King Maacah, one thousand; of Ish-tob, twelve thousand; in all thirty-three thousand. Of chariots or cavalry there is no mention. These could not have been the whole army.

Verse 13

Be of good courage - See the note on 2 Samuel 10:12.

Verse 18

Forty thousand footmen - See this number accounted for in the note on 2 Samuel 10:18 (note).

Verse 19

They made peace with David, and became his servants - See on 2 Samuel 10:19 (note), and the concluding note in that place; and see for omissions in Chronicles, the preface to these books.