



## **Shmuel II Perek 18**

- Dovid prepared for battle against Avshalom.
- Dovid counted his men and split them into 3 groups - 1/3 under Yoav, 1/3 under Avishai and 1/3 under Ittai HaGitti.
- Dovid's men convinced him not to join them in war, but rather to pray for them. (Ralbag)
- Dovid gave clear orders that Avshalom should not be killed.
- Dovid's army defeated Avshalom's army, which suffered 20,000 casualties.
- Avshalom was found dangling in mid-air, his hair caught in the thicket of a tree. Yoav was informed, and he asked why Avshalom had not been killed. The informer said that he would not dare go against the order of King Dovid.
- Yoav proceeded to kill Avshalom.
- (During his life time, Avshalom had erected a monument named Yad Avshalom for his anticipated burial.)
- Yoav blew the shofar and the war was over.
- Achimatz wanted to relate the news of the war to King Dovid.
- Yoav tried to persuade Achimatz not to do so.
- Yoav sent a Cushite man instead to deliver the news of the battle to King Dovid.
- Despite Yoav's action, Achimatz overtook the Cushite messenger and reached King Dovid first.
- Achimatz delivered the news about winning the war, but not about the death of Avshalom.
- The Cushite messenger arrived and told Dovid about the death of his son, Avshalom.