

**Close Reading Questions for High School Students on
Sefer Shmuel Bet: Perakim Dalet - Vav
by Zvi Grumet**

פרק ד

1. Who were רכב and בענה? What did they do, and why?
2. The story about רכב and בענה is told confusingly. Where is the problem? Can you find an explanation for the problem?
3. This is the third in a series of stories in which someone did something that they thought דוד would be happy about, but for which they paid with their lives. Why did each of them think that דוד would be happy about what they did? Did they each know about the previous incidents that were similar to their own? Why was דוד angry about each of those?
4. There are two people mentioned in this פרק with similar names, but they are *not* the same person! It can get confusing, especially since one of them is mentioned briefly but then not discussed until a later פרק. Why was one introduced but then ignored?
5. Why was it *appropriate* to bury איש בשת together with אבנר? Why was it *ironic* to bury אבנר together with איש בשת?

פרק ה

1. How did דוד come to reign over all of ישראל?
2. One of the great puzzles in this פרק is the עורים ופסחים (the blind and the lame) in ירושלים. Who are they and what role did they play in the capture of the city?
3. What was דוד's first act as king of all ישראל? Why did he do that? In what way was this move politically risky?
4. Earlier (at the beginning of פרק ג) we heard about דוד's children born in חברון, while in this פרק we read about the children born in ירושלים. Notice which names from the two lists you recognize and where they are born!
5. What are the two times in this פרק that דוד consults with ה'?
6. Why is the gift from חירם (king of צור) so important? In what way is it a first? In what way is his attitude toward דוד exactly the opposite of the approach of the פלשתים?
7. What is the difference between the two battles that דוד has with the פלשתים in this פרק?
8. How does הי help דוד in this battle with the פלשתים?

פרק ו

1. After דוד conquers ירושלים and moves his capital there, he decides to bring up the ארון as well. What is the connection between the capital and the ארון?
2. Note: While the ארון was in the גבעה – קרית יערים – בית שמש area, the משכן was in נוב and afterwards גבעון.

3. Were עוזא and אחיו, the two who guided the wagon carrying the כהנים, ארון or not? Does their father's name offer a clue? See also דברי הימים א יג:א-יד.
4. What happened to the ארון? What happened to the כהנים? Can you explain why ה"ה's reaction was so fierce? See also במדבר ז:ז-ט.
5. Identify the differences between the first attempt and the second attempt to bring the ירושלים to ארון.
6. Why was מיכל so upset with דוד? What values did she reflect in her comment to דוד? What value did דוד reflect in his response to her?