

David: Trouble at Home

Bible Class: November 23, 2023

David

The most often referred to name in the Bible - 1141 times.

Referred to in 28 books in the Bible.

The example and hero of redemption – foreshadowing the Messiah
He provides us with a graphic example of being able to slay the giant...

But being unable to rule the family.

- “And he shall not acquire many wives for himself, lest his heart turn away, nor shall he acquire for himself excessive silver and gold.”
 - Deuteronomy 17:14-17

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Children born before Jerusalem

Wives

Ahinoam

Abigail

Maacah

Haggith

Abital

Eglah

Michal

Children

Amnon* (Faithful)

Chileab (Daniel)

Absalom, (my father is peace) Tamar*

Adonijah* (my God is Jehovah)

Shephatiah

Ithream

(barren)

(2 Samuel 3:2-5, 13-14; 13:1; 1 Chron. 3:1-9)

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The road to hades

1. Marital infidelity
2. The loss of the child
3. David's son rapes his half sister
4. Hatred between brothers
5. Murder between brothers
6. Absalom rapes his father's concubines on the roof
7. Absalom leads rebellion against his father
8. Joab murders Absalom
9. Rebellion and death of Adonijah

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- **David's Child Dies**

And the LORD afflicted the child that **Uriah's wife** bore to David, and he became sick. David therefore sought God on behalf of the child. And David fasted and went in and **lay all night on the ground**. And the elders of his house stood beside him, to raise him from the ground, but he would not, nor did he eat food with them. On the seventh day the child died. And the servants of David were afraid to tell him that the child was dead, for they said, “Behold, while the child was yet alive, we spoke to him, and he did not listen to us. How then can we say to him the child is dead? He may do himself some harm.” But when David saw that his servants were whispering together, David understood that the child was dead. And David said to his servants, “Is the child dead?” They said, “**He** is dead.” Then David arose from the earth and washed and anointed himself and changed his clothes. And he went into the house of the LORD and worshiped. He then went to his own house. And when he asked, they set food before him, and he ate. Then his servants said to him, “What is this thing that you have done? You fasted and wept for the child while **he** was alive; but when the child died, you arose and ate food.” He said, “While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept, for I said, ‘Who knows whether the LORD will be gracious to me, that the child may live?’ But now he is dead. Why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he will not return to me.”

2 Samuel 12:15-24

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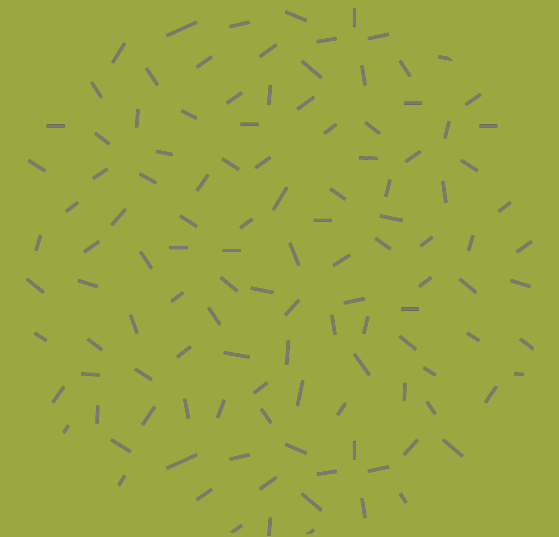
Amnon and Tamar

- “**Now Absalom, David's son, had a beautiful sister, whose name was Tamar.** And after a time Amnon, David's son, loved her. And Amnon was so tormented that he made himself ill because of his sister Tamar, for she was a virgin, and it seemed impossible to Amnon to do anything to her. But Amnon had a friend, whose name was Jonadab, the son of Shimeah, David's brother. And Jonadab was a very crafty man. And he said to him, “O son of the king, why are you so haggard morning after morning? Will you not tell me?” Amnon said to him, “I love Tamar, my brother Absalom's sister.” Jonadab said to him, “Lie down on your bed and pretend to be ill. And when your father comes to see you, say to him, ‘Let my sister Tamar come and give me bread to eat, and prepare the food in my sight, that I may see it and eat it from her hand.’” So Amnon lay down and pretended to be ill. And **when the king came to see him,** Amnon said to the king, “Please let my sister Tamar come and make a couple of cakes in my sight, that I may eat from her hand.”

- Samuel 13:1-6



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Amnon and Tamar

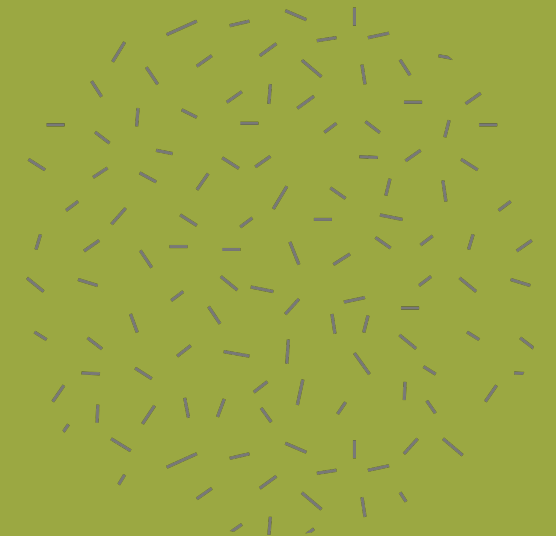
But he would not listen to her, and being stronger than she, he violated her and lay with her.

Then Amnon hated her with very great hatred, so that the hatred with which he hated her was greater than the love with which he had loved her. And Amnon said to her, "Get up! Go!" But she said to him, "No, my brother, for this wrong in sending me away is greater than the other that you did to me." But he would not listen to her. He called the young man who served him and said, "Put this woman out of my presence and bolt the door after her." Now she was wearing a long robe with sleeves, for thus were the virgin daughters of the king dressed. So his servant put her out and bolted the door after her. And Tamar put ashes on her head and tore the long robe that she wore. And she laid her hand on her head and went away, crying aloud as she went.

And her brother Absalom said to her, "Has Amnon your brother been with you? Now hold your peace, my sister. He is your brother; do not take this to heart." So Tamar lived, a desolate woman, in her brother Absalom's house. When King David heard of all these things, he was very angry. **But Absalom spoke to Amnon neither good nor bad, for Absalom hated Amnon, because he had violated his sister Tamar.** 2
Samuel 13:1



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Absalom murders Amnon

After two full years Absalom had sheepshearers at Baal-hazor, which is near Ephraim, and Absalom invited all the king's sons. And Absalom came to the king and said, "Behold, your servant has sheepshearers. Please let the king and his servants go with your servant." But the king said to Absalom, "No, my son, let us not all go, lest we be burdensome to you." **He pressed him**, but he would not go but gave him his blessing. Then Absalom said, "If not, please let my brother Amnon go with us." And the king said to him, "Why should he go with you?" But Absalom **pressed him until** he let Amnon and all the king's sons go with him. Then Absalom commanded his servants, "Mark when Amnon's heart is merry with wine, and when I say to you, 'Strike Amnon,' then kill him. **Do not fear; have I not commanded you? Be courageous and be valiant.**" So the servants of Absalom did to Amnon as Absalom had commanded. Then all the king's sons arose, and each mounted his mule and fled.

2 Samuel 13:23-29



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Murder by proxy –
where have we seen this
before?

“Amnon is dead....”

- “While they were on the way, news came to David, “Absalom has struck down all the king's sons, and not one of them is left.” **Then the king arose and tore his garments and lay on the earth.** And all his servants who were standing by tore their garments. But Jonadab the son of Shimeah, David's brother, said, “Let not my lord suppose that they have killed all the young men, the king's sons, for Amnon alone is dead. **For by the command of Absalom this has been determined from the day he violated his sister Tamar.** Now therefore let not my lord the king so take it to heart as to suppose that all the king's sons are dead, for Amnon alone is dead.”

- 2 Samuel 13:31-33

Geshur

- But Absalom fled. And the young man who kept the watch lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, many people were coming from the road behind him by the side of the mountain. And Jonadab said to the king, “Behold, the king's sons have come; as your servant said, so it has come about.” And as soon as he had finished speaking, behold, the king's sons came and lifted up their voice and wept. And the king also and all his servants wept very bitterly.
- But Absalom fled and went to Talmi the son of Ammihud, king of Geshur. **And David mourned for his son day after day.** So Absalom fled and went to Geshur, and was there three years. And the spirit of the king longed to go out to Absalom, **because he was comforted about Amnon, since he was dead.**
 - 2 Samuel 13:34-39



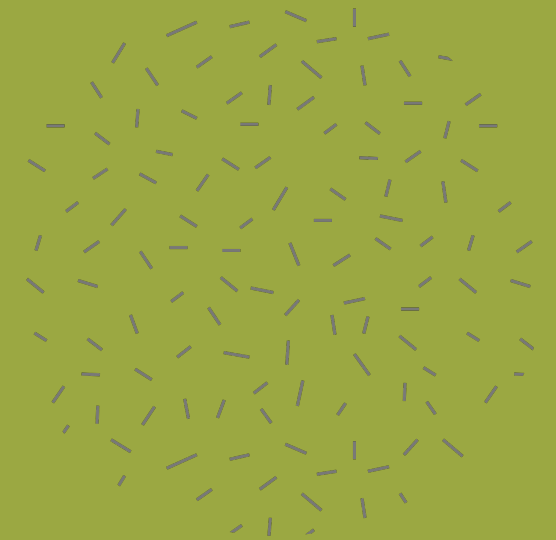
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Absalom returns to Jerusalem

- Then the king said to Joab, “Behold now, I grant this; go, bring back the young man Absalom.” And Joab fell on his face to the ground and paid homage and blessed the king. And Joab said, “Today your servant knows that I have found favor in your sight, my lord the king, in that the king has granted the request of his servant.” So Joab arose and went to Geshur and brought Absalom to Jerusalem. And the king said, “Let him dwell apart in his own house; he is not to come into my presence.” So Absalom lived apart in his own house and did not come into the king's presence.
 - 2 Samuel 14:21-24
- Now in all Israel there was no one so much to be praised for his handsome appearance as Absalom. From the sole of his foot to the crown of his head there was no blemish in him. And when he cut the hair of his head (for at the end of every year he used to cut it; when it was heavy on him, he cut it), he weighed the hair of his head, two hundred shekels by the king's weight. There were born to Absalom three sons, and one daughter whose name was Tamar. She was a beautiful woman.

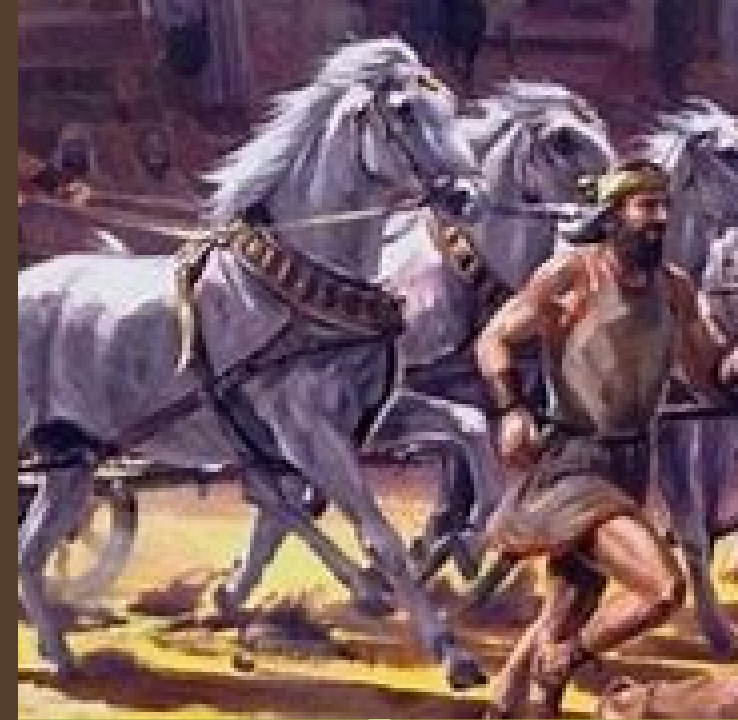
David: Trouble at Home



Absalom's Conspiracy

After this Absalom got himself a chariot and horses, and fifty men to run before him. And Absalom used to rise early and stand beside the way of the gate. And when any man had a dispute to come before the king for judgment, Absalom would call to him and say, "From what city are you?" And when he said, "Your servant is of such and such a tribe in Israel," Absalom would say to him, "See, your claims are good and right, but there is no man designated by the king to hear you." Then Absalom would say, "Oh that I were judge in the land! Then every man with a dispute or cause might come to me, and I would give him justice." And whenever a man came near to pay homage to him, he would put out his hand and take hold of him and kiss him. Thus Absalom did to all of Israel who came to the king for judgment. **So Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel.**

2 Samuel 15:1-6



David: Trouble at Home



David flees Jerusalem

- And a messenger came to David, saying, “The hearts of the men of Israel have gone after Absalom.” Then David said to all his servants who were with him at Jerusalem, “Arise, and let us flee, or else there will be no escape for us from Absalom. Go quickly, lest he overtake us quickly and bring down ruin on us and strike the city with the edge of the sword.” And the king's servants said to the king, “Behold, your servants are ready to do whatever my lord the king decides.” So the king went out, and all his household after him. **And the king left ten concubines to keep the house.** And the king went out, and all the people after him. And they halted at the last house.

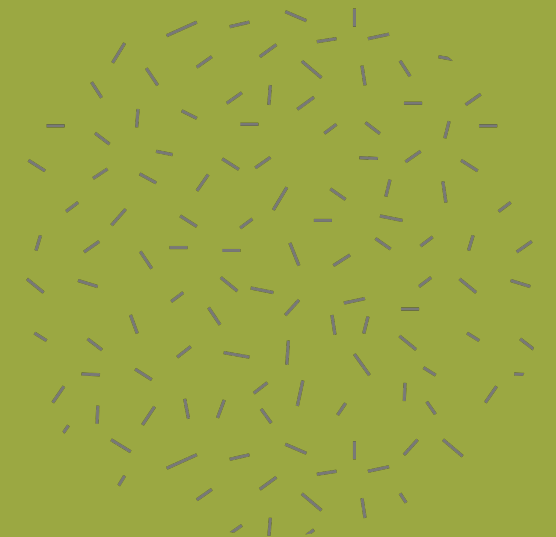
- 2 Samuel 15:13-17

- But David went up the ascent of the Mount of Olives, weeping as he went, barefoot and with his head covered. And all the people who were with him covered their heads, and they went up, weeping as they went. And it was told David, “Ahithophel is among the conspirators with Absalom.” And David said, “O LORD, please turn the counsel of Ahithophel into foolishness.”

- 2 Samuel 15:30-31



David: Trouble at Home



Council of Ahithophel

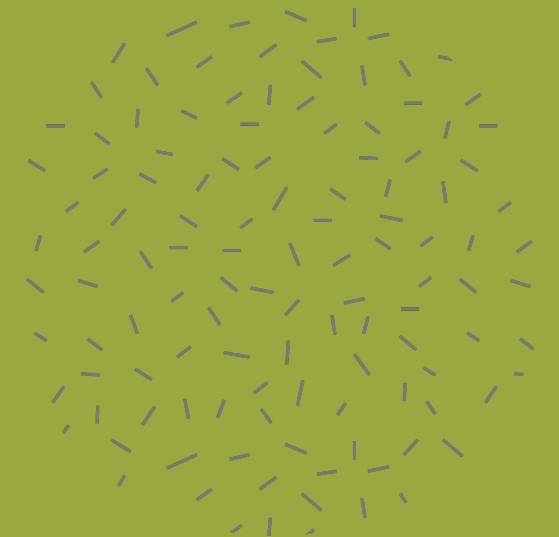
- Then Absalom said to Ahithophel, “Give your counsel. What shall we do?” Ahithophel said to Absalom, “Go in to your father's concubines, whom he has left to keep the house, and all Israel will hear that you have made yourself a stench to your father, and the hands of all who are with you will be strengthened.” **So they pitched a tent for Absalom on the roof. And Absalom went in to his father's concubines in the sight of all Israel.** Now in those days the counsel that Ahithophel gave was as if one consulted the word of God; so was all the counsel of Ahithophel esteemed, both by David and by Absalom.

- 2 Samuel 16:20-23

- Moreover, Ahithophel said to Absalom, “Let me choose twelve thousand men, and I will arise and pursue David tonight. I will come upon him while he is weary and discouraged and throw him into a panic, and all the people who are with him will flee. I will strike down only the king, and I will bring all the people back to you as a bride comes home to her husband. You seek the life of only one man, and all the people will be at peace.” And the advice seemed right in the eyes of Absalom and all the elders of Israel



David: Trouble at Home



Shimei Curses David

“When King David came to Bahurim, there came out a man of the family of the house of Saul, whose name was Shimei, the son of Gera, and as he came he cursed continually. And he threw stones at David and at all the servants of King David, and all the people and all the mighty men were on his right hand and on his left. And Shimei said as he cursed, **“Get out, get out, you man of blood, you worthless man! The LORD has avenged on you all the blood of the house of Saul, in whose place you have reigned, and the LORD has given the kingdom into the hand of your son Absalom. See, your evil is on you, for you are a man of blood.”**”

Then Abishai the son of Zeruah 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 Zeruah? If he is cursing because the LORD has said to him, ‘Curse David,’ who then shall say, ‘Why have you done so?’” And David said to Abishai and to all his servants, **“Behold, my own son seeks my life; how much more now may this Benjaminite! Leave him alone, and let him curse, for the LORD has told him to** It may be that the LORD will look on the wrong done to me, and that the LORD will repay me with good for his cursing today.” So David and his men went on the road, while Shimei went along on the hillside opposite him and cursed as he went and threw stones at him and flung dust. 2 Samuel 16:5-13

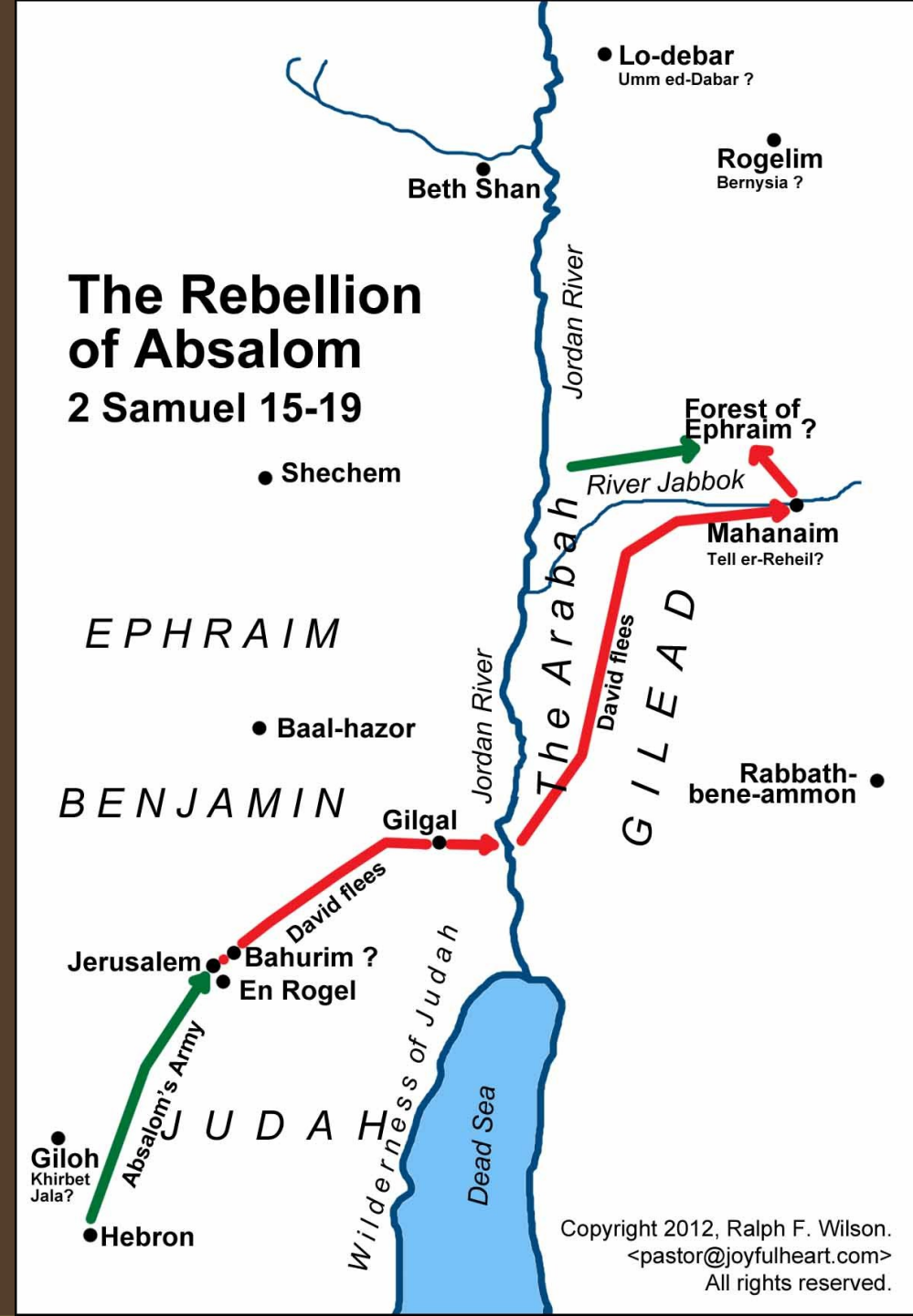


David: Trouble at Home



“...Joab said, “I will not waste time like this with you.”
And he took three javelins in his hand and thrust them
into the heart of Absalom while he was still alive in the
oak. And ten young men, Joab's armor-bearers,
surrounded Absalom and struck him and killed him.
2 Samuel 18:14-15

“And behold, the Cushite came, and the Cushite said, “Good
news for my lord the king! For the LORD has delivered you
this day from the hand of all who rose up against you.” The
king said to the Cushite, “Is it well with the young man
Absalom?” And the Cushite answered, “May the enemies of
my lord the king and all who rise up against you for evil be like
that young man.” And the king was deeply moved and went
up to the chamber over the gate and wept. And as he went,
he said, “O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would
I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!”
2 Samuel 18:31-33



Joab Rebukes David

It was told Joab, “Behold, the king is weeping and mourning for Absalom.” So the victory that day was turned into mourning for all the people, for the people heard that day, “The king is grieving for his son.” And the people stole into the city that day as people steal in who are ashamed when they flee in battle. The king covered his face, and the king cried with a loud voice, “O my son Absalom, O Absalom, my son, my son!” Then Joab came into the house to the king and said, “You have today covered with shame the faces of all your servants, who have this day saved your life and the lives of your sons and your daughters and the lives of your wives and your concubines, because you love those who hate you and hate those who love you. For you have made it clear today that commanders and servants are nothing to you, for today I know that if Absalom were alive and all of us were dead today, then you would be pleased. Now therefore arise, go out and speak kindly to your servants, for I swear by the LORD, if you do not go, not a man will stay with you this night, and this will be worse for you than all the evil that has come upon you from your youth until now.” Then the king arose and took his seat in the gate. And the people were all told, “**Behold, the king is sitting in the gate.**” And all the people came before the king.

2 Samuel 19:1-8

“I have sinned....”

- “And Shimei the son of Gera, the Benjaminite, from Bahurim, hurried to come down with the men of Judah to meet King David. And with him were a thousand men from Benjamin. And Ziba the servant of the house of Saul, with his fifteen sons and his twenty servants, rushed down to the Jordan before the king, and they crossed the ford to bring over the king's household and to do his pleasure. And Shimei the son of Gera fell down before the king, as he was about to cross the Jordan, and said to the king, “Let not my lord hold me guilty or remember how your servant did wrong on the day my lord the king left Jerusalem. Do not let the king take it to heart. For your servant knows that **I have sinned**. Therefore, behold, I have come this day, the first of all the house of Joseph to come down to meet my lord the king.”
- Abishai the son of Zeruiah answered, “Shall not Shimei be put to death for this, because he cursed the LORD'S anointed?” But David said, “What have I to do with you, you sons of Zeruiah, that you should this day be as 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?” And the king said to Shimei, “**You shall not die.**” And the king gave him his oath.
 - 2 Samuel 19:16-23

Children born before Jerusalem

Wives

Ahinoam

Abigail

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Children

Amnon*

Chileab (Daniel)

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Ithream

(barren)

(2 Samuel 3:2-5, 13-14; 13:1; 1 Chron. 3:1-9)

David: Trouble at Home



David: advanced in years....

- Now King David was old and advanced in years. And although they covered him with clothes, **he could not get warm.** Therefore his servants said to him, “Let a young woman be sought for my lord the king, and let her wait on the king and be in his service. Let her lie in your arms, that my lord the king may be warm.” So they sought for a beautiful young woman throughout all the territory of Israel, and found Abishag the Shunammite, and brought her to the king. The young woman was very beautiful, and she was of service to the king and attended to him, but the king knew her not.

1 Kings 1:1-4



David: Trouble at Home



David: The final slap in the face....

- Now Adonijah the son of Haggith exalted himself, saying, “I will be king.” And he prepared for himself chariots and horsemen, and fifty men to run before him. ****His father had never at any time displeased him by asking, “Why have you done thus and so?”** He was also a very handsome man, and he was born next after Absalom. He conferred with Joab the son of Zeruiah and with Abiathar the priest. And they followed Adonijah and helped him. But Zadok the priest and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada and Nathan the prophet and Shimei and Rei and David's mighty men were not with Adonijah.
- Adonijah sacrificed sheep, oxen, and fattened cattle by the Serpent's Stone, which is beside En-rogel, and he invited all his brothers, the king's sons, and all the royal officials of Judah, but he did not invite Nathan the prophet or Benaiah or the mighty men or Solomon his brother.

1 Kings 1:5-10



David: Trouble at Home



David: The final slap in the face....

- Then Adonijah the son of Haggith came to Bathsheba the mother of Solomon. And she said, “Do you come peacefully?” He said, “Peacefully.” Then he said, “I have something to say to you.” She said, “Speak.” He said, “You know that the kingdom was mine, and that all Israel fully expected me to reign. However, the kingdom has turned about and become my brother's, for it was his from the LORD. And now I have one request to make of you; **do not refuse me.**” She said to him, “Speak.” And he said, “Please ask King Solomon—**he will not refuse you**—to give me Abishag the Shunammite as my wife.” Bathsheba said, “Very well; I will speak for you to the king.”

1 Kings 2:13-18

David: Trouble at Home



- “Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.”

- Galatians 6:6-8

As I have seen, those who plow iniquity and sow trouble reap the same. Job 4:8

David: Trouble at Home



David: the takeaway....

Consequences

- Sword will never depart from your house
- Do not assume that you can despise the Word and escape.
- We may never escape the consequences.
- This will always play out worse within the family – obvious price.
- The family is probably the best testing ground....

Grace

- The LORD has also put away your (our) sin.
- This is the stumbling block (scandal) of the Cross. (1 Cor. 1:23)
- The LORD gave His life to put away your (our) sin.
- “Amazing love, how can this be....
That my dear Lord should die for me?”

David: Trouble at Home



David: Reflections....

- Our characters are forged in the crucible of life and conflict.
- Far less likely to learn the necessary lessons in the good times.
- We are far more likely to receive spiritual instruction from the conflicts in our lives – than when we are swaggering on the patio.
- ***In other words:***
- The patio is almost always devoid of basic spiritual training.
- We don't need God there. We have it all. We have it made....
- The crucibles of life are far more likely to provide space for reflection and learning.
- Happily, for David, he spent far more time in the crucible of affliction than he did strutting on the patio.
- “But when Jesus heard it, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.” Matthew 9:12-13

‘Rejoice with me,
for I have found
my sheep that was
lost.’

David: Trouble at Home



”The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures.
He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul.
He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of
death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my
enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the
LORD forever.”

Psalms 23



David: Trouble at Home



