



Expository Preaching from I & II Samuel: *The Life of David*

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Training the Next Generation of Servant Leaders in Africa for Great Commission Living

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A Portrait of a Man of Passion

“How God Chooses a Man”

Lesson #1

Text: I Samuel 16:1-13

INTRODUCTION

□ It is not always clear what people go by when someone is chosen for a task, position, or honor

□ David was a young man **chosen by God** to be the **next King** of Israel

□ **I Samuel 16:1-13**

- One by one, Jesse’s sons **passed** before Samuel
- One by one, they were **rejected** by God.

□ Jesse didn’t even have his youngest son in the room.

• Jesse saw his youngest as nothing more than one who could keep sheep.

□ **Jesse & the brothers**

- Here comes David
 - His **muscles** are strong
 - His **eyes** are clear
 - His **heart** is clean & pure
- and

God says to Samuel **“He’s the One”**

Question – What kind of people does God **choose & use** anyway?

I. GOD’S MEASURE FOR APPOINTING SERVANT-LEADERS

A. SPIRITUALITY - I Samuel 13:14

□ What does it mean to be a person **after God’s own heart**?

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- It is a person whose life is in **harmony** with the Lord.

B. HUMILITY - I Samuel 16:1

☐ When you have a servant's heart **you are humble**

- God looked at David out in the **field** surrounding Bethlehem.
- He was **keeping** his father's sheep.
- He was **faithfully** doing his father's business.

And God passed His approval on this teen named David.

☐ Notice what David did when he was anointed – I Samuel 16:17

1. David becomes the **King's musician**.
2. Do you know where he went after he played for King Saul?
Right back to tending his father's flock.

C. INTEGRITY

☐ Integrity = what you are when nobody's looking.

II. GOD'S METHOD OF TRAINING HIS SERVANT-LEADERS

☐ How did God train David for this leadership role?

A. SOLITUDE

- David needed to **learn** life's **major lessons all alone** before he could be trusted with responsibilities before the **public**.

B. OBSCURITY

- Those who first accept the **silence of obscurity** are best qualified to handle the **applause of popularity**.

C. MONOTONY

- It is in the little things & in the lonely places that we **prove** ourselves

capable of the big things.

D. REALITY

I Sam. 17:34-35

Question: Where did David get such courage?

Answer: He had learned it **all alone** before God

□ Goliath was no big deal to David because David had been **killing lions & bears** while nobody was around.

Remember – When God develops our **character** He is **never** in a hurry.

Alan Redpath said – *“The conversion of a soul is the miracle of a moment but the manufacture of a saint is the task of a lifetime.”*

□ v. 13 – *“And the spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward”*

Those whom God **appoints** He also **anoints**

Are you **becoming** a “Man after God’s own heart”?

A Portrait of a Man of Passion

“Identifying the Real Giant”

Lesson # 2

Text: *I Samuel 17:1-11*

INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND

1. Battle fought about 15 miles from David's home.
2. David was to deliver food to brothers at camp.
3. What he finds is a giant of a man – challenging someone to fight him.
4. Not One man - stepped out to defend honor of God & honor of Israel.

☐ David - “I WILL GO”

I. A VICIOUS ENEMY

☐ Goliath - a representation of devil

A. SATANIC POWER - vs. 4

- 9 feet, 9 inches tall = 3 meters
- His armor went from shoulders to knees
- It weighed 125 pounds (57 Kilograms)
- He carried a bronze javelin.
- The head of his spear weighed 20 to 25 pounds. (10 Kilograms)

☐ His cry of challenge is like the roar of Satan like a lion seeking whom he may devour.

B. SATANIC PURPOSE - v. 10

☐ This is no more than a striking picture of Satan and his power.

He is **far too powerful** for any human being to stand against.

C. SATANIC PERSISTENCE - v. 16

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- 40 is the number of testing.
- For 40 days he appeared day-by-day uttering his challenge to battle and defy the people of God.

II. A VICARIOUS ENCOUNTER

- What happens to the **prince of the powers of darkness** - happens to all who follow him.
- What happens to our **Lord** - happens to all that follow him.

☐ David represents - The Lord Jesus Christ

III. VICTORIOUS EXAMPLE

7 PRINCIPLES OF VICTORY

A. PRINCIPLE OF PREPARATION - v. 15

- ☐ Do you know **why** God **used** David?
- Because David knew what it was to **prepare his heart & be faithful in the small things**
- ☐ Who did God **use**? Who did God make the **greatest** King of Israel?
- A Boy who had learned to be **faithful** in small things.

B. PRINCIPLE OF PERSPECTIVE

☐ Glance at your Goliath's & Gaze upon your God!!

C. PRINCIPLE OF PURPOSE - v. 29, 32

☐ **Many things that day could have stopped him –**

1. **The Dismay of Others** - v. 11
2. **The Disdain of Brethren** - v. 28
3. **Discouragement of Experts** – v. 33

D. PRINCIPLE OF PROGRESSION - vs. 34-36

☐ David had learned to go **from victory unto victory**

E. PRINCIPLE OF PROTECTION - v. 38-39

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- In this battle - can't wear King Saul's armor & expect to have spiritual victories

We better put on "**The whole armor of God**"

F. PRINCIPLE OF POWER - vs. 42-45

- In **Saul's** mind - God was **absent** from whole conflict.
- In **David's** mind - God was **greatest reality** of all.

G. PRINCIPLE OF PRAISE - vs. 46

- God's plan is to take ordinary people & do extraordinary things & thereby get glory to Himself.

CONCLUSION

- Remember - What happened to David happened to his people.
- David's victory was their victory
- What happened to the King of Kings at the cross, His death-burial-resurrection-ascension, is something that happened to all those who come to him.

A Portrait of a Man of Passion

“Souls in Harmony”

Lesson #3

Text: I Samuel 18:1-4

INTRODUCTION

- One of the basic needs and longings of a heart is for a real friend.
- **Facts about David:**
 1. After David killed the giant he did **not** become king immediately.
 2. The aftermath of killing Goliath led David into one of the **deepest, longest and darkest** valleys of his entire life.
 3. David, who had proved himself faithful among the sheep and proved himself faithful on the battlefield went from the highest pinnacle of popularity to the **lowest** depression of despair.
 4. Saul's jealousy flared and he sought to kill David.

I. THE VALUE OF FRIENDSHIP

3 Levels of Friendship

1. Casual Acquaintances
2. Fair Weather Friends
3. True Friend

- David & Jonathon certainly invested in one another
- **Question** – What drew David & Jonathon together in such a close-knit friendship?

Answer = They were of the same spirit. They were both men after God's own heart.

- **Picture the scene:** Jonathon in the camp watches **David** go down to face Goliath but it was

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Jonathon in Chapter 13 who fought the Philistines with just his armor bearer.

A bond developed that was never broken.

☐ Character is attracted to character. Godliness is attracted to godliness.

☐ They were both men after God's own heart.

II. VIRTUES OF FRIENDSHIP

3 Virtues of Friendship

A. TRUE FRIENDSHIP IS SELFLESS – vs. 18:1

☐ Jonathon was **heir** to the throne yet he **stripped** himself of every symbol of royalty.

He was the son of a king --- honoring the son of a shepherd.

I Samuel 23:16-17

B. TRUE FRIENDSHIP IS STEADFAST

vs. 1 – “**Knit**” = (Hebrew) = “knotted,” “tied together firmly”

C. TRUE FRIENDSHIP IS SANCTIFYING

☐ Proverbs 27:17-“*Iron sharpeneth iron, so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.*”

● If you have a real friend, he is going to have an **uplifting, sharpening** influence of your life.

● He is going to make you a **better** person.

● A false friend will **dull** your usefulness.

☐ One of the **measurements** of whether you have a real friend
= Am I a better person when I am in his presence?

☐ **Question** – Does your friend draw you closer to Jesus Christ?

□ It is true that a genuine friend will never forsake you but it is equally true that a real friend will never **condone** your wrongdoing.

- He will always confront you that he might change you.

□ Proverbs 27:6-*"Faithful are the wounds of a friend, but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful."*

III. VISIBILITY OF FRIENDSHIP

□ My friend – the greatest example of being a friend = **Jesus**.

□ **Question:** Did Jonathan love David because of David's character?
= Yes!

• Did Jesus love us because of our beauty and character?
= No

Conclusion

- Even His enemies called Him – "**a friend of sinners**"

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“A Prayer for Deliverance”

Lesson #4

Text: *I Sam. 19:10-11, 18, Ps. 59:1-17*

INTRODUCTION

- David had come to Saul as a young man and Saul loved him greatly.
- But a song came out after David slew Goliath = **“Saul hath slain his thousands, & David....”**
- Saul was **angry & jealous** & became afraid of David because the Lord was with him.
- Saul wanted to kill David.

I. DAVID’S PRESENCE OF DANGER – vs. 1-7

- The Spirit of God had **left** Saul.
- He became a man filled with jealousy.

1. **Deep depression** set in & David became the target of Saul’s evil.
 - a. He threw a javelin at David.
 - b. He tried to get David **killed** in battle.
 - c. He tried to get his **daughter** to trap him.
 - d. He tried to get Jonathon to kill him.
 - e. Saul threw **another javelin** at David.

- They have **no regard** for God so therefore have no regard for **God’s man**.

II. DAVID’S PRAYER OF DELIVERANCE – vs. 8-15

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- Traps & Snares are all around but he finds **REST** IN THE LORD!

Is there a sense of helplessness in life? Answer: Is Prayer

- David shows that **his enemies are God's enemies**

- If God be for us, who can stand against us? (Romans 8:31)

- David has prayed himself **out** of his **panic** into **confidence**
How Did David Change?

A. DAVID'S ATTITUDE v. 9 – “*I will wait upon Thee...*”

= I will watch for Thee as the Shepherd watches the sheep

- We **Pray**, but we don't **wait**. We **ask**, but we don't **expect** to receive

B. DAVID'S ANCHOR – v. 9

2 Ways David Describes God

“My **Strength**” = “God **within** me”

“My **Defense**” = “God all **around** me” (Protection)

III. DAVID'S PRAISE OF DEFENSE – vs. 16-17

BUT □ Here is a man who is under the pressure of great danger

His heart is **right with God** & therefore **full of praise & joy**

- The danger taught him to **watch & wait** on God.

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“When the Will of God is to Wander”

Lesson #5

Text: I Sam. 20:1-7, 12-13, 18-42

INTRODUCTION

- ☐ David – already has been **anointed** to be – **next King**
But rather than gaining **favor** with Saul –He **lost it AL**
- ☐ David’s **faith** in God’s **Promises** was almost to the **breaking point**.

I. THE FEAR OF DAVID

- ☐ **Review – (Chapter 19)**
 - Saul’s messengers are sent to kill him – at **Naioth**
 - David in Chapter 20 runs to **Gibeah** to ask his friend **Jonathon** a few pointed questions.
- ☐ David should have known Saul **could not** kill him **because** God had **anointed** Him.

II. THE FUTURE OF DAVID – v 10

- ☐ **What a FATEFUL Moment**
 - Either he would go back to **luxuries** of Saul’s house
OR
 - Go into **Exile** – **without** a friend in world to turn to.
- ☐ It was totally **out** of David’s control

III. THE FAREWELL OF DAVID

- ☐ v. 33
- ☐ In a fit of **rage** Saul almost took his son’s life.
- ☐ **The message** = The Lord was **sending him away**
 - God’s will may sometimes be **painful** to you but it will always be **profitable** to you
- ☐ As David slowly departs up mountain & Jonathon goes back to path of duty
 - 2 Friends split apart – in the Will of God
- ☐ **Some trials will throw us into despair** causing you to doubt God’s Promises?

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“Fear Leads to Drastic Measures”

Lesson #6

Text: *I Samuel 21*

INTRODUCTION

I. THE CIRCUMSTANCES LEADING UP TO COLLAPSE

- ☐ David is a FUGITIVE – On the RUN
- ☐ David was **losing** all of his **support**
 - David who was a calm & confident young warrior now a **fearful scared** man
- ☐ He seeks out **one** he knows he can **lean on** - his closest friend **Jonathan**
- ☐ David's **personality** is changing
- ☐ He has now lost the perspective
 - He has proceeded to take matters into his own hands
 - The moment he crossed the frontier he **stepped out** of the will of God
 - To step **outside** the land was to step outside the **sphere** of God's blessing
 - **Gath** is where Goliath had lived
 - Gath was the **headquarters** of the Philistines

☐ I Samuel 21:11-13

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□ **David had hit rock bottom** - It is amazing how **fear** can change our focus & perspective

□ **I Samuel 21:14-15**

□ David had a **position** ---- and he lost it

David had a **wife** ---- and he lost her

David had a **wise counselor** ---- and he lost him

David had a **best friend** --- and he lost him

David had **self-respect** ---- and he lost it

II. THE CAUTION OF LEANING ON A CRUTCH

□ David is going to be the **new king** of Israel

- He needs to be up and ready for the job
- **Why would God allow all these tragedies?**
- **Answer = To teach David WHO TO LEAN ON**

□ Psalm 46:1-3 - *“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst sea. Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof.”*

Illustration – David Livingstone

1. In 1856, David Livingstone was in the **jungles** of Africa.
2. **Hostile savages** surrounded the fearless missionary.
3. For the first time in Livingstone’s life, he was **tempted to run** away one dark night and seek refuge.
4. He **wrote** in his journal - *“January 14, 1856 – I have felt so much turmoil. To the point of having all my plans for the good of this region knocked on the head by savages*

tomorrow. But I read that Jesus said “All power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore and teach all nations and lo I am with you always even unto the end of the world.”

5. He continued to write *“Because of this I will not flee as I intended. **I feel quite calm now, thank God.**”*

- ☐ God doesn't give **temporary relief** - He offers a **permanent solution**

III. THE CHOICE OF LEARNING IN A CRISIS

- David went to **God's house** for **comfort**, help, & guidance but was seen as being wrong in his soul.

- Instead of telling the **truth** to the only one who could help him he **lied & ran** for his life.

- ☐ Did he get away with it?

I Samuel 22:16-23

- ☐ **No One who covers his sin will prosper!**
(Proverbs 28:13)

- ☐ **At this point** David wrote 2 Psalms that reveal His Restoration

1) Psalm 56

2) Psalm 34

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“The Cave, The Captain, and His Crew”

Lesson #7

Text: 1 Samuel 22:1-5

□ Facts about David

1. At the close of chapter 21 we saw a **backslidden** David **restored** to fellowship with God.
2. After his sad experience of finding himself in the **wrong company** and **pretending to be crazy**, he is now back in the territory that he once fled.
3. **Wonderful results** occur when people get **right** with God.

I. THE FACTS ABOUT THE CAVE

A. THE LOCATION IN THE LAND

1. The cave of **Adullam** was **located** in the Valley of Elah in the vicinity where David killed Goliath.
2. The Valley of Elah was noted for the number of its **natural caves**.

B. THE LOWLINESS FOR THE LEADER

- Although this cave allowed David protection it was a **lowly place** for the newly anointed leader of Israel to dwell.
- The good and godly will at times be put in the Cave of Adullam **BUT** the Cave of Adullam is not the end.

II. THE FAMILY AT THE CAVE – v. 1

- Look at who comes to him in the cave-those same brothers & his father along with the rest of the household.

III. THE FOLLOWERS AT THE CAVE

All those that were **distressed**, in **debt** and **discontented** came to David.

1. “Everyone who was in **distress**” = under pressure and under stress
2. “Everyone who was **indebted**” = these people couldn’t pay their bills

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3. “Everyone who was **discontented**” = to have been **wronged** & mistreated

□ Perhaps these men came to David because they knew their **new leader** could provide them with **justice**.

1. Remember, the **land** was **aching** under the rule of Saul.
2. He had **overtaxed** the people.
3. He had **mistreated** them.
4. As a result the people were **suffering** the consequences.

□ But this cave was **no longer** David’s escape. It rather became a place of **training** for those who became David’s army. Later called “**David’s mighty men of valor**”

□ **Could God build a kingdom on such unreliable foundations?**
– **YES!**

He eventually built a **mighty nation** with David as their leader.

IV. THE FAITH AT THE CAVE

□ 2 Psalms were written by David during this period of time in the cave

1. **Psalm 57**
2. **Psalm 142**

- They both **reveal** the **difficult** and trying times David experienced.
- They also show David’s **faith**.

□ **Psalm 57**

A. THE PLEA ABOUT HIS TROUBLES

- He pleads for **mercy** – “*Be merciful unto me*” (v.1)
- He pleaded in **faith** – “*My soul trusteth in Thee*” (v.1)
- He pleads to **God** – “*I will cry unto God*” (v.2)

B. THE PERILS FROM HIS TROUBLES

*Until a man reaches rock bottom he has no chance of reaching the **ROCK OF AGES**.*

C. THE PRAISE AMIDST HIS TROUBLES

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1. His praise involved **music** about the Lord (v.7-9)
2. His praise involved **mercy** from the Lord (v.10)
3. His praise involved **magnifying** the Lord (v.11)

V. THE FAVOR FOR DAVID – v. 5

- God remained upon His throne and **never forgot David**.
- ☐ **Question** – Do you know what Gad represented? = Counsel from the Word of God
- ☐ **The prophet Gad** told David “*Get up out of the cave and go back into Judah*”
- David **listened** to the man of God
learned from the man of God
and **leaned** on the man of God
- ☐ God’s commands do not cater to our weakness but to His wisdom.
- God’s will may be **painful** to you but will always be **profitable** to you.
- ☐ Remember, **the conversion of a soul is the miracle of a moment but the making of a saint is the task of a lifetime.**

A Portrait of a Man of Passion

“Refusing Revenge”

Lesson #8

Text: *I Samuel 24*

INTRODUCTION

1. David is now **hiding out** at a place called **Engedi**
2. Engedi was an **oasis** in the desert wilderness
 - Fresh water **springs** • Waterfalls • Lush **vegetation** •
 - Countless **caves**
 - High above the **Dead Sea** - Engedi was a perfect place to **hide**

I. DAVID’S CONTINUAL TROUBLES - v.1-2

A. THE ARCHENEMY WAS PROSPEROUS

□ Chapter 23 – David had been **trapped** in the **strongholds** of Ziph

- The Ziphites were in **conspiracy** with Saul
- David then **fled** to Maon
- **Saul** was **closing** in
- But **God intervened** --- Philistines invaded the land of Israel and Saul went back

□ We all see God’s hand in disrupting Saul’s pursuit of David **BUT** it is difficult to understand

why God would allow Saul to prosper in that battle.

- Just because a person is **prospering outwardly** does not mean that God is **pleased** with his life

□ **Arthur Pink** – “As oxen are fattened up for the slaughter, so God often ripens the wicked for judgment and damnation – by an abundance of his temporal mercies.”

B. THE ARCHENEMY WAS PERSISTENT

1. David was given a **break** in the pursuit (Philistines)
2. The break, however, was a **brief** one

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3. Saul **now** advanced against him with a stronger force than before

C. THE ARCHENEMY WAS POWERFUL – v. 2

1. **David** now has **600 men** --- all volunteers
2. **Saul** has – 3,000 “**chosen men**” = The **best** in the land

II. DAVID’S CHALLENGING TEMPTATION (REVENGE) –v. 3-7

A. THE SITUATION OF THE TEMPTATION

1. Saul, however, must **answer the call of nature**
 - He is **crouching** in the privacy of a cave but not just **any cave**
2. He tromps right in to the mouth of the cave where **David** & his men were hiding

B. THE SANCTION OF THE TEMPTATION

- ☐ David’s men said – “*Hey – here’s your opportunity*”
 - God is providing you a chance to **move** into the **position** He’s promised you
- ☐ The Lord gets **blamed** for all sorts of things He has **nothing** to do with
- ☐ The Devil will always make sure someone **sanctions** your wrong-doing

C. THE STOPPING OF THE TEMPTATION

1. Saul is there on his haunches – taking care of his business – looking out of the cave
 2. David sneaks up behind him --- snip --- ever so gently cuts off a piece of his robe
- ☐ Instead of later **gloating** over what he had done David became **deeply troubled**
 - His “**conscience bothered him**”

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- ❑ **When you really want to walk with God** you **desire** to come to terms with **every detail**
 - You get **bothered** by – **little things**

Illustration – Marine Corps

1. The Marine Corps have a saying
2. “You don’t salute the **man** you salute the **rank**”
3. How far do they take it?
4. If he is a **Major** – even if he’s **wasted**
You salute him because of the rank --- he’s a Major

- ❑ That’s what David was saying here
 - “Saul is the **king!** This is the **anointed** king!

❑ Verse 7

- Here we see a guy who did the **right thing** and **brought** a whole group with him

- ❑ **Think about it** – Who could you persuade **if you walked with God**

III. DAVID’S COURAGEOUS TALK – v. 8-22

A. RESPECT OF DAVID – V.8

- ❑ He not only **alerts** the king (his sworn enemy) **but** then **bows** before him

B. THE REFUTING OF DAVID

- ❑ When you have been wronged it is necessary for you to **declare the truth**
 - You cannot **change** your enemy **but** you can be sure he **understands** the right facts
- ❑ Our tendency is to say – “*Oh, just leave it alone. It will all work out.*”

C. THE RESPONSE OF SAUL – vs. 16-19

- ❑ We are **responsible** for **telling** the person the truth **BUT** it is **impossible** to **make him** **change** his opinion
- ❑ **Saul’s raging fury – is – softened by David’s kindness**

IV. DAVID'S CRUCIAL TEACHING

- Notice **3 helpful principles** for us to live by when it comes to life's most subtle temptation – **revenge**

First – Since man is depraved – expect to be mistreated

Second – Since mistreatment is inevitable – anticipate feelings of revenge

Third – Since the desire for revenge is predictable – refuse to fight in the flesh

- If you are resentful of the way someone has treated you ask God to **free** you from that bondage

The secret is forgiveness!

You'll never regret forgiving someone who doesn't deserve it

A Portrait of a Man of Passion

“A Fit of Rage”

Lesson #9

Text: I Samuel 25

INTRODUCTION – David

- David is a man quoted more often in the New Testament than any other Old Testament character
- He is a man whose **biography** is the longest of any Old Testament biography
- ☐ If it were not for a woman named **Abigail** – David would have been guilty of murder
 - Here David is **rushing** to commit a terrible sin but God **mercifully interfered**

I. PROVOCATION OF DAVID TO SIN

- ☐ According to the customs of that day at the time the sheep were sheared it was common for the **owner** of the animals to **set aside** a portion of the profit he made
 - He was to **give** it to **those** who had **protected** his shepherds while they were out in the fields
- ☐ David and his men have been **faithfully watching** out for the flocks of this man named **Nabal**
 - **Word reached** them that he was shearing his sheep. **It is now payday.**
- ☐ **Nabal’s Reply** – (vs, 10-11)
- ☐ Nabal = “Fool”
 - In Scripture – “**A Fool**” was a person who said “*There is no God*”
 - He lived his life as though there were no God
 - Nabal was a – **harsh** man – **evil** man – **dishonest** man

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- David had every excuse to retaliate

II. PASSION TO WHICH DAVID IS SUCCUMBING

- V. 12-13

- The **same guy** who months before **refused** to retaliate now explodes into temporary **insanity**.

- You may have won the battle **yesterday** – **BUT** that doesn't win them for you **today**!

- Those victories you have won by God's grace **cannot impart** strength to you for the future.

- We are kept from **SIN** moment by moment.

- How tragic when **older Christians** fall into a silly little **trap** and ruin **their testimony**.

1. **Samson** succumbed to lust
2. **Moses** – lost his temper
3. **Lot** – became worldly
4. **Noah** – got drunk and lost the respect of his kids

- Paul said in I Corinthians 9 – *“But I keep under my body and bring it into subjection lest that by any means when I have preached to others I myself should be a castaway.”*

I John – *“Whoso hateth his brother is a murderer”*

III. PRINCIPLE TO WHICH DAVID IS SAVED

- In those days women had **little to say** about whom they married

- No doubt Abigail's **father** saw that **Nabal** was a **wealthy** man. He could give a good dowry for Abigail

- It **appealed** greatly to Abigail's father

He was more interested in riches than righteousness

- Vs. 23-28 ● She **pleaded** with him not to stoop to that level

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□ We must remember when issues are **left in God's hand** it is as easy as that!

BUT when we **take things** into our hands it is not the way for a man of God.

□ **David melted** – See vs.32-33

David was so thankful not simply for her gift BUT for her intervention in his life that would have left a stain on him for life.

□ Do you know **why** David was → **A man after God's own heart?**

Answer = Because he had a teachable spirit

CONCLUSION – God's Happy Ending

1. **The divine judgement of God** fell upon Nabal
= It was **death** in Nabal's case
2. David asked **Abigail** to **marry** him
3. She became his **wife**

A Portrait of a Man of Passion

“A Fit of Depression”

Lesson #10

Text: I Samuel 27:1-12

INTRODUCTION

□ *“I am the subject of depression of spirit so fearful that I hope none of you ever get to such extremes of wretchedness as I go to...personally I have passed through this dark valley of depression”* (Charles Hatton Spurgeon)

I. THE CAUSE OF DAVID’S DARKNESS

A. HIS PROBLEMS WERE WOEFUL

B. HIS PERSPECTIVE WAS WRONG

□ v. 1 – “Now I will perish one day by the hand of Saul”

□ David’s **problems** are great **BUT** the **blessings** were evident as well

1. The Promise of Royalty

2. **The Protection from Death** (David had been protected from Saul’s attacks repeatedly)

3. **The Pack of Followers** (600 men had given David complete loyalty)

4. The Provision of Supplies

□ David, however, convinces himself *“I’ll perish - I’ll never rule Israel...Never!”*

□ **Question** – Why are we so pessimistic? **Answer** = Because our **eyes** are on ourselves

C. HIS PATIENCE WAS WORN

□ This is of a Christian who deliberately opts for **carnality**

□ It’s amazing how **SLOW** people grow in the Lord then how **FAST** people run from the Lord

II. CONSEQUENCES OF DAVID’S DECISION

□ When David left his wilderness home in Israel & **retreated** into Philistine country **He didn’t go alone**

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- He's the **Commander and Chief** of the guerrilla troops
- He's **trained** his men in the Cave of Adullam
- It's not only his men who go with him but their **families** as well

Total = David and his family + 600 more

households

- When you make a decision that is **wrong** it affects those who **trust** you and **depend** on you

☐ Now where did David go. He fled to **Gath**

A. DIVIDEND

☐ Now be assured that disobedience always has rewards to give the disobedient in order to **encourage the disobedient**.

• **But** your disobedience will become more of a problem than a profit =
These are false dividends

1. **Senseless comfort** – v. 4 • Saul has now stopped pursuing him
2. **Shameful Cause** - v. 5

☐ David is submitting to the adversary's cause

☐ When we give ourselves to **carnality** rather than **spirituality** we begin to serve the enemy's cause

☐ Do you see what David calls himself? "The servant of Achish"

3. Subtle Compromise – v. 6-9

Illustration – Lot

1. He just **pitched** his tent nearby
2. Before long – he was **living** in the city
3. **Erosion** set in – and eventually Lot became one of the **elders** – sitting at the gate of the city

- David, who has **walked with God**, now **walks away from Him**
- **David is an Israelite** but he is trying to make the Philistines think he is on their side

☐ David is in **enemy territory** involved in **great compromise**

David had made the wrong decision

- He began living a lifestyle that resulted incredible inner turmoil

B. DESPAIR

1. Displacement

- ☐ David ends up **losing his identity**
- ☐ **Achish has to confront David. I Samuel 29:6-8**
- ☐ **David becomes a man without a country**

2. Disillusionment - 29:8

- ☐ Carnality brings about many **problems**

3. Depression – 30:1-4

- There before him in the distance is this **city** where he & his men have **lived** for the past year & a half
- The **entire place** is burned to the ground
- Their **wives** and **children** have been taken away as captives by the enemy

4. Distrust – 30:6

- ☐ The very people who had **looked to David** as their **leader** now have **turned away** embittered with the results
- ☐ David had gone so far **down** the ladder of despair that he **reached the bottom rung**
- ☐ **I Samuel 30:6**

CONCLUSION

- Perhaps you **have known** the joys of walking with Christ. **What are you waiting for?**

A Portrait of a Man of Passion

“The Rise and Fall of Monarchs”

Lesson # 11

Text: I Samuel 31

INTRODUCTION

- ☐ Someone has said – **“Our lives are not made by the dreams that we dream**
– but by the choices that we make.”

I. THE COLLAPSE OF A KING – SAUL

- ☐ Saul’s life was one of disgrace and decline
- ☐ Five words from I Samuel 26:21 could have become his epitaph = **“I have played the fool”**
- ☐ Saul, the man who once knew the **blessings** of the kingdom, was the **representative** of God
to the Chosen People and cared so much about his image **is now dead**
- ☐ His body is **mutilated** and his head is **severed**
 - It is being **carried** about from **place to place** by the enemy

II. THE CORONATION OF A KING – DAVID

- ☐ It has been 13 years since David was anointed to be king of Israel
 - David, however, has been **on the run**
 - Finally – **at age 30** – he takes the **throne**
- ☐ **David became a great king for Israel.**
It is easy to forget that for **13 years** he lived as a **fugitive discouraged and disillusioned.**
- ☐ God was busy **training David** to:
 1. **Know** God
 2. **Love** God – so he could later

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3. **Serve** God as king

□ If we could somehow move from just serving Him to loving Him, something amazing would happen to our service.

□ **II Samuel 2:1**

- David's **question** to the Lord – "Is it time now Lord?"
- **God's reply** – "**Begin your reign in Hebron.**"

□ **Hebron**

- It was **limited** reign over the people of Judah (**7 ½ years**)
- David doesn't complain but **waits** on God

□ **II Samuel 5:1-5**

Result –

1. David **captured** the city of Jerusalem
2. It became a **stronghold**
3. David **became greater** and greater
4. The Lord of Hosts **remained** with him
5. The **king of Tyre** built David a great **palace**

□ **When the blessings began – they overflowed David's cup**

1. David **expanded** the boundaries of Israel from **6,000** square miles to **60,000** sq. miles
2. He set up extensive **trade routes** that reached throughout the known world
3. Wealth **came** into Israel like the nation had never known before
4. David **unified the nation** under Jehovah God
5. David created a national interest in **spiritual** things
6. He **destroyed** the **idol** altars

□ He was a brilliant **organizer** - a brilliant **manager** - a brilliant **planner**

Saul made choices = The Fall of a Monarch

David made choices = The Rise of a Monarch

A Portrait of a Man of Passion

“Doing the Right Thing in the Right Way”

Lesson #12

Text: II Samuel 6

INTRODUCTION

Background of the Ark of the Covenant

1. The Ark was a **wooden** box four feet long, two feet wide, two feet high
2. Inside the wooden box – were **three things**
 - a. Two tables of stone – **Ten Commandments**
 - b. Aaron’s **Rod**
 - c. A pot of Manna
3. On **top** of that Ark was a solid slab of gold that was known as the **Mercy Seat**
4. On each **corner** of the Ark they had **Golden Rings**
5. Overlaid with gold in those rings – **Wooden Staves**
6. This Ark was to be **carried** by the **Levites** on their **shoulders**
7. It was at this Ark where the blood of sacrificial lambs was to be sprinkled
8. On each side of this Ark of the Covenant were – **Gold Cherubim**
9. These Cherubim **faced** one another looking into that Ark
10. On the **Day of Atonement** they would sprinkle the **blood on the altar** and the Bible says that
the Glory of God would come and dwell on this Ark
- This Ark was a visible symbol in the O. T. of the **presence** of God
11. Now we know that this is an **O. T. picture** of **Our Lord Jesus Christ**

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☐ The priest took that Ark - bore it on their shoulders – **as they wandered in the wilderness**

☐ They also carried it on their shoulders when they approached the Jordan River

– **and the Jordan River parted** and God led them in the **Promised Land**

☐ During the period of the **Judges** – this Ark was used by the Israelites in **Battle**

☐ **Background to this passage**

The Ark of God was taken in battle by the **Philistines**

- The judgement of God came down on the Israelites however

I. OBEDIENCE DENIED

A. HIS MOTIVE WAS RIGHT – PASSION FOR GETTING THE ARK

☐ He wanted the **presence of God**

☐ He was determined to retrieve – **THE ARK**

☐ **(The scene)**

1. The massive crowd is congregated
2. They go down together to the house of Abinidab to take the Ark
3. They put it on a new cart
4. The sons of Abinidab, Uzzah and Ahio, walk beside this new cart
5. All kinds of instruments are being played in **praise, adoration and worship**

B. HIS MANNER WAS WRONG – PROBLEM IN GETTING THE ARK

1. He made a **new cart**
2. He put the Ark on it
3. Abinidab's two sons, **Uzzah** and **Ahio** walked beside it

4. The road got rough – the Ark slid Uzzah reached up to steady it

5. **He fell over dead**

□ **Understand: God had certain requirements for carrying the Ark** (Exodus 25 --- Numbers)

1. The Ark was made with **rings** and **staves** in order to carry it **without** touching it
2. It was only to be moved by the **Levites**

David had a two-fold reaction

1. He was **angry**
2. He was **afraid**

II. OBEDIENCE DESCRIBED

□ David now knows if he's going to have **God's blessing** through **God's presence**
HE MUST DO THE RIGHT THING IN THE RIGHT WAY

A. PREPARATION – v. 12

He finds out:

1. The **Levites** are to carry it
2. They're to offer **sacrifice**
3. They're to carry it in a **certain way**
4. They were to **sanctify themselves** (I Chronicles 15)

B. PRAISE – v. 14-16

□ Doing God's things God's way brings freedom

III. OBEDIENCE DESPISED – v. 20-23

- David is celebrating in the streets of Jerusalem with his people
- David takes off his **royal robes**
- David was quite willing to be **humbled**

When the day was **over** and he arrived home, he was met by his wife **who rebuked him**

A. HER CONFRONTATION – v. 20a

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B. HER CRITICISM – v. 20b

When you have much joy **expect antagonism**

C. HER CONDEMNATION – v. 23

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“When Dreams are Dashed”

Lesson #13

Text: II Samuel 7

INTRODUCTION

- ☐ How many times have **we** come to the point where we knew God wanted a certain thing for us **but then suddenly the dream was broken**

I. THE PEACE THAT PROVOKED DAVID’S PROPOSAL (v. 1-3)

- ☐ These were **good days** for David
 1. **Jerusalem** had been **established** as his capital
 2. The **ark** of the covenant was brought **back** into Jerusalem
 3. David has prepared a **special tent of worship** where the ark would be placed
 4. The Lord had given David **peace** from all of his enemies
- ☐ David looks around – sees all God has done
 - In his **zeal** he reveals to Nathan, the prophet, **his ambition**
 1. David has a **beautiful new house**
 - **His idea is to build God a house** (The Ark of the Covenant)

- ☐ David had a great dream and it came during a time of **meditation**

David’s heart said yes - **Nathan’s** words said yes - but God said **No!**

II. THE PROMISE THAT REVOKED DAVID’S PLAN

- ☐ The answer from God **NO!**
- ☐ **Notice** - How God deals with David

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First - God affirms David (v.8-9)

Second – He reminds David of his gifts

- “Your **gift** is to be a warrior not a temple builder”
God has all kinds of creative ways to use us

Third – God gives David a promise (v.12-13)

- God tells David, I’ll **build** a dynasty of your family

III. THE PRAYER THAT INVOKED DAVID’S PRAISE – v.18-ff

☐ David responded to the Lord’s refusal with one of the most beautiful prayers in the Bible

A. It starts off with Praise

☐ David is *counting his blessings*

B. He moves from praise to petition – v.25

☐ Matthew Henry once said – “*It is by turning God’s **promises** into **petitions** that they are turned into performances.*”

☐ Now let me show you something exciting (I **Chronicles 22:1-5**)

C. He moves from praise to petition to preparation

☐ David prayed a prayer of thanks

A Portrait of a Man of Passion

“More Than Conquerors”

Lesson #14

II Samuel 8:1-18

INTRODUCTION

- ☐ The peaceful period in which David was able to enjoy **ended**
- ☐ David now **stretches** Israel's territory to fulfill the promises God had made to Abraham
- ☐ Israel's territory increased 10 fold under King David

I. The Proportion of David's Victories

v. 1 - **Philistines** = Western area along Mediterranean Sea

v. 2 - **Moab** = inhabited Eastern side of Dead Sea

v. 6 - **Syrians** = North & Northeast

v. 14 - **Edom** = South & East of Dead Sea

- ☐ David was simply taking **possession** of what God told him to take.

- They are **EVERYWHERE** on all sides and we **MUST** conquer them ALL

- We **CANNOT** conquer **HALFHEARTEDLY** but **AGGRESSIVELY**

3 Essential Reasons for Actions

A. Protection

- ☐ If David **did not defeat** the enemies Israel would be in great **danger**
- ☐ We better conquer sin or sin will conquer us

B. Productivity

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- ☐ If Israel was to be **productive & prosperous** the enemy **must not be permitted** to invade & deplete Israel of its resources

C. Promises

- ☐ David's proportion of victory was **complete**

II. Plan of David's Victory – v. 4

A. Destruction of Every False Strength

- ☐ What is on David's mind? = obedience
- ☐ The REASON was to keep God's people from putting confidence in **anything** except the Lord.

A. Dedication of the Fruits of Victory

- ☐ David **captured** many valuables from enemy
- "Shields of gold" (v. 7)
 - Vessels of silver
 - Vessels of gold
 - Vessels of brass – from To'i (King of Homath)
 - Also "silver & gold" from all the defeated nations (v. 11)
- ☐ His 1st action was to **burn** the enemy's gods then he **dedicated** enemy's gold
- ☐ This **dedication** shows his devotion to the Lord
- ☐ We can **talk about** our dedication but the proof is in our giving

B. Declining of Applause

- ☐ Many believers
- want **spoils** without struggles
 - want **prosperity** without perspiration
 - want **to win** without the war
- ☐ Fame in the battle **only** comes to those who **fight** in battle
- ☐ David's Response was humility

III. Power to David's Victory

□ Because David obeyed the Lord & followed Heaven's strategy the Lord preserved him.

□ v. 15

- David not only had a right to rule, he **did** rule because God delivered him

- He possessed all that God had **promised**

□ As long as David maintained God's principles the **Lord was with him in power**

A Portrait of a Man of Passion

“Amazing Grace”

Lesson # 15

Text: II Samuel 9

INTRODUCTION

□ David turns his **attention** to something that he had **promised** to his dearest friend Jonathon

□ In that day when a new dynasty took control of a land the family of the previous king was often

taken out. • Humanly speaking --- Saul → Jonathon → Mephibosheth

□ “**Kindness**” = “**Mercy**” v. 1

□ This story is one of amazing grace

I. A Picture of the Sinner - Mephibosheth

□ Mephibosheth = “A shameful thing”

- Mephibosheth is a **picture** of **every sinner** without the Lord Jesus Christ

A. HE WAS CORRUPTED BY A FAMILY

□ He was “of the House of Saul”

- The House of Saul was the enemy of the House of David

□ One thing that comes **naturally** to every person is sin

□ It is because we were born into the wrong family that we must be born again into the right family

- It is because we were **born** into the family of **Adam** that we must be **born again** into the family of God

B. HE WAS CRIPPLED BY A FALL

☐ v.3 – Ziba said – “Jonathon hath yet a son which is lame on his feet”

☐ **Question** - Why was Mephibosheth lame?

1. When he was **5 years old** his **father** and **brother** died in battle
2. When his **nurse** received the news she picked him up and fled
3. As she was filled with panic – running – **She fell**
4. Mephibosheth became **lame** in both legs

☐ We too have been **crippled by a fall** - the fall of Adam in the Garden of Eden

- When Adam fell – **We all fell**

I Corinthians 15:22 – “*In Adam all died.*”

C. HE WAS CONTROLLED BY A FAULT

☐ v. 4 – “He is in the house of Machir” = “**Sold**”

☐ Here’s a picture of what sin has done for us = **sin has sold us out**

He was living in “**Lo-debar**” = “A place of **no pasture**” = a **barren place**

- Here is a **cripple** – crippled by a fall
- He is in a place **sold out** and he’s in a place of **no pasture**
- He is barely getting by - **barely surviving**

☐ He was a **prince** who should have been living in a **palace**.
Instead he is a **pauper** living in a **pig sty**

☐ So many people today are just like that - full on the outside and empty on the inside

II. A Picture of the Savior – David

☐ In **Mephibosheth** you see a picture of the **sinner**

In **David** you see a picture of the **Savior**

A. SEEKING GRACE – v. 5

☐ It is not the sinner who seeks the Savior, it is the **Savior** who seeks the sinner

* When Adam fell he didn't go around looking for God saying "God where are you?"

B. SAVING GRACE – v. 5

C. SOVEREIGN GRACE – v. 1, 7

☐ David's kindness was not for Mephibosheth. He was doing it for **Jonathon**.

☐ Did you know that God forgives us **not** for our sake **BUT** for the sake of **His dear Son**

III. A Picture of SALVATION – What David did for Mephibosheth

☐ When David shares with Mephibosheth what he's going to do for him notice his **response**
= **humility** (v. 8)

A. HE RECEIVED A RENEWED FELLOWSHIP (v. 7 "Do not fear")

☐ **Not only does God forgive you, He covers you**

☐ When we accept the invitation of the King and come to Jesus Christ God promises us a
permanent fellowship

B. HE RECEIVED A RESTORED FORTUNE (v. 9)

- All that Mephibosheth had **lost** in the fall now had been **restored**

C. HE RECEIVED A ROYAL FAMILY (v. 11b)

- From a servant to a son
- David said – “*I am taking him into my family*”
- “*Behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us that we should be called the **sons** of God*” (1 John 3:1)
- **Do you know how Mephibosheth got this amazing grace?** He came **just as he was**

A Portrait of a Man of Passion

“David’s Darkest Day”

Lesson #16

Text: II Samuel 11:1-18, 26, 27

INTRODUCTION

1. David – risen to the **height** of the **greatest days** in his life = **days of victory**

2. But **suddenly** we see David hurled down to the depths of despair

“Let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall” (I Cor. 10:12)

☐ Take a look back at David’s Life

1. A shepherd boy
2. Strong & athletic
3. Was a master at **sling shot** – Goliath
4. **Handsome** young man with a warm and tender heart
5. Was a **poet**
6. One day he was **anointed King**, chosen by God
7. David knew the Lord was his **Rock, Redeemer, Great Shepherd**
8. David was called a man after God’s own heart

☐ He had risen now to the peak of his career when suddenly **the Devil tripped him up**

I. PROCEDURE OF SIN

A. TIMING – v. 1

☐ David is at the height of his reign as King

- He has **been king** for **20 years**
- He is about **50 years old**
- He has great **wealth**
- He has worldwide **fame**

☐ It is springtime when **battles** were fought - v. 1

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☐ If you're not going **forward** spiritually there's only one way to go = **backward**

B. TACTICS – vs. 2-4

☐ While walking on his patio roof he saw a woman bathing - **very beautiful woman**

☐ **David's desire** blocks out God

- There's only one thing to do when that happens - **RUN!**

II. THE PROGRESSION OF SIN

He **saw** (v.2) He **sent** (v.3) He **took** (v.4)

☐ Proverbs 9:17 – “*Stolen waters are sweet and bread eaten in secret is pleasant*”

A. HIDING OF SIN – vs. 5-17

☐ David has a **choice** at this point

1. He can choose to **confess** his sin
2. He can make the attempt to **cover his sin**

☐ **Proverbs 28:13** – “*He that covereth his sin shall not prosper*”

☐ For the rest of the chapter we read the **sad** account of David, the man after God's own heart,
making every effort to cover his sin

☐ David has gone all the way from a **sexual affair to murder** - **sins go in bunches**

- The **devil** never lets you know the **end result** up front
- All the devil shows you is **the beauty of the situation**

B. HINDRANCE OF SIN – v.27b

- David thought that by killing Uriah the issue would be over
- He forgot that everything was done in the sight of God

□ “Be sure your sin will find you out” (Numbers 32:23)

□ David thought he was in the clear for nine months

III. PRONOUNCEMENT OF SIN

□ Months and months had past – and David had only **hardened** his heart

□ (The Story Nathan Tells David) – II Samuel 12:1-14

A guest came to visit a rich man

1. The rich man did not want to take a lamb from his own wealth so he stole the one lamb of a poor individual

2. David **reacted** instantly to that **injustice**

□ Remember those four heart-wrenching words - “*I am with child*”

Here David heard another four-word message - “*Thou art the man*”

God confronts the believer with his sin in four steps

First – Conviction

□ Psalm 32:2 – David said – “*Night and day God’s hand was heavy upon him*”

Second – Chastisement

□ Hebrews 12:6 “*For whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth and scourgeth every son He receiveth*”

Third – Challenge

Fourth – Consummation

□ I John 5 says – “*There is a sin unto death*”

IV. PRICE OF SIN

□ Even the **forgiveness** of the Lord does not remove those **consequences**

David's Consequences

1. **His son died**
2. Family heartache – v. 10
 - **Amnon** – David's son is slain by Absalom
 - **Absalom** – David's son is slain by Joab
3. Family turmoil - v.11
 - II Samuel 16:21-22

□ God will forgive your every sin but the scars will remain

CONCLUSION – David wrote beautiful Psalm 51

Verse 1 – *“Have mercy upon me O God **according to Thy loving kindness** – **according unto the multitude of Thy tender mercies**”*

Verse 7 – *“Purge me with hyssop & **I shall be clean** – Wash me & **I shall be whiter than snow**”*

Verse 10 – *“Create in me a clean heart O God; and renew a right spirit in me”*

Verse 12 – *“Restore unto me the **joy** of Thy salvation”*

□ The Lord brings us to repentance in order to restore us to His sweet fellowship

A Portrait of a Man of Passion

“David’s Bed of Tears”

Lesson #17

Text: *Psalms 51*

INTRODUCTION

□ There are 2 Psalms that deal with David’s repentance

1. Psalms 38

2. Psalms 51

□ Someone has said: He who falls into sin is a human.
 He who grieves over his sin is a Saint.
 He who boasts of sin is a fool.

I. THE PRICE OF COVERED SIN

□ Psalm 51 is an **outpouring** of David’s heart after his sins of **lust, adultery, murder, lying & more.**

A. COVERED SIN DIRTIES THE SOUL - vs. 1-2

□ If you can sin **without** feeling dirty and unclean **it is a sign the Holy Spirit does not dwell within you.**

B. DOMINATES THE MIND – v.3

2 KINDS OF WOUNDS IN HUMAN SOUL

1. Sorrow – is a clean wound.

2. Guilt – is a dirty wound – festering & festering

C. DEPRESSED THE HEART – v.8, 12

D. DISEASES THE BODY – v. 8

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E. DEFILE YOUR SPIRIT – Ps. 51:10

F. DESTROYS THE TESTIMONY – 12-15

G. DISHONORS OUR LORD – v. 4

II. THE PARDON OF CONFESSED SIN

3-Fold Confession of Sin

A. SIN MUST BE EXPOSED IN THE LIFE

☐ When we **cover** sin the Holy Spirit **uncovers** it. When we **uncover sin** the Holy Spirit **covers** it.

☐ Proverbs 28:13 – “*He that covereth his sin shall not prosper but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.*”

B. SIN MUST BE EXPRESSED TO THE LORD IN CONFESSION

☐ You must NAME that Sin.

C. SIN MUST BE EXPELLED FROM THE LIFE

☐ SIN MUST BE FORSAKEN!

☐ David learned the lesson of “**total guilt**” but **he also** learned the lesson of “**total grace**”

CONCLUSION

☐ Psalm 51:12-15

☐ **What is David begging God for? TO USE HIM AGAIN**

A Portrait of a Man of Passion

“In Need of Friends”

Lesson #18

Text: *II Samuel 15:1-18 (No)*

INTRODUCTION

1. There are **3 choices** that everybody makes in life that determine the **quality** of their life

A. The **God** that you choose will determine your **eternal** happiness

B. The **spouse** that you choose will determine your **marital** happiness

C. The **friends** that you choose will determine your **social** happiness

□ Proverbs 12:26 – “*The righteous should choose his friends carefully for the way of the wicked leads them astray.*”

2. When you run with the wrong crowd you start listening to the wrong **people**

When you listen to the wrong people you start following the wrong **advice**

When you start following the wrong advice you begin to emulate the wrong **example**

□ The setting behind this period in David’s life is sobering

PERSONALLY - He was filled with guilt

DOMESTICALLY – His home was shattered

• **Absalom** his son is now leading a **conspiracy** against his Father

POLITICALLY – David lost his respect and authority as a leader

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- Little by little **Absalom** undermined David's reputation and **built his** own

☐ How good God was in giving David not **one friend** but **five** of them

I. ITTAI – THE STRANGE FRIEND - II Samuel 15:18-19

☐ This is the **first time** he is **mentioned** in David's biography

1. Now here's the amazing thing – **He's a Gittite**

- A Gittite = A man from Gath
- **Gath** = Home of Goliath

☐ **David's response** – v. 20

= **Ittai's answer** to the king – v.21

II. ZADOK & IBIATHER – THE SPIRITUAL FRIENDS – II Samuel 15:23-24

☐ These men are **priests**, representatives of God, who **minister** in the house of God

☐ David always demonstrated great **respect** for the priests and what they represented

- Now in his darkest hour they **do not forsake** him

☐ Matthew Henry said – *“Those who are friends of the ark in prosperity will find it a friend and help in adversity.”*

☐ If you want God's help in time of **trouble** you need to be careful to give Him honor in time of **blessing**

☐ II Samuel 15:25-26

☐ David knows that the ark does not belong to him but in the city of God

☐ In a real friendship your friend will always want what is **best** for you not what is best for himself

III. HUSHAI – THE SUPPORTING FRIEND – II

Samuel 15:32

☐ **Question** – Who is Hushai? **Answer** = “David’s friend” – v. 37

☐ Sometimes the need is simply a speechless embrace

Ahithophel was David’s traitor

David tells Hushai – “*You can help me the most by being my spy in Absalom’s camp*”

IV. SHOBI, MACHIR, & BARZILLAI – THE SUPPLYING FRIENDS

☐ II Samuel 17:27-29

☐ When you’re hungry, weary and thirsty in the wilderness - that’s when a **friend** comes through

A. **SHOBI** – Sons of **Ammon**

- He could have said “David has **fought** my people. There’s no way I’m going to take even a morsel of bread to David.”

B. **MACHIR** – The son of **Ammiel** from **Lo-debar**

- Machir was the kind of guy who **took care** of people when they were in need
- He could have thought “**I’ve fulfilled my responsibility**”

C. **BARZILLI**

- He could have said “I’m **retired**. I’m **old**. I’ve already served my time

All David's friends came through for him when he needed them

V. JOAB – THE STRENGTHENING FRIEND

1. David receives word that his rebellious son – **Absalom** – is **dead**
2. Absalom is dead before David had a chance to clear up unresolved conflicts with his son
 - David could never tell him he was **sorry** for being so **busy, preoccupied, and negligent as a Dad**
3. Memories of his failed past swamped him - **guilt** assaulted him

□ II Samuel 19:1-2, 4-7

□ **A true friend is willing to tell you the truth**

CONCLUSION

- As a result of his friends he made it through the toughest days and loneliest hours of his life

A Portrait of a Man of Passion

“Big Enough to Forgive”

Lesson # 19

Text: *II Samuel 16*

INTRODUCTION

☐ Forgiveness was one of the qualities that made David a **man after God’s own heart**

- Instead of fully forgiving someone, most folks opt for one of **3 Different Responses**

1. **Conditional Forgiveness** = “*I will forgive you **if**...*”

2. **Partial Forgiveness** = “*I forgive you but don’t expect me to forget*”

3. **Delayed Forgiveness** = “*I’ll forgive you – but just give me some time*”

☐ **Forgiveness Touches 3 Areas of Our Life**

1. Our Relationship **with God**
2. Our Relationship **with our self**
3. Our Relationship **with others**

☐ This topic will be one that we all wrestle with all of our lives

I. THE OUTBURST

☐ David’s life has reached an **all time low**

☐ Psalm 40:1-2 – “*I waited patiently for the Lord; and He inclined unto me, and heard my cry. He brought me up also out of a horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. For innumerable evils have compassed me about; mine iniquities have taken hold upon me so that I am not able*

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to look up. They are more than the hairs of mine head; therefore my heart faileth me."

☐ A man named **Shimei** came out of nowhere to add to his misery

☐ II Samuel 16:5-9

☐ David has done **nothing** to **warrant** these public assaults **BUT** they have come anyway

II. THE OUTLOOK

☐ II Samuel 16:10

- David refuses to **retaliate**

☐ II Samuel 16:10,12

☐ **Question:** How in the world could he do that?

- If you hope to be **used of God** you need that kind of heart

☐ The people who **get the job done** are those who are able to **overlook** hurtful little comments

people are going to make

☐ If you are called into leadership where you must deal with people there are Shimei's around

III. THE OUTCOME

- Some time has passed and **Absalom** has been brutally murdered

- People are **turning back** to David as their leader

- They are **moving** David's household goods **back** over the Jordan to Jerusalem

- Once again here comes **Shimei**

☐ II Samuel 19:16-20 = Shimei says – "***I have sinned***"

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☐ Do you know what must have rung in David's mind?

A few years past when he had said the same words to Nathan

☐ Forgiveness comes easier when we remember times in our own past when we failed and were forgiven

☐ II Samuel 19:21

2 WAYS DAVID WAS ABLE TO FORGIVE

First - He kept his focus on God

Example – It was Jesus who was spit upon, cursed, lied about, crucified, **forgave**

Second – David was very much aware of his own failure

☐ Those who have never recognized their own failures have a tough time forgiving the failures of others

ADVICE TO HELP US FORGIVE

FIRST – We must not be so sensitive

SECOND - We can try to understand where the offender is coming from

THIRD – We should recall times in our own life when we have needed forgiveness and then apply the same emotion

FOURTH – We need to verbalize our forgiveness

A Portrait of a Man of Passion

“David’s Last Words”

Lesson # 20

Text: *I Chronicles 28*

INTRODUCTION

- ☐ David had a goal in life - **“To become a man after God’s own heart”**
- ☐ **Success** is setting the **right goal** and building your life around reaching that goal
- ☐ Before we look at the last words of David’s life in the Old Testament let’s read **Paul’s summary** of David’s life in the New Testament
- ☐ Paul’s summary of David’s life is found in Acts 13:36
- ☐ Now take away the name of David and **put your own name** in there

“For _____ after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell on sleep, and was laid unto his fathers, and saw corruption.”
- ☐ Now every individual has a **purpose** for living
 - The tragedy of all tragedies is that we should live and die having never found that purpose

I. REFLECTING ON THE TEMPLE; AN UNFULFILLED DREAM

- ☐ I Chronicles 28:1-2
- ☐ He lived and died with a frustrated desire
 - If there was one thing David wanted to **leave**, it was to **build the temple** of God

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□ David had a problem however - David's dream went unfulfilled

□ I Chronicles 28:3-4

- David, rather, **focuses** on what God **did** allow him to do

II. REINFORCEMENT TO HIS SON; AN UNTRIED RULER

□ In Solomon he saw the **possibility** of his long awaited dream being **fulfilled**

□ So it is here that he passes on advice to his son (I Chronicles 28:9)

4 Specific Words from David

1. KNOW GOD

- He knew that on the throne of Israel there was enough to keep a man so busy he would be **tempted** not to take time to **know God**

2. SERVE GOD – “...And serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind”

Philippians 3:13-14 – “Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.”

- We are all in the race **but** we are all **running against ourselves**
- You **cannot** win your race **looking back**

□ If anybody had an excuse to look behind him and fail at the end of his race, it was David

a. Past Guilt

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- David had committed **adultery**; had **murdered** someone

b. Past Grief

- His **family** was shipwrecked
- His **daughter** was raped
- His **two sons** were killed

c. Past Glory

- David could have hung on his victory over **Goliath**
- He could have been **ruined** by all of his **accomplishments**

d. Past Grudges

- David had been **mistreated, betrayed, lied about**

3. SEEK GOD – I Chronicles 28:9

☐ Proverbs 2:1-5

Knowledge is needed to pass a test in **school** ~ But **wisdom** is needed to pass the test in life

Knowledge is **learned** ~ Wisdom is **given**

Knowledge comes by looking **around** ~ Wisdom comes by looking **up**

Knowledge comes by **study** ~ Wisdom comes by **meditation** on God

☐ The **study** of the Bible gives you knowledge **about** God

It is **obeying** the Bible that gives knowledge **of** God

4. HOW TO RULE THE PEOPLE - I Chronicles 28:20

A list of things Solomon received as a result of his father's hand

1. The nation was now **unified** under one flag
2. A royal **capitol** had been established in Jerusalem
3. The **military** force of Israel was now **respected** by all the enemies around them
4. Israel's **boundaries** had been **extended** from 6,000 to 60,000 square miles
5. **Prosperity** had been **brought in** by the extensive trade routes that his father had set up
6. The people **hungered for God**

III. REACTION BEFORE THE LORD; AN UNCHANGING FATHER

First – Expressions of praise - I Chronicles 29:10-13

Second – His praise turns to thanksgiving - I Chronicles 29:13-16

☐ David was **surrounded** by limitless **riches** YET they **never captured** his heart

IV. REJOICING OF THE ASSEMBLIES; AN UNDIVIDED PEOPLE

☐ I Chronicles 29:20, 22

☐ The end of David's reign didn't end in **sadness, mourning** and **grief** but with **gladness** and **rejoicing** before God