

## The Anointed King: Anticipation For A Forever King Begins

The Kingdom of Man vs. The Kingdom of God

2 Samuel 14-19

### Main Idea

Absalom creates a kingdom for himself that does not last and this is positioned against David's kingdom that exudes the perpetuity of Christ and His everlasting kingdom.

### Overview

- **2 Samuel 14:** Joab tricks David and helps him see that he should bring back Absalom
  - A woman is enlisted to tell a story that exposes the legitimacy of David to bring back his out of exile for having killed his brother (Amnon) in revenge
  - Vs. 13: the woman tells David he should likewise bring back Absalom
  - Absalom is granted to come back, but he was not welcome to come to David
  - Absalom is described as a handsome man with great hair (v 25-26)
  - Joab doesn't respond to Absalom's pleadings so he burns Joab's field to get his attention
    - Joab does come, gets appointment with David and David "kisses" Absalom
  
- **2 Samuel 15:** Absalom creates a name for himself through false campaigning and he takes David's throne as David flees Jerusalem
  - Absalom gets chariots and others to follow him around like a king (Vss. 1-6)
    - Stands in the gate and says David doesn't want to hear them, but he would
    - Requests from David to go to Hebron to fulfill a vow to the Lord, David grants
    - Absalom instructs others to shout "Absalom is king" when they hear a trumpet sound (v 10)
    - Takes 200 guests and Ahithophel, David's trusted counselor
  - David leaves Jerusalem to protect his family and not to lead Jerusalem into war (v 13-14)
    - The Gentiles flee to him (v 18)
  - Ittai the Gittite expresses his loyalty to King David whether it means life or death (v 19-22)
  - Some priests and the Ark are instructed to go back into Jerusalem (v 24-26)
  - David weeps at all of this on the Mount of Olives (v 30)
  - David prays that the Lord would frustrate the counsel of Ahithophel
    - Soon after Hushai shows up as an answer to that prayer
    - He is sent to be a kind of secret counselor for David in Absalom's court
  
- **2 Samuel 16:** Ziba leads on that Mephibosheth doesn't want to leave, Shimei curses David, and Absalom comes into Jerusalem
  - Ziba leads on that Mephibosheth wants to work against David (v 3)
  - Shimei continually curses David, throws rocks at him, and he throws dust up into the air (v 5-14)
  - Ahithophel counsels Absalom to sleep with David's concubines so as to indicate he is taking over David's "house" or dynasty (v 22)
  
- **2 Samuel 17:** Hushai counsels against Ahithophel's counsel and tells Absalom to wait and bring a big army to kill David's band, David comes into Mahanaim
  - Ahithophel wants a surgical strike with 12,000 men quickly to get David

- Hushai (working for David) says to wait, get a large army and overwhelm him since David's ire is up in his fleeing
- Absalom goes with Hushai's counsel and Ahithophel leaves, goes home and commits suicide (v 23)
- David comes into more gentile hospitality (v 27-29)
- **2 Samuel 18:** The battle rages, Absalom is killed, David mourns
  - The battle at Ephraim is won by David's men (v 7-8)
  - Absalom got caught under a tree where his head (hair) and the donkey under him kept going (v 9)
    - Joab comes and sticks javelins in him (v 14)
    - Joab's armor bearers finished him (v 15)
  - David is glad for the victory but mourns the loss of his son and even expresses to have been willing to give himself up for his enemy son (v 33)
- **2 Samuel 19:** Joab rebukes David, David comes into Jerusalem, David pardons enemies
  - Joab was upset that David was upset and calls David to shape up (v 5-7)
  - David had the tribe of Judah bring him back into Jerusalem (v 15)
  - David pardons Shimei (v 16-23)
  - David blesses Mephibosheth (v 24-30)
  - David blesses Barzillai the rich Gentile that had been good to him, but he refuses (v 32-38)
  - The rest of Israel is upset that Judah was able to lead David over (v 41-43)

### Questions

**Discussion Starter:** *Discuss the ways that kingdoms be they political or otherwise rise and fall so quickly. Give some examples*

1. Read 2 Samuel 14:25-15:12. Make some observations about Absalom. How would you describe his behavior and the desires of his heart?
2. In what ways do we find ourselves being similar to Absalom? Why is this the case?
3. Read 2 Samuel 15:13-37; 16:1-14. How would you describe David's character throughout the exile period? How is he different than Absalom?
4. How have you seen this in others around you in your family of faith at Restoration Church?
5. Read 2 Samuel 18:1-18. Describe the quick downfall of Absalom's kingdom. Describe Absalom's foundation to his kingdom and why that made him susceptible to a hollow kingdom.
6. In what ways are we tempted to trust puppet kings or kingdoms? What do we learn from this story about such false hopes?
7. Read 2 Samuel 18:31-33; 19:16-40. Describe the ways David models Christ both in 18.33 and the pardons of chapter 19 as well as how the gentiles flocked to him and cared for him. How is Christ the "greater David" in all of these things?
8. What do you learn from Shimei in the way of repentance? What do you learn from Mephibosheth?
9. Reread 2 Samuel 15:18-22. How are you inspired to be like Ittai the Gittite?

**Accountability question:** *What are the kings or kingdoms you are placing too much trust in for satisfaction? What are some ways you are trying to build a name for yourself? Encourage one another by mentioning places of true repentance or how you have been warmed by Christ in this story or by discussing the various "Ittai's" around you.*