

## 2 Samuel 20: Simple and Pure Allegiance

### 2 Samuel 19 Review: Return of the King

- David returns to meet friends and enemies
- Israel and Judah argue over David

### 2 Samuel 20: Allegiance

- Sheba seeks to steal allegiance of God's people from David

**1 Corinthians 10:11** Now these things happened to them **as an example**, and they were written for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.

**Romans 15:4** For whatever was written in earlier times was **written for our instruction**, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

- Rebellious powers seek our allegiance

1Now a **worthless** fellow [**troublemaker**; NIV] happened to be there whose name was **Sheba**, the son of Bichri, a Benjamite; and he blew the trumpet and said, "We have no portion in David, Nor do we have inheritance in the son of Jesse; Every man to his tents, O Israel!" 2So all the men of Israel withdrew from following David and followed Sheba the son of Bichri; but the men of Judah remained steadfast to their king, from the Jordan even to Jerusalem.

- Sheba the Benjamite rebels against David; Israel follows!
- Judah remains faithful to David

3Then David came to his house at Jerusalem, and the king took the ten women, the concubines whom he had left to keep the house, and **placed them under guard** and provided them with sustenance, but did not go in to them. So they were shut up until the day of their death, living as widows.

- **No repeat** of first mistake; Absalom and concubines
- David the shepherd protects those who are his

**Acts: 20:29** "I know that after my departure savage **wolves will**

**come in among you**, not sparing the flock; 30and from among your own selves men will arise, speaking perverse things, to **draw away the disciples after them.**

- Paul warns those he loves; false teachers "from among you" will come as wolves
- Speaking perverse things to "draw you away" from the Truth
- **Pervert:** lit: **To turn**; To cause to turn away from what is right, proper, or good; corrupt. To distort [truth]

**2 Corinthians 11:13** For such men are **false apostles**, deceitful workers, **disguising themselves as apostles of Christ.** 14No wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an **angel of light.** 15Therefore it is not surprising if his servants also disguise themselves as **servants of righteousness**, whose end will be according to their deeds.

4Then the king said to **Amasa**, "Call out the men of Judah for me within three days, and be present here yourself." 5So Amasa went to call out the men of Judah, but he delayed longer than the set time which he had appointed him. 6And David said to **Abishai**, "Now Sheba the son of Bichri will do us **more harm than Absalom**; take your lord's servants and pursue him, so that he does not find for himself fortified cities and escape from our sight." 7So Joab's men went out after him, along with the Cherethites and the Pelethites and all the mighty men; and they went out from Jerusalem to **pursue Sheba the son of Bichri.**

- **Amasa:** Now in charge of David's men, sent to round up Judah but takes **longer than expected**
- **Abishai:** David's old friend sent out with Absalom's men to get Sheba

8When they were at the large stone which is in Gibeon, **Amasa** came to meet them. Now **Joab was dressed in his military attire**, and over it was a belt with a sword in its sheath fastened at his waist; and as he went forward, it fell out. 9Joab said to Amasa, "**Is it well with you, my brother?**" And Joab took Amasa by the beard with his right hand to kiss him. 10But Amasa was not on guard against the sword which was in **Joab's hand so he struck him** in the belly with it and poured out his inward parts on the ground, and did not strike him again, and he died.

- Joab still in the picture "**dressed to kill**" kills the one who

would take his place...again. First Abner in cold blood... the same way

- Did not strike him again...slow death
- Spiritual warfare is **also brutal**:

**1 Peter 5:8** Be of sober spirit, be on the alert Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, **seeking someone to devour.**

**John 10:10** "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

Then **Joab and Abishai** his brother pursued Sheba the son of Bichri. 11Now there stood by him **one of Joab's young men**, and said, "Whoever favors Joab and whoever is for David, let him follow Joab." 12But **Amasa lay wallowing in his blood** in the middle of the highway. And when the man saw that all the people stood still, he removed Amasa from the highway into the field and threw a garment over him when he saw that everyone who came by him stood still.

- The **"bad" brothers** pursue Sheba
- **"Wanna-be"** Joab: "If you are for David, follow Joab!"
- Doesn't work with the "prop" in the road as people stop to gawk.

13As soon as he was removed from the highway, **all the men** passed on **after Joab to pursue Sheba** the son of Bichri. 14Now he went through all the tribes of Israel to Abel, even Beth-maacah, and all the Berites; and they were gathered together and also went after him. 15They came and **besieged** him in Abel Beth-maacah, and they cast up a siege ramp against the city, and it stood by the rampart; and all the people who were with Joab were **wreaking destruction** in order to topple the wall.

- **Besieged the city:** Wreaking destruction to break down the wall

16Then a **wise woman** called from the city, "Hear, hear! **Please tell Joab**, 'Come here that I may speak with you.'" 17So he approached her, and the woman said, "Are you Joab?" And he answered, "I am." Then she said to him, "Listen to the words of your maidservant." And he answered, "I am listening." 18Then she spoke, saying, "Formerly they used to say, 'They will surely ask advice at Abel,' and thus they ended the dispute. 19'I am of those who are **peaceable and faithful** in Israel. You are seeking to destroy a city, even a mother in Israel Why would you swallow up the inheritance of the LORD?" 20Joab replied, "Far be it, far be it from me that I should swallow up or

destroy! 21"Such is not the case. But a man from the hill country of Ephraim, Sheba the son of Bichri by name, has lifted up his hand against King David. Only hand him over, and I will depart from the city."

- Wise woman from a city of wisdom starts with **"please"**
- **Diplomacy:** Allowing Joab to "make the decision"
- **Joab:** Hand him over and we will leave

And the woman said to Joab, "Behold, **his head will be thrown** to you over the wall." 22Then the woman wisely came to all the people And they cut off the head of Sheba the son of Bichri and threw it to Joab So he blew the trumpet, and they were dispersed from the city, each to his tent. Joab also returned to the king at Jerusalem.

- **"Peaceable and Faithful"** throw Sheba's head over the wall!
- **Trumpet:** Finished...rebellion over

23 Now Joab was over the whole army of Israel, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over the Cherethites and the Pelethites; 24and Adoram was over the forced labor, and Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud was the recorder; 25and Sheva was scribe, and Zadok and Abiathar were priests; 6and Ira the Jairite was also a priest to David.

- **Joab:** In charge again; he knows how to "get a head"
- **Benaiah:** lion, pit...snowy day

### **APPLICATION: Rebellious Powers seek our Allegiance**

**Allegiance:** Definition (n)

1. Loyalty or the obligation of loyalty, as to a nation, sovereign, or cause

- **Sheba rebelled** against God's anointed seeking allegiance to himself; ended quickly. Rebellion against God will be dealt with
- **Pride is the Father of Rebellion and All Sin:**

**Ezekiel 28:2b** ...your **heart is lifted up** And you have said, 'I am a god, I sit in the seat of gods In the heart of the seas';

- Pride comes before the fall; the devil and his followers will be judged:

**Revelation 19:20** And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he

deceived those who had **received the mark of the beast** and those who **worshiped his image**; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone.

- As with Sheba, those who rebel against the King will be judged
- **Significant:** If our primary allegiance is to anyone or anything other than Jesus, **we are in rebellion against Jesus**
- Satan seeks our allegiance utilizing the world system and religion and his **motive is to cause us, our friends and family to rebel against God's Authority and go down with him**

**Satan seeks our allegiance: Uses 7 Points of Recruitment under the Umbrella of 2 belief systems; the World System and Religious System\_[Ultimately the Beast and False Prophet of the end times]**

**Ephesians 6:13** (Read) Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. 14Stand firm therefore, HAVING GIRDED YOUR LOINS WITH **TRUTH**, and HAVING PUT ON THE BREASTPLATE OF **RIGHTEOUSNESS**, 15and having shod YOUR FEET WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE **GOSPEL OF PEACE**; 16in addition to all, taking up the shield of **faith** with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17And take THE **HELMET OF SALVATION**, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the **Word of God**.

- Without the God's body armor, Satan uses these as points of attack and recruitment to **draw men to himself though so-called new truths or by perverting what is really true:**
- **Attacks on: Truth** (no absolutes, everyone's own truth,), **Righteousness** (Blurring lines of right and wrong), **Gospel** (later), **Faith** (as long as we are sincere, people of faith, faith in faith?), **Salvation** (everyone forgiven...except you, there is no hell), **Word of God** (written by men, translated incorrectly, another gospel of Christ)

**Flip around and use as weapons against him:**

- **There is Absolute Truth** as confirmed and based on the resurrection of Jesus Christ and what He says Truth is, **Righteousness** is what God calls righteous, there is one **Gospel**, only **Faith** in the finished work of Christ matters,

**Salvation** is only for those who humble themselves and accept the free gift knowing their desperate need, The **Word of God** has withstood the test of time in all respects; geographically, archeologically, scientifically, and *especially in the lives it continues to change*

### **The World seeks our allegiance: Allegiance to Philosophies; Ungodly World Views**

**Colossians 2:8** (Read) See to it that no one **takes you captive** through **philosophy and empty deception**, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ. 9For **in Him** all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form, 10and in Him you have been made complete, and He is the head over all rule and authority;...

- **Philosophy:** Belief system with the **Ability to capture**;
- **PBS :** Deer in the head-lights, hand on chin, amazement
- Moral Reformation through self-effort (no God needed); empty
- **Jesus only** has the power to give "new and everlasting life"

**Colossians 2:23** These are matters [Gnosticism: worship of knowledge] which have, to be sure, the **appearance of wisdom** in self-made religion [blurred line] and self-abasement and severe treatment of the body, but are of no value against fleshly indulgence.

- **Appearance of wisdom:** Guy with the English accent, "any thinking person...", most scientists agree, etc
- **Motive:** To make us feel foolish for believing in God
- **Anything goes** accept Jesus: Flying Saucers, Evolution, Vampires, Big foots, fairies ...anything!

**1 Timothy 6:20** O Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to you, avoiding worldly and empty chatter and the **opposing arguments of what is falsely called "knowledge"--**

- Wanting fame [to seem wise] they "**suppress the truth**"

**Romans 1:18** (Read) For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, 19because that which is known about God is

evident within them; for God made it evident to them. 20For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they **are without excuse**.

- **By the Wisdom of God** we are to discern what is true and what is false

**2 Corinthians 10:5** We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing **raised up against the knowledge of God**, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ...

- **Destroy:** By removing the head of that which seeks to draw us away from the True King...**What do you base that on? Why do you believe that?...No answer?**
- **Raised up against the knowledge of God:** Evolution, Gender blurring, Definition of Family, Relative Truth (oxymoron), Homosexuality not a choice, but a valid joy-giving life-style (oxymoron), Mockery of Jesus, God's Word and **all that we inherently know is good and good for us**, etc
- Seeking belief system or world view to "fit" our own preconceived ideas of what should be...**is not seeking the Truth**
- Next, Some seek to draw us away by "perverting" what is true

**Religion seeks our allegiance: Our Allegiance to a Self-Righteousness Religious System that makes us feel good**

**Galatians: 1:3** (Read) Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, 4 who **gave Himself for our sins so that He might rescue us from this present evil age**, according to the will of our God and Father, 5 to whom be the glory forevermore. Amen. 6I am amazed that you are so quickly **deserting Him** who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel; 7which is really not another; only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. 8But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to **be accursed!** 9As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man is preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received, he is **to be accursed!**

- **Deserting Him...**not it. Relationship, not religion

**2 Corinthians 2:2** (Read) For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, so that to Christ I might present you as a pure virgin. **3**But I am afraid that, **as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness**, your minds will be led astray from the **simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ**. **4**For if one comes and preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted, you bear this beautifully.

- **False philosophical and religious leaders:** Worthless Fellows, Troublemakers, Wolves; muddy the waters for those in need, wanting a following for themselves or their "group"...stealing
- **Simple and Pure** of **devotion to Christ**:

**1 Corinthians 1:17** For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not in cleverness of speech, so that the cross of Christ would not be made void. **18**For the **word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God**. **19**For it is written, "I WILL DESTROY THE WISDOM OF THE WISE, AND THE CLEVERNESS OF THE CLEVER I WILL SET ASIDE."

## **TRUTH**

**Isaiah 41:17** "The afflicted and needy are seeking water, but there is none, And their tongue is parched with thirst; **I, the LORD, will answer them Myself**, As the God of Israel I will not forsake them.

**John 4:14** ...whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall **never thirst**; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up **to eternal life**."

**Revelation 21:6** Then He [Jesus] said to me, "**It is done** I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life **without cost**."

**Romans 6:23** For the wages of sin is death, but **the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord**.