

## 2 Samuel 21: Casting Sackcloth on the Rock

### 2 Samuel 20 Review: Allegiance

- **Sheba sought to steal** the allegiance of God's people from David
- False teachers seek to steal our simple and pure **devotion to Jesus**

## 2 Samuel 21: Casting Sackcloth on the Rock

1 Now there was a **famine** in the days of David for three years, year after year; and David sought the presence of the LORD. And the LORD said, "It is for Saul and his bloody house, **because** he put the **Gibeonites** to death."

- Not recorded though Saul's mode of operation
- **Priests of Nob massacre:** After Amalekite humiliation

2 So the king called the Gibeonites and spoke to them (now the Gibeonites were not of the sons of Israel but of the remnant of the Amorites, and the **sons of Israel made a covenant with them, but Saul had sought to kill them in his zeal** for the sons of Israel and Judah).

- Joshua commanded to wipe out the inhabitants on Canaan
- Canaan had 400 years to repent while Israel in Egypt
- Joshua began to take Canaan, after Jericho Joshua encounters the Gibeonites

**Joshua 9:3** (Read) When the inhabitants of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and to Ai, 4 they also acted craftily and set out as envoys, and took worn-out sacks on their donkeys, and wineskins worn-out and torn and mended, 5 and worn-out and patched sandals on their feet, and worn-out clothes on themselves; and all the bread of their provision was dry and had become crumbled.

8b Then Joshua said to them, "Who are you and where do you come from?" 9 They said to him, "Your servants have come from a very far country..."

13 "These wineskins which we filled were new, and behold, they are torn; and these our clothes and our sandals are worn out because of

the very long journey." 14So the men of Israel took some of their provisions, **and did not ask for the counsel of the LORD.**

- Deceived into believing these guys lived in a **distant land**
- **Did not pray** and **took some stuff**...2 mistakes

15 Joshua made peace with them and made a covenant with them, to let them live; and the leaders of the congregation swore an oath to them. 16It came about at the end of three days after they had made a covenant with them, that they **heard that they were neighbors** and that they were living within their land.

19b "**We have sworn** to them by the LORD, the God of Israel, **and now we cannot touch them.**

- We have sworn...now we cant

**Psalm 15:4** In whose eyes a reprobate is despised,But who honors those who fear the LORD;He **swears to his own hurt and does not change...**

- Saul broke the oath and the Lord remembered with a famine

**Galatians 6:7** Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap.

- David intercedes

**(Continue 2 Samuel 21)** 3Thus David said to the Gibeonites, "**What should I do for you?** And how can I make atonement that you may bless the inheritance of the LORD?" 4Then the Gibeonites said to him, "We have no concern of silver or gold with Saul or his house, nor is it for us to put any man to death in Israel." And he said, "I will do for you whatever you say."

- Make atonement: Remove defilement
- Silver and Gold wont remove defilement

**1 Peter 17:18** If you address as Father the One who impartially judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your stay on earth; knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like **silver or gold** from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, 19 but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, **the blood of Christ.**

- It will take blood to atone for sin

5So they said to the king, "The man who consumed us and who planned to exterminate us from remaining within any border of Israel, 6 let **seven men from his sons be given to us**, and we will hang them before the LORD in Gibeah of Saul, the chosen of the LORD." And the king said, "I will give them." 7But the king spared Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan the son of Saul, because of the oath of the LORD which was between them, between David and Saul's son Jonathan.

- **Seven men** (completeness): Possibly implicated in the slaughter
- Mephibosheth spared as Jonathan wished

8So the king took the two sons of Rizpah the daughter of Aiah, Armoni and Mephibosheth whom she had borne to Saul, and the five sons of Merab the daughter of Saul, whom she had borne to Adriel the son of Barzillai the Meholathite. 9Then he gave them into the hands of the Gibeonites, and they hanged them in the mountain before the LORD, so that the seven of them fell together; and they were put to death in the first days of harvest at the **beginning of barley harvest**.

- **Harvest:** Judgment Day
- Speaking of true believers and make-believers, Jesus said:

**Mathew 29:30** 'Allow both to grow together **until the harvest**; and in the time of the harvest I will say to the reapers, "First gather up the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them up; but gather the wheat into my barn."

**Mathew 25:32** "All the nations will be **gathered before Him**; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats;

- Sheep to eternal reward; goats to eternal punishment
- God gives warning and examples throughout scripture; Adam and Eve, Sodom, Israel, us ... **"do this and this will happen"**
- **Dad:** I told you what's right, now do what you want
- This was what the House of Saul had sowed...Bloodshed

10And Rizpah the daughter of Aiah took sackcloth and spread it for herself on the rock, from the beginning of **harvest until it rained** on them from the sky; and she allowed neither the birds of the sky to rest

on them by day nor the beasts of the field by night.

- Late April to October!
- Sackcloth on the Rock: Mourned on the Rock

**1 Peter 5:6** Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, 7 casting all your anxiety [cares] on Him, because He cares for you.

- Rizpah cast her cares on the Rock
- Justice must be satisfied; though He would rather if we repent

**Ezekiel 33:11** 'I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that the wicked turn from his way and live

- Jesus understands the "awkwardness" of dealing with death. Something we are not equipped to deal with without Him

**Hebrews 4:15** For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. 16Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

- We know Jesus understands Rizpah's loss. He lost Lazarus:

**John 11:35** Jesus wept.

11When it was told David what Rizpah the daughter of Aiah, the concubine of Saul, had done, 12 then David went and took the bones of Saul and the bones of Jonathan his son from the men of Jabesh-gilead, who had stolen them from the open square of Beth-shan, where the Philistines had hanged them on the day the Philistines struck down Saul in Gilboa. 13He brought up the bones of Saul and the bones of Jonathan his son from there, and they gathered the bones of those who had been hanged. 14They buried the bones of Saul and Jonathan his son in the country of Benjamin in Zela, in the grave of Kish his father; thus they did all that the king commanded, and after that **God was moved by prayer for the land.**

- After obedience God was moved

**Mathew 5:23** "Therefore if you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against

you, 24leave your offering there **before the altar and go; first be reconciled** to your brother, and then come and present your offering.

- Make things right with your brother or sister

**Mathew 6:15** "But if you do not forgive others, then your Father **will not forgive your transgressions.**

- We are to **get our hearts right** before God

15Now when the Philistines were at war again with Israel, David went down and his servants with him; and as they fought against the Philistines, David became weary. 16Then **Ishbi-benob**, who was among the **descendants of the giant**, the weight of whose spear was three hundred shekels of bronze in weight, was girded with a new sword, and he intended to kill David. 17But Abishai the son of Zeruiah helped him, and struck the Philistine and killed him Then the men of David swore to him, saying, "You shall not go out again with us to battle, so that you do not extinguish the lamp of Israel."

- Ex-Bums and Bad Guys: Your getting too old Dave
- These Bums and Bad guy have now become like David

18 Now it came about after this that there was war again with the Philistines at Gob; then Sibbecai the Hushathite struck down **Saph**, who was among the **descendants of the giant**. 19There was war with the Philistines again at Gob, and Elhanan the son of Jaare-oregim the Bethlehemite killed **Goliath** the Gittite, the shaft of whose spear was like a weaver's beam. 20There was war at Gath again, where there was a man of great stature who had **six fingers** on each hand and six toes on each foot, twenty-four in number; and he also had **been born to the giant**. 21When he defied Israel, Jonathan the son of Shimei, David's brother, struck him down. 22 **These four were born to the giant in Gath**, and they fell by the hand of David and by the hand of his servants.

- David killed none of the four giants, yet given credit
- These were now men of God who were victorious over the giants in the name of David

**Acts 4:13** Now as they **observed the confidence** of Peter and John and understood that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were amazed, and began to recognize them as **having been with Jesus.**

## CONCLUSION:

- **We will reap what we sow;** flesh/flesh or Spirit/Spirit (garbage in; garbage out)
- **Justice In God's time:** No getting away with it "Your sin will find you out"
- God takes **no delight in the death of the wicked** (all fallen short)
- **Wants us to repent:** Lay on sackcloth on the Rock and leaning completely on Him.
- Jesus sympathizes with our weakness
- **Obedience before answered prayer;** make things right
- **We are changed** by spending time with Jesus
- **We have victory over the giants** in our life as we act in the Name of Jesus