

## 2 Samuel 2: Civil War

### 2 Samuel 1 Review:

- David learns that Saul and Jonathan are dead
- Amalekite takes credit and pays the price
- God's righteous judgment demonstrated against the flesh
- God's love shown by David to Saul and Jonathan

### 2 Samuel 2

1Then it came about afterwards that David inquired of the LORD, saying, "Shall I go up to one of the cities of Judah?" And the LORD said to him, "**Go up**" So David said, "Where shall I go up?" And He said, "**To Hebron.**"

**John 10: 27** "My sheep hear My voice, and **I know them, and they follow Me;**

- God speaks to us **through His Word**
- The Spirit of God gives us **correct** understanding to His Word

**1 Corinthians 2: 12** Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we **may know the things freely given to us by God,** 13which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words. 14But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are **spiritually appraised.**

- We cannot understand the Word of God without His Spirit
- David was told to go to Hebron in Israel preparing to rule

2So David went up there, and his two wives also, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess and Abigail the widow of Nabal the Carmelite. 3And David brought up his men who were with him, **each with his household;** and they lived in the cities of Hebron.

- Whole families stepping out in faith

4Then the men of Judah came and there **anointed David king** over the house of Judah And they told David, saying, "It was the men of Jabesh-gilead who buried Saul." 5David sent messengers to the men

of Jabesh-gilead, and said to them, "May you be blessed of the LORD because you have shown this kindness to Saul your lord, and have buried him. 6"Now may the LORD show lovingkindness and truth to you; and I also will show this goodness to you, because you have done this thing. 7"Now therefore, let your hands be strong and be valiant; for Saul your lord is dead, and also the **house of Judah has anointed me king over them.**"

- Judah (Southern Israel) anoints David King
- **Anointing:** God's empowerment for His purpose
- David blesses Jabesh-gilead

**1 Samuel 31:8** (Read) It came about on the next day when the Philistines came to strip the slain, that they found Saul and his three sons fallen on Mount Gilboa. 9They cut off his head and stripped off his weapons, and sent them throughout the land of the Philistines, to carry the good news to the house of their idols and to the people. 10They put his weapons in the temple of Ashtaroth, and they fastened his body to the wall of Beth-shan. 11Now when the inhabitants of Jabesh-gilead heard what the Philistines had done to Saul, **12all the valiant men rose and walked all night**, and took the body of Saul and the bodies of his sons from the wall of Beth-shan, and they came to Jabesh and burned them there. 13They took their bones and buried them under the tamarisk tree at Jabesh, and fasted seven days.

- Meanwhile, Saul's commander anoints **another king**

8But **Abner** the son of Ner, commander of Saul's army, had taken Ishbosheth the son of Saul and brought him over to Mahanaim. 9He made him king over Gilead, over the Ashurites, over Jezreel, over Ephraim, and over Benjamin, even over all Israel. 10Ishbosheth, Saul's son, was forty years old when he became king over Israel, and he was king for two years. The house of Judah, however, followed David. 11The time that David was king in Hebron over the house of Judah was seven years and six months.

- 2 Kings over Israel...David and Ishbosheth the slacker
- God has **already chosen David**
- Needs to be worked out on earth

**Matthew 6:10** 'Your kingdom come Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.

- David is the only **real king** in the sight of God no matter what anyone believes
- We cannot believe something into reality...it is or it isn't

**Ephesians 4:4** There is **one body** and **one Spirit**, just as also you were called in **one hope** of your calling; **5one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6one God and Father of all** who is over all and through all and in all.

- **Absolute truth:** What God says is true
- If God says there is one way to heaven...there's not two

**John 14:6** Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; **no one** comes to the Father but through Me.

- If **God says** from heaven that David is King...**David is King**
- It will take two years of Civil war in Israel to see that reality worked out on earth

2Now Abner the son of Ner, went out from Mahanaim to Gibeon with the servants of the son of Saul. 13And **Joab** the son of Zeruah and the servants of David **went out and met** them by the pool of Gibeon; and they sat down, one on the one side of the pool and the other on the other side of the pool. 14Then Abner said to Joab, "Now let the young men arise and hold **a contest before us.**"

- **Joab:** Bad dude on the offensive; **Abner** takes the bait
- **Representative Warfare** between Ish-bosheth's men and David's
- **I.e.:** David and Goliath (Israel against the Philistines)

And Joab said, "Let them arise." 15So they arose and went over by count, twelve for Benjamin and Ish-bosheth the son of Saul, and twelve of the servants of David. 16Each one of them seized his opponent by the head and thrust his sword in his opponent's side; so they fell down together. Therefore that place was called **Helkath-hazzurim**, which is in Gibeon.

- **Two Kings: Lose/lose situation**
- Civil War within: Trying to have **Jesus and self on the throne**
- "Field of Sharp Swords" ...field of misery
- **Not fit for heaven or hell;** not happy around saints or sinners

- Compromised life; stand for nothing and fall for everything

**Revelation 3:15** 'I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot; I wish that you were cold or hot. 16'So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of My mouth.

- Tolerance and excuse for being a "jellyfish"
- Comprised life is a Field of misery for you and those around you. There is no peace with two kings.

17That day the battle was very severe, and Abner and the men of Israel were beaten before the servants of David.

- Representative battle proved inconclusive at best
- All out battle ensued, David and his men are victorious

18Now the three sons of Zeruiah were there, **Joab and Abishai and Asahel**; and Asahel was as swift-footed as one of the gazelles which is in the field.

- 3 Brothers: Bad dudes
- Asahel was fast...his gift

19Asahel pursued Abner and did not turn to the right or to the left from following Abner. 20Then Abner looked behind him and said, "Is that you, Asahel?" And he answered, "It is I." 21So Abner said to him, "Turn to your right or to your left, and take hold of one of the young men for yourself, and take for yourself his spoil." But **Asahel was not willing** to turn aside from following him. 22Abner repeated again to Asahel, "Turn aside from following me. Why should I strike you to the ground? How then could I lift up my face to your brother Joab?" 23However, he refused to turn aside; therefore Abner struck him in the belly with the butt end of the spear, so that the spear came out at his back. And he fell there and died on the spot. And it came about that all who came to the place where Asahel had fallen and died, stood still.

- **Asahel:** Fast but stubborn ; Abner tries to show mercy
- What things are we warned about chasing after but refuse to heed the warning? **Music, Movies, Porn, Complacency, Anger, Unforgiveness, Bitterness...**
- All lead to death ...God offers us Mercy telling us to turn away

24But Joab and Abishai pursued Abner, and when the sun was going

down, they came to the hill of Ammah, which is in front of Giah by the way of the wilderness of Gibeon. 25The sons of Benjamin gathered together behind Abner and became one band, and they stood on the top of a certain hill. 26Then Abner called to Joab and said, "Shall the sword devour forever? Do you not know that it will be bitter in the end? How long will you refrain from telling the people to turn back from **following their brothers?**"

- Abner uses diplomacy appealing to unity
- Abner: Merciful and Diplomatic...later David will notice

27Joab said, "As God lives, if you had not spoken, surely then the people would have gone away in the morning, each from following his brother." 28So Joab blew the trumpet; and all the people halted and pursued Israel no longer, **nor did they continue to fight anymore.**

- For now...the Civil War will continue

**29Abner and his men** then went through the Arabah all that night; so they crossed the Jordan, walked all morning, and came to **Mahanaim.**

- **Mahanaim:** East (wrong) side of the Jordan River away from Israel center

30Then Joab returned from following Abner; when he had gathered all the people together, nineteen of David's servants besides Asahel were missing. 31But the servants of David had struck down many of Benjamin and Abner's men, so that three hundred and sixty men died. 32And they took up Asahel and buried him in his father's tomb which was in Bethlehem. Then Joab and his men went all night until the day dawned at **Hebron.**

- **Hebron:** South of Bethlehem in the heart of Israel
- David and his men taking ground as God said

**CONCLUSION:** King- Authority, Ruler, Respected One, Greater One. One that holds a preeminent position; **a chief among competitors**

- Choosing to honor Jesus as King will bring blessing; Dishonoring Jesus as King will bring cursing
- **Either way Jesus is still King**

**Philippians 2: 9** (Read) For this reason also, God highly exalted Him,

and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus **EVERY KNEE WILL BOW**, of those who are in **heaven and on earth and under the earth**, 11and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- Every knee...even earthly kings

**1 Timothy 6: 13** (Read) I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who testified the good confession before Pontius Pilate, 14that you keep the commandment without stain or reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15which He will bring about at the proper time--He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the **King of kings and Lord of lords**, **16who alone possesses immortality and dwells in unapproachable light**, whom no man has seen or can see To Him be honor and eternal dominion! Amen.

- The world will gather to dishonor Him...but they will bow also

**Psalm 2:1** (Read) Why are the nations in an uproar And the peoples devising a vain thing? 2The **kings of the earth take their stand** And the rulers take counsel togetherAgainst the **LORD and against His Anointed**, saying, 3"Let us tear their fetters apart And cast away their cords from us!" 4He who sits in the heavens **laughs,The Lord scoffs** at them. 5Then He will speak to them in His anger And terrify them in His fury, saying, 6"But as for Me, **I have installed My King Upon Zion**, My holy mountain." 7"I will surely tell of the decree of the LORD: He said to Me, 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You. 8'Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, And the very ends of the earth as Your possession. 9'You shall break them with a rod of iron, You shall shatter them like earthenware.'" 10Now therefore, O kings, show discernment; Take warning, O judges of the earth. **11Worship the LORD with reverence And rejoice with trembling. 12Do homage to the Son**, that He not become angry, and you perish in the way, For His wrath may soon be kindled How **blessed are all who take refuge in Him!**

- Kings will gather to fight God; God will laugh
- Today he gives us (and them) a choice; Pay homage (kiss the Son) and Worship and rejoice with trembling
- Or we can kindle His anger and perish in the way
- **Happy** are those who take refuge in Him

- Why not give yourself completely to the One who gave Himself for us at His first coming?

**Revelation 21:1** (Read) Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea. 2And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband. 3And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them, 4and He will **wipe away every tear from their eyes**; and there will **no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.**" 5And He who sits on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new " And He said, "Write, for these words are faithful and true." 6Then He 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. 7"He who overcomes will inherit these things, and I will be his God and he will be My son.

- Jesus will physically sit on the throne David one day soon
- Will we honor Him as King or dishonor Him as insignificant; **Either way, He is still King ....and we will still bow**

8"But for the **cowardly** and **unbelieving** and abominable and murderers and **immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars**, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

- The LORD wants none to perish
- Our God is Worthy of Honor

**Exodus 34: 6** "The LORD, the LORD God, **compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in lovingkindness and truth; 7who keeps lovingkindness for thousands, who forgives iniquity, transgression and sin;** yet He will by no means leave the guilty unpunished...

- We choose Gods mercy or wrath by who we **honor as King**
- **Either way...Jesus is still King**