

2 Samuel 10: Shame, Retribution, and Courage

2 Samuel 9 Review:

- Jesus is drawn near to the hurting; those who acknowledge their need
- We are crippled by sin; our own and others; Jesus draws near to a contrite heart
- Today: Humiliation; crippled intentionally by others, or, purposeful destruction of another

2 Samuel 10

1Now it happened afterwards that the king of the Ammonites died, and Hanun his son became king in his place. 2Then David said, "I will show kindness to **Hanun the son of Nahash**, just as his father showed kindness to me."

- **Kindness:** Not recorded; possibly helped David against Ishbosheth
- Kindness of God demonstrated by David

So David sent some of his servants to console him concerning his father. But when David's servants came to the land of the Ammonites, 3 the princes of the Ammonites said to Hanun their lord, "**Do you think that David is honoring your father** because he has sent consolers to you? Has David not sent his servants to you in order to search the city, to spy it out and overthrow it?"

- Character questioned as in the Garden of Eden; does God **really** want the best for you?
- Questioning the character of God is dangerous
- Balance of loving-kindness and judgment

4So Hanun took David's servants and **shaved off half of their beards**, and **cut off their garments in the middle as far as their hips**, and sent them away. 5When they told it to David, he sent to meet them, for the men were **greatly humiliated**. And the king said, "Stay at Jericho until your beards grow, and then return."

- "Greatly humiliated" also humiliating the one they represent
- **Reputation** for humiliation; previously, when Israel asked for a

covenant, Nahash said...

1 Samuel 11:2 ... "I will make it with you on this condition, that I will **gouge out the right eye of every one of you**, thus I will make it a reproach on all Israel."

- African machete atrocities: Satanic; crushing the spirit purposely
- Ammonites began in humiliation

Genesis 19:36 Thus both the daughters of Lot were with child by their father. 37The firstborn bore a son, and called his name Moab; he is the father of the Moabites to this day. 38As for the younger, she also bore a son, and called his name Ben-ammi; **he is the father of the sons of Ammon to this day.**

- Those who are violated often violate
- Some respond to humiliation...by humiliating (normal?)

6Now when the sons of Ammon saw that they had become **odious to David**, the sons of Ammon sent and hired the Arameans of Beth-rehob and the Arameans of Zobah, 20,000 foot soldiers, and the king of Maacah with 1,000 men, and the men of Tob with 12,000 men.

- **A stink to David:** Object of strong hostility; ticked-off (Garbage in the house)
- Ammon hires mercenaries (33,000 paid soldiers)

7When David heard of it, he sent Joab and all the army, the mighty men. 8The sons of Ammon came out and drew up in battle array at the **entrance of the city**, while the Arameans of Zobah and of Rehob and the men of Tob and Maacah were by **themselves in the field**. 9 Now when Joab saw that the battle was set against him in front and in the rear, he selected from all the choice men of Israel, and arrayed them against the Arameans. 10But the remainder of the people he placed in the hand of Abishai his brother, and he arrayed them against the sons of Ammon. 11He said, "If the Arameans are too strong for me, then you shall help me, but if the sons of Ammon are too strong for you, then I will come to help you.

- Joab, Abishai, and mighty men are surrounded and make a pact
- Arameans (mercenaries) in the field against Israel's best w/ Joab
- Ammon at the entrance to the city against the rest w/**Abashi**

1 Chronicles 11:20 (Read) As for Abishai the brother of Joab, he was

chief of the thirty, and he **swung his spear against three hundred** and killed them; and he had a name as well as the thirty. 21Of the three in the second rank he was the **most honored and became their commander**; however, he did not attain to the first three.

- Another mighty man, **Benaiah**

22 Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, the son of a valiant man of Kabzeel, mighty in deeds, struck down the two sons of Ariel of Moab. He also went down and **killed a lion inside a pit on a snowy day**. 23He killed an Egyptian, a man of great stature five cubits [7 ½ ft] tall. Now in the Egyptian's hand was a spear like a weaver's beam, but he went down to him with a club and **snatched the spear from the Egyptian's hand and killed him with his own spear**.

- Former bums and bad guys (criminals, those in dept, etc.), **now warriors**

12"Be strong, and let us **show ourselves courageous** for the **sake of our people** and for the **cities of our God**; and **may the LORD do what is good in His sight**."

- **Joab**: Complicated tough guy: David preciousy cursed Joab
- **Joab remains loyal** to David and his people
- Encourages them to be courageous as they leave retribution in God's hands and allow him to judge **...may the LORD do what is good in His sight**."
- **"Show yourselves courageous..."**

Deuteronomy 31:6 "Be strong and courageous, do not be afraid or tremble at them, for the LORD your God is the **one who goes with you He will not fail you or forsake you**."

- God expects us to have courage as He is with us
- A list of those kept outside heaven's gate...

Revelation 21:8 "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."

- Christianity is not for the "faint- hearted"
- Heaven will be populated by those with the courage to "entrust" themselves to God

- Joab trusts God to judge his peoples humiliation righteously (correctly)

13So Joab and the people who were with him drew near to the battle against the **Arameans, and they fled before him**. 14When the sons of Ammon saw that the Arameans fled, they also fled before Abishai and **entered the city**. Then Joab returned from fighting against the sons of Ammon and came to Jerusalem.

- Fled: God intervened
- Those in the field (mercenaries) killed fled first
- Ammonites see and hide in the city, Israel goes home

15When the Arameans saw that they had been defeated by Israel, they gathered themselves together. 16 And Hadadezer sent and brought out the Arameans who were **beyond the River**, and they came to Helam; and Shobach the commander of the army of **Hadadezer led them**.

- Arameans: Love to fight
- **Hadadezer**: back; (should have been killed earlier); Calling those on the other side of the Euphrates River
- David wasted no time and **goes himself** (...goes with you)

17Now when it was told David, he gathered **all Israel together** and crossed the Jordan, and came to Helam. And the Arameans arrayed themselves to meet David and fought against him. 18But the Arameans fled before Israel, and David killed 700 charioteers of the Arameans and **40,000** horsemen and struck down Shobach the commander of their army, and he died there.

- Arameans (mercenaries) stand tall for a short time, then run
- 40,000 horsemen killed

19When all the kings, servants of Hadadezer, saw that they were defeated by Israel, they **made peace with Israel** and served them. So the **Arameans feared to help the sons of Ammon** anymore.

- Cant beat them, join them
- He who blesses Israel will be blessed

CONCLUSION: Shame, Retribution and Courage: Not losing heart

Humiliation: Latin humiliāre

1. To lower the pride, dignity, or self-respect of.

2. Reduce in worth or character

Shame: [Middle English, from Old English sceamu.]

1. A painful emotion caused by a strong sense of guilt, embarrassment, unworthiness, or disgrace.
2. A condition of disgrace or dishonor; ignominy.

*So Hanun took David's servants and **shaved off half of their beards, and cut off their garments in the middle as far as their hips,***

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us...God became man and understands our hurt

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.

- Jesus did walk in our shoes
- Did not blame God, take revenge, give up...He forgave

Philippians 2: 6 ...who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. 8 Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

- Jesus allowed sinful man to do as they would to Him; to humiliate and to kill Him

Isaiah 52:13 (Read) Behold, My servant will prosper, He will be high and **lifted up** and greatly exalted. 14 **Just as many were astonished** at you, My people, So **His appearance was marred more than any man And His form more than the sons of men.**

- Just as many were astonished at you (what we went through)...
- Jesus face and body were ravaged by sinful man ; Disfigured beyond recognition

Isaiah 53:2b ...(Read) He has no stately form or majesty That we should look upon Him, Nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him. 3 He was despised and forsaken of men, A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; And like one from whom men hide their face He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. 4 Surely our griefs He

Himself bore, And our sorrows He carried; Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, Smitten of God, and afflicted. 5But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; The chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, And by His scourging we are healed.

- Despised, man of sorrows, bearing our sin through whipping, punching, nakedness, ridicule and the cross
- Jesus knew humiliation

Retribution: Something justly deserved; recompense. Setting right **Zephaniah 3: 19** "Behold, I am going to deal at that time with all your oppressors, I will save the lame and gather the outcast, And I will **turn their shame into praise and renown in all the earth.**

Isaiah 26:20 Come, my people, enter into your rooms And close your doors behind you; Hide for a little while Until indignation runs its course. 21For behold, the LORD is about to come out from His place To **punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity**; And the earth will reveal her bloodshed And will no longer cover her slain.

- God will judge rightly
- David said wait until your beards grow back...I'll take care of this
- We are to **forgive and seek salvation** for our offender

Romans 12:17 (Read) Never pay back evil for evil to anyone Respect what is right in the sight of all men. 18If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men. 19 Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY," says the Lord. 20"BUT IF YOUR ENEMY IS HUNGRY, FEED HIM, AND IF HE IS THIRSTY, GIVE HIM A DRINK; FOR IN SO DOING YOU WILL HEAP BURNING COALS ON HIS HEAD." **21Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.**

- If we do not desire salvation for the offender, we may be overcome by evil and forfeit our own forgiveness

Matthew 6:14 "For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15"But if you do not forgive others, then your Father **will not forgive your transgressions.**

- God will judge; vengeance belongs to Him alone

- We are to forgive and have **courage** to “live life well” as we trust God through the pain of humiliation

Courage: Middle English *corage*, from Anglo-French *curage*, from *quer*, *coer* heart, from Latin *cor* — more at heart

Date: 14th century : mental or moral strength to venture, persevere, and withstand danger, fear, or difficulty

- Courage to give our shame over to God and allow Him to judge rightly

*"Be strong, and let us **show ourselves courageous** for the **sake of our people** and for the **cities of our God**; and **may the LORD do what is good in His sight.**"*

1 Peter 2:19 (Read) For this finds favor, if for the sake of conscience toward God a person **bears up under sorrows** when suffering unjustly. 20For what credit is there if, when you sin and are harshly treated, you endure it with patience? But if when you do what is right and suffer for it you patiently endure it, this finds favor with God.

21For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps, 22 WHO COMMITTED NO SIN, NOR WAS ANY DECEIT FOUND IN HIS MOUTH; 23 and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously;

- We are to “bear up under sorrows”, not giving in to depression
- Jesus is our example...

Hebrews 12:1 (Read)...let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who **for the joy set before Him** endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, **so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.**

- He is our example of pressing on through the shame and humiliation
- We are His joy? His scars remain reminding us of His humiliation that He endured for us

Revelation 5: 6 And I saw between the throne (with the four living creatures) and the elders a Lamb standing, as if slain, having seven

horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God, sent out into all the earth.

Revelation 1:7 BEHOLD, HE IS COMING WITH THE CLOUDS, and every eye will see Him, **even those who pierced Him**; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. So it is to be. Amen.

The young teenager bought a beautiful scarf and matching gloves for her mother. Much thought had gone into the purchase. She had to find just the right ones. She often bought scarves and gloves for her very special mother. Later, the teenager would learn that her mother was more precious than her daughter could ever imagine. The mother always thanked the daughter for her thoughtfulness. The scarves and gloves were always beautiful, and often expensive. When her mother would forget to wear the gloves and scarf in public, the teenager would become extremely upset with her mother. The real reason the scarves were purchased was that the teenager was embarrassed by her mother's scars. Her neck and hands were severely scarred and blemished. They were so scarred and gross; people would gasp at the sight. "I know you can't help it, Mother, but you are embarrassing me in front of my friends." The mother would quickly comply whenever she was told after forgetting. But one evening when her prom date arrived at the home, her mother forgot to put on her scarf and gloves before answering the door. The young lady was incredibly embarrassed. The young man had gasped. The date was incredibly tense because neither would discuss what they had seen. The young man did not call back. Later, the teenager confronted her mother. "How could you do this to me. I've tried to help. I spent my hard earned money buying you scarves so no one would see your ugly neck and hands. Why can't you remember?" The mother was tearful and decided to tell her daughter what happened to her neck and arms. "When you were just a baby, we were so happy. Your Father and I had prayed so long for a special baby to be born. You were perfectly formed and absolutely beautiful. We were so blessed." The daughter could see the joy in her mother's eyes. Despite the severe scarring on her neck and hair line, Mom's eyes were expressive and lovely to behold. She always loved her mother's eyes. Her mother continued, "Then, late one wintry morning, we were sleeping in on a Saturday. The cold front had dumped a foot of snow just before Christmas. We didn't have central heating. The space heaters were turned up high because of the draftiness of our old house." "We could hear you crying in your room. We felt bad that morning because we had slept in and you were hungry. Just then your cries turn to screams. The bathroom and hall way between our rooms were engulfed in flames." "Your father threw me the bed blanket and told me to wet it in the kitchen sink. I quickly soaked the blanket. Luckily I had put off washing the dishes the night before and the sink was full of water. I never leave the dishes over-night. I still don't know why I did that night." Her mother continued, "I ran through the living room. Your bedroom was in flames. The covers on your baby bed were starting to burn. I prayed that I wasn't too late." "I wrapped you, my precious baby, in that wet blanket. I prayed as I picked you up, 'God please let her be ok.' As I turned to go back through the living room, it was engulfed in flames. But it was the only way out." "I ran through the flames with you wrapped in the wet blanket. I can still feel the heat as my eyes started burning. I buried my face against your blanket and ran for the door." "I can still smell my burning hair. I remember the intense pain as the skin fell from my arms and then, nothing. I woke up in the hospital. All I could say, 'My Baby. Where's my Baby?' I refused to be comforted until they brought you to me." "As they brought you in, I made them uncover you so I could see for myself that you were OK. I thanked my God that you were still perfect and beautiful." "They found your father's body next to your baby bed. He had run through the flames in the hallway. He was burned beyond recognition. We had to have a closed casket service. I was unable to attend his funeral." The young teenager, in tears, stopped her mother. "I never want to see you wear a scarf or gloves again! You have the most beautiful hands and face in the world. I never want a scarf or glove to hide your beauty again."

Whenever the mother would be seen in public, with her daughter, when someone would gasp at the sight of her arms and neck, the daughter would quickly step in and say, “Let me tell you about my mother’s beautiful scars!” Then she would tell the person about what her mother had done for her and how the scars were a permanent reminder of her sacrificial love for her daughter. The scars and shed blood of Jesus Christ are just as precious to me as the mother’s scars were to the daughter.

Hebrews 12:2 ... [Jesus] who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will **not grow weary and lose heart**.

Jesus still bears the scars of suffering for our sin, sympathetic of what people have done to us. It will be dealt with. We are to have the courage to forgive, leaving room for God to judge rightly, as we look forward to an eternity with Him...no more tears, no more suffering...
no humiliation