

2 Samuel 17: The Plan

2 Samuel 16 Review: Opportunists, Enemies, and Traitors

- David submits to God's will as to who will be king
- **Christian Walk Summary:** Motive and Response
- **"Love your Enemy"** to see others saved and glorify God

2 Samuel 17:

- **Absalom asks for advice** from Ahithophel and Hushai
- Ahithophel continues after advising Absalom to sleep with David's wives; a **show of power and contempt** for his father

1Furthermore, Ahithophel said to Absalom, "Please let me choose 12,000 men that I may arise and **pursue David tonight**. 2"I will come upon him while he is weary and exhausted and terrify him, so that all the people who are with him will flee Then I will strike down the **king alone**, 3 and I will bring back all the people to you. The return of everyone depends on the man you seek; then all the people will be at peace." 4So the plan **pleased Absalom** and all the elders of Israel.

- Take a few good men **tonight**, kill **only David**; people will follow
- Only the leader is needed to win the game [Chess]
- Jesus speaking of His followers said:

Matthew 26:31 ..."You will all fall away because of Me this night, for it is written, ' **I WILL STRIKE DOWN THE SHEPHERD, AND THE SHEEP OF THE FLOCK SHALL BE SCATTERED.**'

- This would have worked

5Then Absalom said, "Now call Hushai the Archite also, and let us hear what he has to say." 6When Hushai had come to Absalom, Absalom said to him, "Ahithophel has spoken thus. Shall we carry out his plan? If not, you speak." 7So Hushai said to Absalom, "This time the advice that Ahithophel has given is not good." 8Moreover, Hushai said, "You know your father and his men, that they are mighty men and **they**

are fierce, like a bear robbed of her cubs in the field. And your father is an **expert in warfare**, and will not spend the night with the people. 9"Behold, he has now hidden himself in one of the caves or in another place; and it will be when he falls on them at the first attack, that whoever hears it will say, 'There has been a slaughter among the people who follow Absalom.' 10"And even the one who is valiant, whose heart is like the heart of a lion, will **completely lose heart**; for all Israel knows that your father is a **mighty man and those who are with him are valiant men**.

- **Wont work:** David is a "**mighty man and those who are with him are valiant men.**"
- When you attack the camp, David and his men will destroy you

11"But I counsel that **all Israel** be surely gathered to you, from **Dan even to Beersheba**, as the sand that is by the sea in abundance, and that you **personally go into battle**. 12"So **we shall come** to him in one of the places where he can be found, and we will fall on him as the dew falls on the ground; and of him and of all the men who are with him, not even one will be left. 13"If he withdraws into a city, then all Israel shall bring ropes to that city, and **we will drag** it into the valley until not even a small stone is found there."

- **All Israel:** Dan to Beersheba or top to bottom; must be gathered (buying time)
- Absalom advised to "**personally go into battle**" as Hushai tactfully includes himself with "we" statements

14Then Absalom and all the men of Israel said, "The counsel of Hushai the Archite **is better than the counsel of Ahithophel.**"

2 Samuel 16:23 (Read) The advice of Ahithophel, which he gave in those days, was **as if one inquired of the word of God**; so was all the advice of Ahithophel regarded by both David and Absalom.

...For the LORD had ordained to thwart the good counsel of Ahithophel, so that the LORD might bring calamity on Absalom.

- **The plan is for David to remain King...That is what will happen.**
- David's **prayer answered as he completely submitted to God**

- "O LORD, I pray, make the counsel of Ahithophel foolishness."
- David's motive was a love for God and people, Absalom's motive was revenge and power

Psalm 33:10 The LORD nullifies the counsel of the nations; **He frustrates the plans of the peoples.**

Proverbs 21:30 There is no wisdom and no understanding And **no counsel against the LORD.**

- A warning from **David's CIA** will give David **time to prepare**

15 Then Hushai said to Zadok and to Abiathar the priests, "This is what Ahithophel counseled Absalom and the elders of Israel, and this is what I have counseled. 16 Now therefore, send quickly and tell David, saying, 'Do not spend the night at the fords of the wilderness, but by all means cross over, or else the king and all the people who are with him will be destroyed.'" 17 Now Jonathan and Ahimaaz were staying at En-rogel, and a maidservant would go and tell them, and they would go and tell King David, for they could not be seen entering the city.

- David's **"spy" Priests** send a **maidservant** to tell their **sons** to tell **David** to move quickly

18 But a lad **did see them and told Absalom**; so the two of them departed quickly and came to the house of a man in Bahurim, who had a well in his courtyard, and they went down into it. 19 And the woman took a covering and spread it over the well's mouth and scattered grain on it, so that nothing was known. 20 Then Absalom's servants came to the woman at the house and said, "Where are Ahimaaz and Jonathan?" And the woman said to them, "They have crossed the brook of water." And when they searched and could not find them, they returned to Jerusalem. 21 It came about after they had departed that they came up out of the well and went and **told King David**; and they said to David, "**Arise and cross over the water quickly** for thus Ahithophel has counseled against you." 22 Then David and all the people who were with him arose and crossed the Jordan; and by dawn **not even one remained** who had not crossed the Jordan.

- Almost busted but saved by the woman; Plan continues as all David's followers leave the camp

23 Now when Ahithophel saw that his counsel was not followed, he saddled his donkey and arose and went to his home, to his city, and

set his house in order, and strangled himself; thus he died and was buried in the grave of his father.

- **Poor loser;** picture of Judas as he hangs himself
- Knew David would win and he would be **convicted for treason**

24Then David came to Mahanaim. And Absalom crossed the Jordan, he and all the men of Israel with him. 25Absalom set Amasa over the army in place of Joab Now Amasa was the son of a man whose name was Ithra the Israelite, who went in to Abigail the daughter of Nahash, sister of Zeruah, Joab's mother. 26 **And Israel and Absalom camped** in the land of Gilead.

- **All Israel** camped against David; battle inevitable; tension

27Now when David had come to Mahanaim, **Shobi** the son of Nahash from Rabbah of the sons of Ammon, **Machir** the son of Ammiel from Lo-debar, and **Barzillai** the Gileadite from Rogelim, 28brought beds, basins, pottery, wheat, barley, flour, parched grain, beans, lentils, parched seeds, 29honey, curds, sheep, and cheese of the herd, for David and for the people who were with him, to eat; for they said, "**The people are hungry and weary and thirsty in the wilderness.**"

- Different circumstances and people to accomplish His plan
- **Shobi:** Brother of Hanun; Davids enemy who embarrassed his David's men [enemy turns to greatest asset]
- **Machir:** Wealthy benefactor [supporter] of Mephibosheth
- **Barzillai:** Wealthy benefactor [supporter] of David; also in the future

APPLICATION: God's plan for the saved and unsaved utilizes circumstances, people and situations to accomplish His purpose

Plan for those who are Saved:

Ephesians 2: 8 (Read) For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; 9 not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus **for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.**

Philippians 1:6 For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you **will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.**

Romans 8:28 And we know that God causes **all things to work together for good** to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. [Not for everyone...just believers]

Genesis 50:20 "As for you, you meant evil against me, but **God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result,** to preserve many people alive.

- Supernatural arrangement of circumstances to accomplish God's will in the believer

Plan for those who want to be Saved (Read)

John 3:3 Jesus answered and said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is **born again** he cannot see the kingdom of God."

John 3:5 Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water **and the Spirit** he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that **whoever believes in Him** shall not perish, but have eternal life.

John 3: 19 "This is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and **men loved the darkness** rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil.

Plan for those who will Never be Saved:

Romans 9:17 For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, "FOR THIS VERY PURPOSE I RAISED YOU UP, TO DEMONSTRATE MY POWER IN YOU, AND **THAT MY NAME MIGHT BE PROCLAIMED** THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE EARTH."

- Pharaoh hardened his heart towards God
- God used him for His purpose; showing His power to His children as they crossed the Red Sea [Computer]
- What is the end of those who harden their heart? [Madam]

1 Corinthians 6: 9 (Read) Or do you not know that the **unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God?** Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, 10 nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.

Revelation 21:8 (Read) "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."

Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. [What more?]