

# 1 Kings 2

Firmly Established

- Adonijah David's son tries to usurp the throne God said was Solomon's
- David makes Solomon King of Israel
- Solomon warns Adonijah...

**1 Kings 1:52** ...Solomon said, "If he proves himself a worthy man, not one hair of him shall fall to the earth; but if wickedness is found in him, he shall die."

## I. Firmly Established: David's Final Instructions

1 Now the days of David drew near that he should die, and he charged Solomon his son, saying: 2 "I go the way of all the earth; be strong, therefore, and **prove yourself a man.**

- **David's Final Instructions to his son Solomon...**

### **Be Strong and Prove yourself a man**

- Strength and Manhood are what David knew Solomon needed
- David was a man of war used to rugged conditions/ **Solomon was not...**

Solomon was like a man promoted in rank because he went to military school but without having any previous practical experience in battle [NJC]

- Further instruction to Solomon in 1 Chronicles 28 [Parallel]
  1. Know the God that I know. One God. Know Him like I do...
  2. Serve Him with a willing heart and willing mind

**1 Chronicles 28:9** ...for the Lord searches all hearts and understands all the intent of the thoughts. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will cast you off forever.

**Most important:** Know God and Serve Him willingly

**Matthew 7:7** "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

3. Build the Temple and as you do...
4. Be strong and of good courage

**1 Chronicles 28:20** ...for the Lord God—my God—will be with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you, until you have finished all the work for the service of the house of the Lord...**21** every willing craftsman will be with you for all manner of workmanship, for every kind of service; also the leaders and all the people will be completely at your command."

**I set everything in order for you...time for you to step up**

- **David knew:** Strength/Courage would come from **holding tight to God...**

3 And **keep the charge** of the Lord your God: to walk in His ways, to keep

His statutes, His commandments, His judgments, and His testimonies, as it is written in the Law of Moses

- **Keep God's Charge:**
  1. Walk in *His ways*
  2. Keep *His statutes*
  3. Keep *His commands*
  4. Keep *His judgments*
  5. Keep *His testimonies* as written in the Law of Moses
  
- Law of the Kings of Israel

**Deuteronomy 17:18** "Also it shall be, when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write for himself a copy of this law in a book, from the one before the priests, the Levites. 19 And it shall be with him, and he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the Lord his God and be careful to observe all the words of this law and these statutes, 20 that his heart may not be lifted above his brethren, that he may not turn aside from the commandment to the right hand or to the left, and that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he and his children in the midst of Israel.

### **Keep the charge of the Lord your God...**

**3b...that you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn;**

**God's desire for us is for good!**

**Jeremiah 29:11** For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. 12 Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. 13 And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.

**Both OT and NT:** We prosper as we keep God's Charge!

**Matthew 6:33** ...seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. 34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

- **Same promise:** Keep God's charge and prosper

**...walk in His ways Solomon...not your ways**

**Proverbs 14:12/16:25** There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.

- Walk in **His ways...**

4 ...that the Lord may fulfill His word which He spoke concerning me, saying, 'If your sons take heed to their way, to walk before Me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul,' He said, 'you shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel.'

- **God's promise to David:**

1. Your descendants will be kings culminating in the coming of the Messiah
2. These kings, your descendants, must be men of God or I will discipline them...

**2 Samuel 7:14** If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the blows of the sons of men. <sup>15</sup> But My mercy shall not depart from him, as I took *it* from Saul, whom I removed from before you.

- Though I will discipline each king when they sin I will keep my promise to David
- **Davidic Covenant:** Unconditional covenant...

16 "...your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever."''

**David to Solomon:** As the first of my descendant's to be King...  
 "Walk in the ways of God" i.e. Let's get off to a good start

- Further wise instructions for after David's death...

**Remember Solomon...The moment I became king, the Philistines attacked**

**2 Samuel 5:17** ...when the Philistines heard that they had anointed David king over Israel, all the Philistines went up to search for David.

- **David knows Solomon will be a target...**

5 "Moreover you know also what **Joab** the son of Zeruiah did to me, and what he did to the two commanders of the armies of Israel, to **Abner** the son of Ner and **Amasa** the son of Jether, whom he killed. And he shed the blood of war in **peacetime**, and put the blood of war on his belt that was around his waist, and on his sandals that were on his feet.

- Establish your Kingdom with Righteousness, Justice and Equity

**Psalm 89:14** Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; Mercy and truth go before Your face.

**Psalm 99:4** The King's strength also loves justice; You have established equity; You have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

**Nice is not always right**

- David had unfinished business with his military commander **Joab...**

Joab is one of the more complex characters of the Old Testament. He was fiercely loyal to David, yet not strongly obedient. He disobeyed David when he thought it was in David's best interest, and he was cunning and ruthless in furthering his own position. [Guzic]

1. **Murdered in cold blood** 2 generals David admired [2 Sam 3:27, 20:10]
2. **Killed David's son Absalom** [ 2 Sam 18:14] not mentioned here
3. **Conspired with Adonijah** [recently] to take your throne Solomon...

- **Solomon...**Joab will be a problem to the establishment of your kingdom...

**6 Therefore** do according to your wisdom, and do not let his gray hair go down to the grave in peace.

- Take care of Joab [NJ Version]

Forgive your enemies *but never forget their names.* [John F. Kennedy]

Experience teaches us that it is much easier to prevent an enemy from [taking ground] ...than it is to dislodge them after they [take] possession. [George Washington]

- **Joab will kill you...**Therefore don't let Joab die a natural death

How to Establish the Kingdom?

Know who your enemies are. Know who your friends are. Act accordingly.

**7 "But show kindness** to the sons of Barzillai the Gileadite, and let them be among those who eat at your table, for so they came to me when I fled from Absalom your brother.

- **Barzillai:**

1. Old man who provided for David when fleeing Jerusalem from son Absalom
2. After Absalom killed by Joab, David asked Barzillai to come to Jerusalem...

**2 Samuel 19:34** [Read] But Barzillai said to the king, "How long have I to live, that I should go up with the king to Jerusalem? 35 I am today eighty years old. Can I discern between the good and bad? Can your servant taste what I eat or what I drink? Can I hear any longer the voice of singing men and singing women? Why then should your servant be a further burden to my lord the king? 36 Your servant will **go a little way** across the Jordan with the king. And why should the king repay me with such a reward? 37 Please let your servant turn back again, that I may die in my own city, near the grave of my father and mother. But here is your servant Chimham; let him cross over with my lord the king, and do for him what seems good to you." 38 And the king answered, "Chimham shall cross over with me, and I will do for him what seems good to you. Now whatever you request of me, I will do for you." 39 Then all the people went over the Jordan. And when the king had crossed over, the **king kissed Barzillai and blessed him**, and he returned to his own place.

**David keeps his word:** Sons of Barzillai will continue to eat at the King's table.v7

**The King blesses those who bless Him! We need to be Friends of the King**

**Psalm 2:12** Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, And you perish in the way, When His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him.

- **How are we friends with God?** By doing what He says...

**John 15:14** You are My friends if you do whatever I command you.

**James 2:23** [Abraham offered son Isaac on altar]... Scripture was fulfilled which says, "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." And he was called the **friend of God.** [Lord intervened and provided Himself a Lamb]

- Kings blessing to his friends/Kings wrath to his enemies...

8 "And see, you have with you **Shimei** the son of Gera, a Benjamite from Bahurim, who cursed me with a malicious curse in the day when I went to Mahanaim. But he came down to meet me at the Jordan, and I swore to him by the Lord, saying, '**I will not put you to death** with the sword.'

- Shimei cursed David as David was fleeing from son Absalom...

**2 Samuel 16:5b** [Read]...He came out, cursing continuously as he came. 6 And he threw stones at David and at all the servants of King David. And all the people and all the mighty men were on his right hand and on his left. 7 Also Shimei said thus when he cursed: "Come out! Come out! You bloodthirsty man, you rogue! 8 The Lord has brought upon you all the blood of the house of Saul, in whose place you have reigned; and the Lord has delivered the kingdom into the hand of Absalom your son. So now you are caught in your own evil, because you are a bloodthirsty man!" 9 Then Abishai the son of Zeruiah said to the king, "Why should this dead dog curse my lord the king? Please, let me go over and take off his head!" **11b**... Let him alone, and let him curse; for so the Lord has ordered him. 12 It may be that the Lord will look on my affliction, and that the Lord will repay me with good for his cursing this day."

- **Absalom dead...David comes back to Jerusalem in victory...**

**2 Samuel 19:18** [Read] Now Shimei the son of Gera fell down before the king when he had crossed the Jordan. 19 Then he said to the king, "Do not let my lord impute iniquity to me, or remember what wrong your servant did on the day that my lord the king left Jerusalem, that the king should take it to heart. 20 For I, your servant, know that I have sinned. Therefore here I am, the first to come today of all the house of Joseph to go down to meet my lord the king." 21 But Abishai the son of Zeruiah answered and said, "Shall not Shimei be put to death for this, because he cursed the Lord's anointed?" 22 And David said, "What have I to do with you, you sons of Zeruiah, that you should be adversaries to me today? Shall any man be put to death today in Israel? For do I not know that today I am king over Israel?" 23 Therefore the king said to Shimei, "You shall not die." And the king swore to him.

**I swore to him by the Lord, saying, 'I will not put you to death with the sword.'**

- I swore "*I will not*" put him to death...

9 Now therefore, do not hold him guiltless, for you are a wise man and know what you ought to do to him; but bring his gray hair down to the grave with blood."

- Shimei will cause you trouble. Therefore...don't let Shimei die a natural death

10 So David rested with his fathers, and was buried in the City of David. 11 The period that David reigned over Israel was forty years; seven years he reigned in Hebron, and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty-three years. 12 Then Solomon sat on the throne of his father David; and his kingdom was **firmly established**.

**1 Chronicles 29:28** So he died in a good old age, full of days and riches and honor; and Solomon his son reigned in his place.

"He was a shepherd, a soldier, an outlaw, a king, a fugitive, a sinner, a saint, a poet...a man after God's own heart." [Redpath]

- David reigned 40 Years/ Solomon's Throne now **Firmly Established**

"With Solomon began, in some senses, the most splendid period in Israel's history. The splendor, however, was largely mental and material. The spiritual is noticeably absent." [Morgan]

**SUMMARY Firmly Established:** Blessings to his friends/Wrath to his enemies...David's instruction still to be carried out/Some loose ends for Solomon to figure out

## II. Blindsided: Immediate Attack

### Solomon anointed King...Satan wastes no time

- **Immediate attacks on God's newly established order/authority in a church**
  1. False-doctrine infiltrates like a flood: Calvinism
  2. Gossip begins/Clicks form
  3. People rise up threaten firm establishment of God's will
- New Leaders need to be ready to fight...immediately

13 Now Adonijah the son of Haggith came to Bathsheba the mother of Solomon. So she said, "Do you come peaceably?" And he said, "Peaceably."

- Adonijah previously tried to usurp Solomon as king and repented?

**1 Kings 1:51** Now it was told Solomon, saying, "Behold, Adonijah is afraid of King Solomon, for behold, he has taken hold of the horns of the altar, saying, 'Let King Solomon swear to me today that he will not put his servant to death with the sword.'" 52 Solomon said, "If he is a worthy man, not one of his hairs will fall to the ground; but if wickedness is found in him, he will die." 53 So King Solomon sent, and they brought him down from the altar. And he came and prostrated himself before King Solomon, and Solomon said to him, **"Go to your house."**

- True *Godly* Repentance is permanent repentance...

**2 Corinthians 7:10** For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death. [True repentance is a gift 2 Tim 2:25]

- **Adonijah is back...**

Bathsheba: "Do you come peaceably?" Yes. "Then what do you want?"

14 ... [Adonijah] said, "I have something to say to you." And she said, "Say it." 15 Then he said, "You know that the kingdom was mine, and all Israel had set their expectations on me, that I should reign. However, the kingdom

has been turned over, and has become my brother's; for **it was his from the Lord.**

- The kingdom was mine. Not
- All Israel was hoping I would be king. Not
- **And...**

**I know it is the Lord's will that Solomon is king but [so]...**

16 Now I ask one petition of you; do not deny me." And she said to him, "Say it." 17 Then he said, "Please speak to King Solomon, for he will not refuse you, that he may give me Abishag the Shunammite as wife."

- **Adonijah:** David's son with *Haggith*...not Bathsheba
  1. Promise to do what I ask...before I ask
  2. Mediate between me and Solomon: "He will not refuse you"

**Just this...Give me David's [Solomon's] concubine Abishag as a wife!**

- Taking a king's wife/concubine was tantamount/equivalent to usurping his throne
- Previously Absalom took David's concubines when he tried to usurp David's throne
  1. Presumptuous for Absalom
  2. Embarrassing to his father David

Bathsheba would not/could not be this naive...could she?  
To threaten her son Solomon's throne due to **stupidity?**

18 So Bathsheba said, "Very well, I will speak for you to the king."

- We don't check our brains at the door as Christians...

**Proverbs 1:32** ...the turning away of the simple will slay them, And the complacency of fools will destroy them...

**Proverbs 14:15** The simple believes every word, But the prudent considers well his steps.

**Proverbs 22:3** A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself, But the simple pass on and are punished.

- **Is she stupid?** Or...did she do it to inform Solomon and see Adonijah killed?

19 Bathsheba therefore went to King Solomon, to speak to him for Adonijah. And the king rose up to meet her and bowed down to her, and sat down on his throne and had a throne set for the king's mother; so she sat at his right hand.

- **Everything nice:**
  1. **Nation at peace:** No wars; David took care surrounding enemies
  2. Solomon on Throne/Nice Day/Birds are singing/Smell of coffee

3. King rises and bows to mom/sits on his right hand

### **Blindsided**

20 Then [Bathsheba] said, "I desire one small petition of you; do not refuse me."

- One small request on this beautiful day

**20b...**And the [Solomon] said to her, "Ask it, my mother, for I will not refuse you."21 So she said, "Let Abishag the Shunammite be given to Adonijah your brother as wife."

- **Blindsided:** Didn't see it coming...
- Jesus commends Peter in front of all after Peter said Jesus was the Son of God

**Mathew 16:17** Flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but My Father who is in heaven

- Shortly after...

**Matthew 16:22** ...Peter took [Jesus] aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!" 23 But He turned and said to Peter, "**Get behind Me, Satan!** You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."

### **Out of the blue. Blindsided**

Leaders need to be ready for anything...from anyone

- **Solomon is ready:** Walking circumspect as David

22 And King Solomon answered and said to his mother, "Now why do you ask Abishag the Shunammite for Adonijah? Ask for him the kingdom also—for he is my older brother—for him, and for Abiathar the priest, and for Joab the son of Zeruiah."

- How can you have not seen this? Adonijah is trying to take the throne again
- Solomon walked circumspectly/wisely as did David as **would Jesus**

Wise men/woman understand that the only One we can *100% trust* is God

**Jeremiah 17:9** "The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked; Who can know it?"

**John 2:23** [When Jesus] was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in His name when they saw the signs which He did. 24 But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, because He knew all men, 25 and had no need that anyone should testify of man, for **He knew what was in man.**

### **Solomon knew what Adonijah was trying to do...take the throne**

Adonijah could have justified it being older brother

**Proverbs 16:2** All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, But the Lord weighs the



spirits.

23 Then King Solomon swore by the Lord, saying, "May God do so to me, and more also, if Adonijah has not spoken this word against his own life! 24 Now therefore, as the Lord lives, who has confirmed me and set me on the throne of David my father, and who has established a house for me, as He promised, **Adonijah shall be put to death today!**"

- Adonijah caught...

**Numbers 32:23** ... be sure your sin will find you out.

- Adonijah has spoken this word against his own life! "It was his from the Lord" v15
- Condemned himself after Solomon gave him a chance

**Titus 3:10** Reject a divisive man after the first and second admonition, 11 knowing that such a person is warped and sinning, being self-condemned.

- If Adonijah was allowed to live he would poison the kingdom with his rhetoric...

**2 Timothy 2:16** But shun profane and idle babblings, for they will increase to more ungodliness. 17 And their message will spread like cancer.

- Adonijah caused dissention between Solomon and his mother
- Adonijah would cause dissention throughout the kingdom

25 So King Solomon sent by the hand of Benaiah the son of Jehoiada; and he struck him down, and he died.

- **Adonijah proved unworthy...**

**1 Kings 1:52** Then Solomon said, "If he proves himself a worthy man, not one hair of him shall fall to the earth; but if wickedness is found in him, he shall die."

We wonder why Adonijah – after hearing the warning Solomon made in 1 Kings 1:52 – would make such an outrageous request. Perhaps he felt that Solomon was too young, too inexperienced, or too timid to do the right thing. He soon found out that Solomon was a wise and decisive leader. [Guzic]

- Abiathar the Priest/Joab next to go in establishing firmly establishing the kingdom

### III. Cleaning House: Finishing the Job

- David's psalm reveals a King's heart...

**Psalm 101:6** My eyes shall be on the **faithful of the land**, That they may dwell with me; He who walks in a perfect way, He shall serve me.7 He who works deceit shall not dwell within my house; He who tells lies shall not continue in my presence. 8 Early I will destroy all the wicked of the land, That I may cut off all the evildoers from the city of the Lord.

Solomon replaces traitors with faithful/Reliable/Competent Counterparts

- **Abiathar** Priest [allowed to live] but replaced with Zadok
- **Joab** Military Commander will be killed and replaced with Benaiah
- **Shimei** Cursed David will also receive a *proverbial kiss on the cheek...*

26 And to Abiathar the priest the king said, "Go to Anathoth, to your own fields, for you are **deserving of death**; but I will not put you to death at this time, because you **carried the ark** of the Lord God before my father David, and because **you were afflicted** every time my father was afflicted."

- **Abiathar sent home to get his house in order:**
  1. **Deserving of death:** Conspired with Adonijah and Joab [Treason]
  2. **Shown mercy by Solomon:**
    - Carried the Ark of God: Man of God at the time of David
    - Cared deeply for David

### Decades before...1 Samuel 22

- David ran from King Saul. Asked priests for food for men... but Saul had a spy, Doeg
- Doeg tells King Saul "**David spoke to the priest**"
- Paranoid, Saul has Doeg murder 85 priests of God including **all Abiathar's family**
- Young Abiathar escapes to David **who admits to being the cause ...**

**1 Samuel 22:20** [Read] Now one of the sons of Ahimelech the son of Ahitub, named **Abiathar**, escaped and fled after David. 21 And Abiathar told David that Saul had killed the Lord's priests. 22 So David said to Abiathar, "I knew that day, when Doeg the Edomite was there, that he would surely tell Saul. **I have caused the death** of all the persons of your father's house. 23 Stay with me; do not fear. For he who seeks my life seeks your life, but with me you shall be safe."

- **Grudge?** Justifying his conspiracy against Solomon?

Solomon... "you are deserving of death/I will not put you to death...  
You were a man of God who loved my father David

- **All in God's sovereignty...** God using man's decisions to accomplish His purposes...

27 So Solomon removed Abiathar from being priest to the Lord, that he **might fulfill the word of the Lord** which He spoke concerning the house of **Eli** at Shiloh.

- **Eli the Priest**
  1. Caretaker of Samuel the Prophet before David was King
  2. **Eli's sons:** Priests Hophni and Phinehas
    - Slept with woman bringing sacrifices to Tabernacle
    - Ate sacrifices belonging to the Lord
    - Eli ate with them.

**1 Samuel 2:29** [Read] Why do you kick at My sacrifice and My offering which I have commanded in My dwelling place, **and honor your sons** more than Me, to make yourselves fat with the best of all the offerings of Israel My people?... **31** Behold, the days are coming that I will cut off your arm [strength] and the arm of your father's house, so that there will not be an old man in your house... **33b** And all the descendants of your house shall die in the flower of their age. **34** Now this shall be a sign to you that will come upon your two sons, on Hophni and Phinehas: in one day they shall die, both of them. **35** Then I will raise up for Myself a faithful priest who shall do according to what is in My heart and in My mind.

- **Raise up for Myself a faithful priest:**

1. Fulfilled in Samuel, Zadok, and ultimately Jesus our High Perfect Priest
2. Representing God to the people/people to God is a serious responsibility

**Solomon removed Abiathar from the priesthood and fulfilled the Word of the Lord Sad to see once good men not finishing well**

- We can all find reasons to rebel against God: Past, hurts, disappointments  
Everybody fails but nobody is a failure [loser] until they blame someone else

**We have an obligation** to keep our eyes on Christ not people circumstances

- Paul wanted to and did finish well... **fought and won the good fight!**

**Philippians 3:14** I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

**2 Timothy 4:7** I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

- Paul pushed through unbelief and did not allow discouragement to take over
- John warned us that **we can lose** the rewards we worked for...

**2 John 1:8** [Watch yourself NASB], that we do not lose those things we worked for, but that we may receive a full reward.

- Satan want to wear us down...discourage us...cause us not to finish well

**Galatians 6:9** And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.

- We are to be ready for Jesus coming at any time...

**Luke 12:40** Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

- Satan wants to knock us out at the end...don't let it happen

Beginning well is a momentary thing; Finishing well is a lifelong thing [Ravi Zacharias]  
"Stopping at third adds no more to the score than striking out. It doesn't matter how well you start if you fail to finish." [Billy Sunday]

Defeat doesn't finish a man, quit does. A man is not finished when he's defeated. He's finished when he quits. [Richard M. Nixon]

Let me tell you something you already know. The world ain't all sunshine and rainbows. It's a very mean and nasty place, and I don't care how tough you are, it will beat you to your knees and keep you there permanently **if you let it**. You, me, or nobody is gonna hit as hard as life. But it ain't about how hard you hit. **It's about how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward**; how much you can take and keep moving forward. **That's how winning is done!** Now if you know what you're worth, then go out and get what you're worth, but you gotta be willing to take the hits, and not pointing fingers saying you ain't where you wanna be because of him, or her, or anybody. Cowards do that and that ain't you. You're better than that! [Rocky Balboa/Biblical Principles]

- Not giving in to self, self-pity, self-exaltation, self-will
  1. Pressing through to the other side of discouragement [Joel's exercise machine]
  2. Continuing to do what's right until validated/vindicated/dead
  3. Trusting in God's Promises and His faithfulness

### **From start to finish...God gives us everything we need for victory in life**

**Jude 1** To those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and **preserved in Jesus Christ...24** Now to Him who is **able to keep you from stumbling**, And to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy

- Abiathar began well but did not finish well...
- **Joab also began faithful...**

28 Then news came to Joab, for Joab had defected to Adonijah, though he had not defected to Absalom.

- **Joab:** Complicated guy. Lit "God is Father"
  - **Faithful** to David when David's son Absalom rebelled
  - **Unfaithful** to David/Solomon when David's son Adonijah rebelled

### **Road trip with Joab David's Brave General: 2 Samuel 3**

#### 1. **Joab's 2 Brothers:**

- **Abishai:** Always wanting to cut the heads off David's enemies
- **Asahel:** Killed as young man by **Saul's commander Abner**

**Saul's former commander Abner who killed Joab's brother joins David and Joab**  
**It is a time of Peace. David sends Abner on mission.**

**2 Samuel 3:27** [Read] Now when Abner had returned to Hebron, Joab took him aside in the gate to speak with him privately, and there **stabbed him in the stomach**, so that he died for the blood of Asahel his brother. <sup>28</sup>Afterward, when David heard *it*, he said, "My kingdom and I *are* guiltless before the Lord forever of the blood of Abner the son of Ner. <sup>29</sup>Let it rest on the **head of Joab** and on all his father's house; and let there never fail to be in the house of Joab one who has a discharge or is a leper, who leans on a staff or falls by the sword, or who lacks bread." <sup>30</sup>So Joab and Abishai his brother killed Abner, because

he had killed their brother Asahel at Gibeon in the battle.

David never forgot Joab killing his friend in cold blood: Do not let his gray hair...

**Numbers 32:23...and be sure your sin will find you out.**

2. Brothers Joab/Abishai conquer Ammonites/Syrians for David
3. **David uses Joab** to kill Uriah the Hittite Bathsheba's husband on front line...

**2 Samuel 11:17** [Read] Then the men of the city came out and fought with Joab. And some of the people of the servants of David fell; and **Uriah the Hittite died also.**

4. Joab conquers the Ammonites

**2 Samuel 12:26** [Read] Now Joab fought against Rabbah of the people of Ammon, and took the royal city. 27 And Joab sent messengers to David, and said, "I have fought against Rabbah, and I have taken the city's water supply. 28 Now therefore, gather the rest of the people together and encamp against the city and take it, lest I take the city and it be called after my name."

5. David's son Absalom kills David's son Amnon raped David's daughter Tamar
6. Absalom flees David but desires to see his father. **David oblivious.**
7. Absalom burns Joab's field to get his attention and bring him to David
8. David gives kiss on head sends Absalom away. Absalom begins rebellion
9. Absalom makes Amasa captain of his mutiny against David
10. Joab told by David be gentle with David's rebellious son Absalom

**2 Samuel 18:5** [Read] Now the king had commanded **Joab**, Abishai, and Ittai, saying, "Deal gently for my sake with the young man Absalom." And all the people heard when the king gave all the captains orders concerning Absalom.

11. Joab told Absalom hanging by hair in tree
12. Commands man who found him to kill him; man remembers David's order...

**2 Samuel 18:14** [Read] Then Joab said, "I **cannot linger with you.**" And he took three spears in his hand and **thrust them through Absalom's heart**, while he was still alive in the midst of the terebinth tree. 15 And ten young men who bore Joab's armor surrounded Absalom, and struck and killed him. 16 So Joab blew the trumpet, and the people returned from pursuing Israel. For Joab held back the people. 17 And they took Absalom and cast him into a large pit in the woods, and laid a very large heap of stones over him. Then all Israel fled, everyone to his tent.

13. **David hears and dismayed.** Moping. Wringing hands. Joab rebukes David...

**2 Samuel 19:4** [Read] ...the king covered his face, and the king cried out with a loud voice, "O my son Absalom! O Absalom, my son, my son!" 5 **Then Joab came into the house** to the king, and said, "Today you have disgraced all your servants who today have saved your life, the lives of your sons and daughters, the lives of your wives and the lives of your concubines, 6 in that you love your enemies and hate your friends. For you have declared today that you regard neither princes nor servants; for today I perceive that if Absalom had lived and all of us had died today, then it would have pleased you well."

14. David sends for Absalom's commander **Amasa...**

**2 Samuel 19:13** [Read]...say to Amasa, 'Are you not my bone and my flesh? God do so to me, and more also, if you are not commander of the army before me continually in place of Joab.'"

15. Amasa joins David/ **Joab doesn't like the competition...**

**2 Samuel 20:10** [Read] But Amasa did not notice the sword that was in Joab's hand. And he struck him with it in the stomach, and his entrails poured out on the ground; and he did not strike him again. Thus he died. Then Joab and Abishai his brother pursued Sheba the son of Bichri.

16. **Joab still faithful to David** goes after David's enemy Bichri

- Joab prepared to destroy entire city where Bichri is hiding
- Wise woman from the city has a plan

**2 Samuel 20:22** [Read] Then the woman in her wisdom went to all the people. And they cut off the head of Sheba the son of Bichri, and threw it out to Joab. Then he blew a trumpet, and they withdrew from the city, every man to his tent. So Joab returned to the king at Jerusalem. And Joab was over all the army of Israel; Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over the Cherethites and the Pelethites...

- Abishai also still a top general...

**2 Samuel 23:18** [Read] Now Abishai the brother of Joab, the son of Zeruiah, was chief of another three. He lifted his spear against three hundred men, killed them, and won a name among these three. [Brother Asahel was also one of David's mighty men]

- Israel ripe judgment, Satan tempting David's pride, God allowing David go own way:

**David commands Joab to count "his" men.  
Joab tries to protect the king...**

**2 Samuel 24:3** [Read] And Joab said to the king, "Now may the Lord your God add to the people a hundred times more than there are, and may the eyes of my lord the king see it. But why does my lord the king desire this thing?" 4 Nevertheless the king's word prevailed against Joab and against the captains of the army. Therefore Joab and the captains of the army went out from the presence of the king to **count the people** of Israel.

- Older Joab now betrays David's wishes by helping Adonijah take the throne

**1 Kings 1:7** [Read] ][Adonijah] conferred with Joab the son of Zeruiah and with Abiathar the priest, and they followed and helped Adonijah.

- David told Joab rebelled against Solomon
- David remembers Joab murdering his friends Abner/Amasa in cold blood
- David commands Solomon to make sure Joab dies before he gets any older...

**1 Kings 2:5** [Read] "Moreover you know also what Joab the son of Zeruiah did to me, and **what he did to the two commanders** of the armies of Israel, to Abner the son of Ner and Amasa the son of Jether, whom he killed. And **he shed the blood of war in peacetime**, and put the blood of war on his belt that was around his waist, and on his sandals that were

on his feet. 6 Therefore do according to your wisdom, and **do not let his gray hair go down to the grave in peace.**

- Joab gets news that Adonijah[Priest/co-conspirator] been removed and he is next

**28b...**So Joab fled to the tabernacle of the Lord, and took hold of the horns of the altar. 29 And King Solomon was told, "Joab has fled to the tabernacle of the Lord; there he is, by the altar." Then Solomon sent Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, saying, "Go, strike him down." 30 So Benaiah went to the tabernacle of the Lord, and said to him, "Thus says the king, 'Come out!'" And he said, "No, but I will die here." And Benaiah brought back word to the king, saying, "Thus said Joab, and thus he answered me."

- **Horns of Altar:** Where innocent find mercy. Both Adonijah and Joab not innocent
- **Benaiah:** Killed lion in a pit on snowy day...go kill Joab. Good fight.

#### **Joab says he will die there...**

31 Then the king said to him, "Do as he has said, and strike him down and bury him, that you may take away from me and from the house of my father the innocent blood which Joab shed. 32 So the Lord will return his blood on his head, because he struck down two men more righteous and better than he, and killed them with the sword—Abner the son of Ner, the commander of the army of Israel, and Amasa the son of Jether, the commander of the army of Judah—though my father David did not know it. 33 Their blood shall therefore return upon the head of Joab and upon the head of his descendants forever. But upon David and his descendants, upon his house and his throne, there shall be peace forever from the Lord."

- **Judgment for killing the innocent**

**Exodus 20:13** Thou shalt not "murder"

**Exodus 23:7** ...do not kill the innocent and righteous. For I will not justify the wicked.

**Deuteronomy 27:25** 'Cursed is the one who takes a bribe to slay an innocent person.'

**Proverbs 17:15** He who justifies the wicked, and he who condemns the just, Both of them alike are an abomination to the Lord.

**Proverbs 6: 16** These six things the Lord hates, Yes, seven are an abomination to Him: 17 A proud look, A lying tongue, **Hands that shed innocent blood...**

34 So Benaiah the son of Jehoiada went up and struck and killed him; and he was buried in his own house in the wilderness. 35 The king put Benaiah the son of Jehoiada in his place over the army, and the king put Zadok the priest in the place of Abiathar.

- **Next...**

36 Then the king sent and called for **Shimei**, and said to him, "Build yourself a house in Jerusalem and dwell there, and do not go out from there anywhere. 37 For it shall be, on the day you go out and cross the Brook Kidron, know for certain you shall surely die; your blood shall be on your own head."

- Threw stones/cursed David as David fled from son Absalom

- **Ultimatum:**

1. **Build a house** in the Jerusalem and don't leave
2. **If you leave**; i.e. cross the brook Kidron... you will die
  - Where he embarrassed my David
  - Where future kings would burn idols

**Cross the Brook Kidron and you will die...**

38 And Shimei said to the king, "The saying is good. As my lord the king has said, so your servant will do."

- Not that Shimei had to agree. Solomon wasn't asking.

**38b...**So Shimei dwelt in Jerusalem many days. 39 Now it happened at the end of three years, that two **slaves of Shimei** ran away to Achish the son of Maachah, king of Gath. And they told Shimei, saying, "Look, your slaves are in Gath!" 40 So Shimei arose, saddled his donkey, and went to Achish at Gath to seek his slaves. And Shimei went and brought his slaves from Gath. 41 And Solomon was told that Shimei had gone from Jerusalem to Gath and had come back.

- Shimei leaves to find escaped slaves in Gath; i.e. across Brook Kidron, modern Gaza

42 Then the king sent and called for Shimei, and said to him, "Did I not make you swear by the Lord, and warn you, saying, 'Know for certain that on the day you go out and travel anywhere, you shall surely die'? And you said to me, '**The word I have heard is good.**' 43 Why then have you not kept the oath of the Lord and the commandment that I gave you?" 44 The king said moreover to Shimei, "You know, as your heart acknowledges, all the wickedness that you did to my father David; therefore the Lord will return your wickedness on your own head. 45 But King Solomon shall be blessed, and the throne of David shall be established before the Lord forever."

- **Sow trouble. Reap trouble...Time of reaping in God's hands...**



**Job 4:8 ... I have seen, Those who plow iniquity And sow trouble reap the same.**

**Proverbs 22:8** He who sows iniquity will reap sorrow, And the rod of his anger will fail.

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

**Numbers 32:23**...and be sure your sin will find you out. [Embarrassment/loss/jail]

### **Choose to sin choose to suffer**

- **Maybe not right away:** Fate of schoolmates

46 So the king commanded Benaiah the son of Jehoiada; and he went out and struck him down, and he died. Thus the kingdom was **established in the hand of Solomon.**

**1 Kings 2:12** Then Solomon sat on the throne of his father David; and his **kingdom was firmly established.**

- **Firmly established as David** relinquishes control
- **Firmly established as Solomon** takes control: David's instructions carried out...
  1. Be strong in God
  2. Be a man of God
  3. Walk in with God
  4. Deal with enemies/friends accordingly

**Kingdom now firmly established**...House is Clean/Swamp drained...for now