

“The Old Testament’s Prodigal Son”

2 Samuel 14:1-33

1. The father was paralyzed by fear. (vs. 1-2)

So Joab perceived that the king’s heart was concerned about Absalom. (vs. 1)

2. The father was manipulated by poor advice. (vs. 3-20)

Go to the king and speak to him in this manner. So Joab put the words in her mouth. (vs. 3)

3. The father chose to compromise judgment. (vs. 21-25)

And the king said to Joab, “All right I have granted this thing, Go therefore bring back the young man Absalom.” (vs. 21)

4. The son was known for external qualities rather than internal qualities. (vs. 25-27)

Now in all Israel there was no one who was praised as much as Absalom for his good looks. (vs. 25a)

5. The son used people rather than served people. (vs. 28-31)

So he said to his servants, “See Joab’s field is near mine, and he has barley there; go and set it on fire.”

And Absalom’s servants set the field on fire. (vs. 30)

6. The son sought revenge rather than repentance. (vs. 32-33)

“Now therefore let me see the king’s face; but if there is iniquity in me, let him execute me.” (vs. 32b)