

# LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON, BUT WORSE

FBC Worship Services (April 14, 2019) Corey Rose

*Like a muddied spring or a polluted well are the righteous who give way to the wicked.  
(Prov. 25:26 NIV; See 2 Sam 12:7-12 NIV)*

## I. HOW DID DAVID'S FAMILY BECOME SUCH A MESS?

"King David longed intensely to march out against Absalom for he was grieved about Amnon. Joab, son of Zeruiah, he discerned that the king was ill-disposed towards Absalom." (2 Sam 13:38-14:1 translated by Bruce Waltke)

### A. Enter \_\_\_\_\_

*Joab son of Zeruiah knew that the king's heart longed for Absalom.<sup>2</sup> So Joab sent someone to Tekoa and had a wise woman brought from there. He said to her, "Pretend you are in mourning. Dress in mourning clothes, and don't use any cosmetic lotions. Act like a woman who has spent many days grieving for the dead."<sup>3</sup> Then go to the king and speak these words to him." And Joab put the words in her mouth. (2 Sam 14:1-3 NIV)*

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### B. Enter \_\_\_\_\_

*<sup>4</sup> When the woman from Tekoa went to the king, she fell with her face to the ground to pay him honor, and she said, "Help me, Your Majesty!"<sup>5</sup> The king asked her, "What is troubling you?" She said, "I am a widow; my husband is dead.<sup>6</sup> I your servant had two sons. They got into a fight with each other in the field, and no one was there to separate them. One struck the other and killed him.<sup>7</sup> Now the whole clan has risen up against your servant; they say, 'Hand over the one who struck his brother down, so that we may put him to death for the life of his brother whom he killed; then we will get rid of the heir as well.' They would put out the only burning coal I have left, leaving my husband neither name nor descendant on the face of the earth." (2 Sam 14:4-7 NIV)*

*<sup>8</sup> The king said to the woman, "Go home, and I will issue an order in your behalf."<sup>9</sup> But the woman from Tekoa said to him, "Let my lord the king pardon me and my family, and let the king and his throne be without guilt."<sup>10</sup> The king replied, "If anyone says anything to you, bring them to me, and they will not bother you again."<sup>11</sup> She said, "Then let the king invoke the LORD his God to prevent the avenger of blood from adding to the destruction, so that my son will not be destroyed." "As surely as the LORD lives," he said, "not one hair of your son's head will fall to the ground."<sup>12</sup> Then the woman said, "Let your servant speak a word to my lord the king." "Speak," he replied.<sup>13</sup> The woman said, "Why then have you devised a thing like this against the people of God? When the king says this, does he not convict himself, for the king has not brought back his banished son? (2 Sam. 14:8-13 NIV)*

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*<sup>14</sup> Like water spilled on the ground, which cannot be recovered, so we must die. But that is not what God desires; rather, he devises ways so that a banished person does not remain banished from him.<sup>15</sup> "And now I have come to say this to my lord the king because the people have made me afraid. Your servant thought, 'I will speak to the king; perhaps he will grant his servant's request.<sup>16</sup> Perhaps the king will agree to deliver his servant from the hand of the man who is trying to cut off both me and my son from God's inheritance.'<sup>17</sup> "And now your servant says, 'May the word of my lord the king secure my inheritance, for my lord the king is like an angel of God in discerning good and evil. May the LORD your God be with you.'" (2 Sam 14:14-17 NIV)*

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*<sup>18</sup> Then the king said to the woman, "Don't keep from me the answer to what I am going to ask you." "Let my lord the king speak," the woman said.<sup>19</sup> The king asked, "Isn't the hand of Joab with you in all this?" The woman answered, "As surely as you live, my lord the king, no one can turn to the right or to the left from anything my lord the king says. Yes, it was your servant Joab who instructed me to do this and who put all these words into the mouth of your servant."<sup>20</sup> Your servant Joab did this to change the present situation. My lord has wisdom like that of an angel of God—he knows everything that happens in the land."<sup>21</sup> The king said to Joab, "Very well, I will do it. Go, bring back the young man Absalom."<sup>22</sup> Joab fell with his face to the ground to pay him honor, and he blessed the king. Joab said, "Today your servant knows that he has found favor in your eyes, my lord the king, because the king has granted his servant's request." (2 Sam 14:18-22 NIV)*

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### C. Re-enter \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>23</sup> Then Joab went to Geshur and brought Absalom back to Jerusalem.<sup>24</sup> But the king said, "He must go to his own house; he must not see my face." So Absalom went to his own house and did not see the face of the king. <sup>25</sup> In all Israel there was not a man so highly praised for his handsome appearance as Absalom. From the top of his head to the sole of his foot there was no blemish in him. <sup>26</sup> Whenever he cut the hair of his head—he used to cut his hair once a year because it became too heavy for him—he would weigh it, and its weight was two hundred shekels by the royal standard.<sup>27</sup> Three sons and a daughter were born to Absalom. His daughter's name was Tamar, and she became a beautiful woman. (2 Sam 14:23-27 NIV)

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<sup>28</sup> Absalom lived two years in Jerusalem without seeing the king's face. <sup>29</sup> Then Absalom sent for Joab in order to send him to the king, but Joab refused to come to him. So he sent a second time, but he refused to come. <sup>30</sup> Then he said to his servants, "Look, Joab's field is next to mine, and he has barley there. Go and set it on fire." So Absalom's servants set the field on fire. <sup>31</sup> Then Joab did go to Absalom's house, and he said to him, "Why have your servants set my field on fire?" <sup>32</sup> Absalom said to Joab, "Look, I sent word to you and said, 'Come here so I can send you to the king to ask, 'Why have I come from Geshur? It would be better for me if I were still there!'" Now then, I want to see the king's face, and if I am guilty of anything, let him put me to death." <sup>33</sup> So Joab went to the king and told him this. Then the king summoned Absalom, and he came in and bowed down with his face to the ground before the king. And the king kissed Absalom. (2 Sam 14:28-33 NIV)

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<sup>1</sup> In the course of time, Absalom provided himself with a chariot and horses and with fifty men to run ahead of him. <sup>2</sup> He would get up early and stand by the side of the road leading to the city gate. Whenever anyone came with a complaint to be placed before the king for a decision, Absalom would call out to him, "What town are you from?" He would answer, "Your servant is from one of the tribes of Israel." <sup>3</sup> Then Absalom would say to him, "Look, your claims are valid and proper, but there is no representative of the king to hear you." <sup>4</sup> And Absalom would add, "If only I were appointed judge in the land! Then everyone who has a complaint or case could come to me and I would see that they receive justice." <sup>5</sup> Also, whenever anyone approached him to bow down before him, Absalom would reach out his hand, take hold of him and kiss him.<sup>6</sup> Absalom behaved in this way toward all the Israelites who came to the king asking for justice, and so he stole the hearts of the people of Israel. (2 Sam 15:1-6 NIV)

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<sup>7</sup> At the end of four years, Absalom said to the king, "Let me go to Hebron and fulfill a vow I made to the Lord. **8** While your servant was living at Geshur in Aram, I made this vow: 'If the Lord takes me back to Jerusalem, I will worship the Lord in Hebron.' **9** The king said to him, "Go in peace." So he went to Hebron." (2 Sam 15:7-9 NIV)

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<sup>10</sup> Then Absalom sent secret messengers throughout the tribes of Israel to say, "As soon as you hear the sound of the trumpets, then say, 'Absalom is king in Hebron.'" <sup>11</sup> Two hundred men from Jerusalem had accompanied Absalom. They had been invited as guests and went quite innocently, knowing nothing about the matter. <sup>12</sup> While Absalom was offering sacrifices, he also sent for Ahithophel the Gilonite, David's counselor, to come from Giloh, his hometown. And so the conspiracy gained strength, and Absalom's following kept on increasing. (2 Sam 15:10-12 NIV)

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## II. ENTER \_\_\_\_\_

*Unless the LORD builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.  
Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain. (Ps. 127:1 ESV)*