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Kingdom: WHAT A KING BEHOLDS

THE BAREFOOT KING

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[2] It happened, late one afternoon, when David arose from his couch and was walking on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; and the woman was very beautiful.

2 Samuel 11:2 (ESV)

[10] Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.' [11] Thus says the Lord, 'Behold, I will raise up evil against you out of your own house. And I will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this sun. [12] For you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel and before the sun.'"

2 Samuel 12:10–12 (ESV)

[11] He said, "These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen and to run before his chariots.

1 Samuel 8:11 (ESV)

[1] After this Absalom got himself a chariot and horses, and fifty men to run before him.[2] And Absalom used to rise early and stand beside the way of the gate. And when any man had a dispute to come before the king for judgment, Absalom would call to him and say, "From what city are you?" And when he said, "Your servant is of such and such a tribe in Israel," [3] Absalom would say to him, "See, your claims are good and right, but there is no man designated by the king to hear you." [4] Then Absalom would say, "Oh that I were judge in the land! Then every man with a dispute or cause might come to me, and I would give him justice." [5] And whenever a man came near to pay homage to him, he would put out his hand and take hold of him and kiss him. [6] Thus Absalom did to all of Israel who came to the king for judgment. So Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel.

[7] And at the end of four years Absalom said to the king, "Please let me go and pay my vow, which I have vowed to the Lord, in Hebron. [8] For your servant vowed a vow while I lived at Geshur in Aram, saying, 'If the Lord will indeed bring me back to Jerusalem, then I will offer worship to the Lord.'" [9] The king said to him, "Go in peace." So he arose and went to Hebron. [10] But Absalom sent secret messengers throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, "As soon as you hear the sound of the trumpet, then say, 'Absalom is king at Hebron!'" [11] With Absalom went two hundred men from Jerusalem who were invited guests, and they went in their innocence and knew nothing. [12] And while Absalom was offering the sacrifices, he sent for Ahithophel the Gilonite, David's counselor, from his city Giloh. And the conspiracy grew strong, and the people with Absalom kept increasing.

[13] And a messenger came to David, saying, "The hearts of the men of Israel have gone after Absalom." [14] Then David said to all his servants who were with him at Jerusalem, "Arise, and let us flee, or else there will be no escape for us from Absalom. Go quickly, lest he overtake us quickly and bring down ruin on us and strike the city with the edge of the sword."[15] And the king's servants said to the king, "Behold, your servants are ready to do whatever my lord the king decides." [16] So the king went out, and all his household after him. And the king left ten concubines to keep the house. [17] And the king went out, and all the people after him. And they halted at the last house.

2 Samuel 15:1–17 (ESV)

18 And all his servants passed by him, and all the Cherethites, and all the Pelethites, and all the six
hundred Gittites who had followed him from Gath, passed on before the king. 19 Then the king said
to Ittai the Gittite, “Why do you also go with us? Go back and stay with the king, for you are a
foreigner and also an exile from your home. 20 You came only yesterday, and shall I today make you
wander about with us, since I go I know not where? Go back and take your brothers with you, and
may the Lord show steadfast love and faithfulness to you.” 21 But Ittai answered the king, “As the
Lord lives, and as my lord the king lives, wherever my lord the king shall be, whether for death or
for life, there also will your servant be.” 22 And David said to Ittai, “Go then, pass on.” So Ittai the
Gittite passed on with all his men and all the little ones who were with him. 23 And all the land wept
aloud as all the people passed by, and the king crossed the brook Kidron, and all the people passed
on toward the wilderness.

24 And Abiathar came up, and behold, Zadok came also with all the Levites, bearing the ark of the
covenant of God. And they set down the ark of God until the people had all passed out of the city. 25
Then the king said to Zadok, “Carry the ark of God back into the city. If I find favor in the eyes of the
Lord, he will bring me back and let me see both it and his dwelling place. 26 But if he says, ‘I have
no pleasure in you,’ behold, here I am, let him do to me what seems good to him.” 27 The king also
said to Zadok the priest, “Are you not a seer? Go back to the city in peace, with your two sons,
Ahimaaz your son, and Jonathan the son of Abiathar. 28 See, I will wait at the fords of the wilderness
until word comes from you to inform me.” 29 So Zadok and Abiathar carried the ark of God back to
Jerusalem, and they remained there.

30 But David went up the ascent of the Mount of Olives, weeping as he went, barefoot and with his
head covered. And all the people who were with him covered their heads, and they went up, weeping
as they went. 31 And it was told David, “Ahithophel is among the conspirators with Absalom.” And
David said, “O Lord, please turn the counsel of Ahithophel into foolishness.” 32 While David was
coming to the summit, where God was worshiped, behold, Hushai the Archite came to meet him with
his coat torn and dirt on his head. 33 David said to him, “If you go on with me, you will be a burden
to me. 34 But if you return to the city and say to Absalom, ‘I will be your servant, O king; as I have
been your father’s servant in time past, so now I will be your servant,’ then you will defeat for me
the counsel of Ahithophel. 35 Are not Zadok and Abiathar the priests with you there? So whatever
you hear from the king’s house, tell it to Zadok and Abiathar the priests. 36 Behold, their two sons
are with them there, Ahimaaz, Zadok’s son, and Jonathan, Abiathar’s son, and by them you shall
send to me everything you hear.” 37 So Hushai, David’s friend, came into the city, just as Absalom
was entering Jerusalem.

2 Samuel 15:18–37 (ESV)

1 When David had passed a little beyond the summit, Ziba the servant of Mephibosheth met him,
with a couple of donkeys saddled, bearing two hundred loaves of bread, a hundred bunches of
raisins, a hundred of summer fruits, and a skin of wine. 2 And the king said to Ziba, “Why have you
brought these?” Ziba answered, “The donkeys are for the king’s household to ride on, the bread and
summer fruit for the young men to eat, and the wine for those who faint in the wilderness to drink.”
3 And the king said, “And where is your master’s son?” Ziba said to the king, “Behold, he remains
in Jerusalem, for he said, ‘Today the house of Israel will give me back the kingdom of my father.’ ”
4 Then the king said to Ziba, “Behold, all that belonged to Mephibosheth is now yours.” And Ziba
said, “I pay homage; let me ever find favor in your sight, my lord the king.”

2 Samuel 16:1–4 (ESV)

[5] When King David came to Bahurim, there came out a man of the family of the house of Saul, whose name was Shimei, the son of Gera, and as he came he cursed continually. [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] And Shimei said as he cursed, "Get out, get out, you man of blood, you worthless man! [8] The Lord has avenged on you all the blood of the house of Saul, in whose place you have reigned, and the Lord has given the kingdom into the hand of your son Absalom. See, your evil is on you, for you are a man of blood." [9] Then Abishai the son of Zeruiah said to the king, "Why should this dead dog curse my lord the king? Let me go over and take off his head." [10] But the king said, "What have I to do with you, you sons of Zeruiah? If he is cursing because the Lord has said to him, 'Curse David,' who then shall say, 'Why have you done so?'" [11] And David said to Abishai and to all his servants, "Behold, my own son seeks my life; how much more now may this Benjaminite! Leave him alone, and let him curse, for the Lord has told him to. [12] It may be that the Lord will look on the wrong done to me, and that the Lord will repay me with good for his cursing today." [13] So David and his men went on the road, while Shimei went along on the hillside opposite him and cursed as he went and threw stones at him and flung dust. [14] And the king, and all the people who were with him, arrived weary at the Jordan. And there he refreshed himself.

[15] Now Absalom and all the people, the men of Israel, came to Jerusalem, and Ahithophel with him. [16] And when Hushai the Archite, David's friend, came to Absalom, Hushai said to Absalom, "Long live the king! Long live the king!" [17] And Absalom said to Hushai, "Is this your loyalty to your friend? Why did you not go with your friend?" [18] And Hushai said to Absalom, "No, for whom the Lord and this people and all the men of Israel have chosen, his I will be, and with him I will remain. [19] And again, whom should I serve? Should it not be his son? As I have served your father, so I will serve you." [20] Then Absalom said to Ahithophel, "Give your counsel. What shall we do?" [21] Ahithophel said to Absalom, "Go in to your father's concubines, whom he has left to keep the house, and all Israel will hear that you have made yourself a stench to your father, and the hands of all who are with you will be strengthened." [22] So they pitched a tent for Absalom on the roof. And Absalom went in to his father's concubines in the sight of all Israel. [23] Now in those days the counsel that Ahithophel gave was as if one consulted the word of God; so was all the counsel of Ahithophel esteemed, both by David and by Absalom.

2 Samuel 16:5–23 (ESV)

A Psalm of David, when he fled from Absalom his son. [1] O Lord, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me; [2] many are saying of my soul, "There is no salvation for him in God." *Selah* [3] But you, O Lord, are a shield about me, my glory, and the lifter of my head. [4] I cried aloud to the Lord, and he answered me from his holy hill. *Selah* [5] I lay down and slept; I woke again, for the Lord sustained me. [6] I will not be afraid of many thousands of people who have set themselves against me all around. [7] Arise, O Lord! Save me, O my God! For you strike all my enemies on the cheek; you break the teeth of the wicked. [8] Salvation belongs to the Lord; your blessing be on your people! *Selah*

Psalm 3:title–8 (ESV)

[41] And when he drew near and saw the city, he wept over it, [42] saying, "Would that you, even you, had known on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. [43] For the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up a barricade around you and surround you and hem you in on every side [44] and tear you down to the ground, you and your children within you. And they will not leave one stone upon another in you, because you did not know the time of your visitation."

Luke 19:41–44 (ESV)

47 While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him, 48 but Jesus said to him, "Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?" 49 And when those who were around him saw what would follow, they said, "Lord, shall we strike with the sword?" 50 And one of them struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear. 51 But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him.

Luke 22:47–51 (ESV)

21 For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. 22 He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. 23 When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. 24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. 25 For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

1 Peter 2:21–25 (ESV)