

## ***“Lessons from the Life of David” – Pastor Jim Ruddy***

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### **Study # 47 – David Returns to Jerusalem – 2 Sam. 19:9 - 43**

#### **I. HOPEFUL IN THE CROWNING OF THE KING v8b-15**

##### **A. THE ASSESSMENT OF ISRAEL v8b-10**

- Absalom's military organization collapsed at his death. cf. 19:8b
- The allegiance of the people began to shift back toward David.
  - a) His troops b) The Tribe of Judah c) The Tribes of Israel
- In light of what he had done for the nation in the past, the men of Israel argue over why David is not being restored to the throne.
  - cf. 5:17-25; 8:1

##### **B. THE ADVANCEMENT OF DAVID v11-12**

- Concerned by the hesitation his own tribe, David sent word to the elders of Judah asking why they had not yet called for his reinstatement and return to Jerusalem.
- Judah had supported Absalom heavily in the rebellion, and the elders were probably dealing with resentment or lingering fear.

##### **C. THE APPOINTMENT OF AMASA v13**

- In an attempt to win the favor of the people, David offers Amasa, Absalom's former general, a position of prime importance, replacing a discredited Joab as David's captain.

##### **D. THE AGREEMENT OF JUDAH v14-15**

- David succeeds in winning over their hearts of Judah, who determine to bring the King back to Jerusalem.
- David travels west to the Jordan, where he awaits the arrival of those who will help his entourage cross over the river.

#### **II. FEARFUL IN THE PRESENCE OF THE KING v16-23**

##### **A. THE CROSSING OF JORDAN v16-18a**

- Once across, David is greeted by a host of men, some of whom he encountered on his way out of Jerusalem. cf. 16:1ff

##### **B. THE CONCERN OF SHIMEI v18b-20**

- Shimei, who vehemently cursed the King as he left Jerusalem, meets David, announcing, *“I am the first to come today of all the house of Joseph to go down to meet my lord the king!”* cf. 16:5-13
  - Joseph = refers to Ephraim and Manasseh strictly, but to all of Israel generally. cf. Zech. 9:13, 10:6

##### **C. THE COUNSEL OF ABISHAI v21**

- True to form, Abishai suggests that Shimei be put to death for his capital offense. cf. Ex 22:28; 1 Ki. 21:10

##### **D. THE COMPASSION OF DAVID v22-23**

- Seeking to reclaim the loyalty of Israel, David is willing to overlook his offense, at least temporarily. cf. 1 Ki. 2:8-10

### **III. FAITHFUL IN THE ABSENCE OF THE KING v24-30**

#### **A. MEPHIBOSHETH'S APPROACH TO DAVID v24**

- It is clear that Mephibosheth has been in mourning, having remained ceremonially unclean since the King's departure.
- cf. Lev 13:45; Eze. 24:17, 22; Mic. 3:7; Ex. 19:10, 14

#### **B. MEPHIBOSHETH'S APPEAL TO DAVID v25-29**

- Mephibosheth declares that he has been loyal to the King, in spite of Ziba's false charges against him.
- He acknowledges that he, along with all the men of Saul, deserves only death and has no right to demand anything.
- David responds that Mephibosheth and Ziba should divide the land, that which had been first given to Mephibosheth (9:7-13) and later turned over to Ziba (16:1-4).

#### **C. MEPHIBOSHETH'S APPROVAL OF DAVID v30**

- As Solomon, David's son, would later suggest the dividing of a baby to discern which of the two mothers were telling the truth, David demands the division of the land to discover whether Mephibosheth or Ziba is the liar. cf. 1 Ki. 3:16-25
- The truth revealed: Out of his sincere love for David, Mephibosheth is willing to relinquish everything to Ziba, indicating that the injustices done to him no longer mattered now that the King had returned to the land. cf. 1 Ki. 3:26-28

### **IV. HELPFUL IN THE COMING OF THE KING v31-43**

#### **A. BARZILLAI'S COURTESY TOWARD DAVID v31-39**

- Barzillai was David's host while at Mahanaim. cf. 17:27-29
- David sought to repay Barzillai by inviting him to return to Jerusalem and enjoy the benefits of the royal court.
- Instead, his son, Chimham, accompanies David. cf. Jer. 41:17

#### **B. ISRAEL'S CONTROVERSY OVER DAVID v40-43**

- A great procession, consisting of all the people of Judah and half the men of the other tribes, is assembled to bring the king back to Jerusalem.
- The men of Israel complain that Judah have "*stolen away*" David by not allowing Israel to share in the royal escort.
  - cf. Ex. 21:16; Deut. 24:7
- Judah responded that David was their close relative and that they had not profited in any way by taking the lead.
- Israel rejects Judah's reasoning, stating that they represented the larger share in David (10 tribes), and that they had been the first to speak of returning the king to Jerusalem. cf. 19:9f
- The fierceness of Judah's response was an indication of the serious trouble that would soon unfold. cf. 20:1-26