



Life of

# DAVID

## *The Making of a King*

**Trouble in the Kingdom**

2 Samuel 13 & 14:21-33

Lesson 18

### **Background Information**

For twenty years David ruled his kingdom wisely. In stark contrast his next twenty years would be filled with trouble and sorrow. With his own hands, King David had sown the seeds of which he would now reap the consequences. Though he ruled his kingdom with wisdom and God's blessing, he didn't rule his family well. He multiplied his wives, as the surrounding kings were accustomed, and He didn't restrain his sons. His example of fulfilling his fleshly desires was watched by his sons. His sons followed his actions and all would reap the whirlwind. Desire fulfilled would end in deception and murder. *Each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.* James 1:14-15

David's sin with Bathsheba resulted in many consequences. David's own judgment against the rich man in Nathan's story was, *He shall restore the lamb fourfold.* (12:6), That judgment fell upon David's own head. Bathsheba's baby died; Absalom killed Amnon for raping Tamar; we will soon see that Joab killed Absalom during the battle of Mount Ephraim; and Adonijah was slain for trying to usurp the throne from Solomon.

God had forgiven David's sins but David was discovering that the consequences of forgiven sin are still very painful. *Your own wickedness will correct you, and your backslidings will rebuke you.* (Jer. 2:19) Even forgiven men must reap the consequences of what they sow. But David found comfort in remembering God's promises and crying out to the Lord for strength.

### **Treasures of the Heart**

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

Galatians 6:7



## **What does it say?**

The first step is getting the lay of the land. **Carefully observe the text** looking to see where you might dig to find hidden treasure. **Mark your text** looking for repeated words, contrasts or similarities. Look for answers to, Who? What? When? Where? Why or How?

### **2 Samuel 13:1-7**

1 After this Absalom the son of David had a lovely sister, whose name was Tamar; and Amnon the son of David loved her. 2 Amnon was so distressed over his sister Tamar that he became sick; for she was a virgin. And it was improper for Amnon to do anything to her. 3 But Amnon had a friend whose name was Jonadab the son of Shimeah, David's brother. Now Jonadab was a very crafty man. 4 And he said to him, "Why are you, the king's son, becoming thinner day after day? Will you not tell me?" Amnon said to him, "I love Tamar, my brother Absalom's sister."

5 So Jonadab said to him, "Lie down on your bed and pretend to be ill. And when your father comes to see you, say to him, 'Please let my sister Tamar come and give me food, and prepare the food in my sight, that I may see it and eat it from her hand.'" 6 Then Amnon lay down and pretended to be ill; and when the king came to see him, Amnon said to the king, "Please let Tamar my sister come and make a couple of cakes for me in my sight, that I may eat from her hand."

7 And David sent home to Tamar, saying, "Now go to your brother Amnon's house, and prepare food for him."



## **Digging Deeper**

Dig deeper using other resources such as a dictionary, concordance, maps & cross-references. Notate where you found it to share with the group. Look for commands to obey or questions to be answered. What does God want you to know about Himself?

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## **2 Samuel 13:23-39**

**23** And it came to pass, after two full years, that Absalom had sheepshearers in Baal Hazor, which is near Ephraim; so Absalom invited all the king's sons. **24** Then Absalom came to the king and said, "Kindly note, your servant has sheepshearers; please, let the king and his servants go with your servant."

**25** But the king said to Absalom, "No, my son, let us not all go now, lest we be a burden to you." Then he urged him, but he would not go; and he blessed him.

**26** Then Absalom said, "If not, please let my brother Amnon go with us." And the king said to him, "Why should he go with you?" **27** But Absalom urged him; so he let Amnon and all the king's sons go with him.

**28** Now Absalom had commanded his servants, saying, "Watch now, when Amnon's heart is merry with wine, and when I say to you, 'Strike Amnon!' then kill him. Do not be afraid. Have I not commanded you? Be courageous and valiant."

**29** So the servants of Absalom did to Amnon as Absalom had commanded. Then all the king's sons arose, and each one got on his mule and fled.

**30** And it came to pass, while they were on the way, that news came to David, saying, "Absalom has killed all the king's sons, and not one of them is left!" **31** So the king arose and tore his garments and lay on the ground, and all his servants stood by with their clothes torn. **32** Then Jonadab the son of Shimeah, David's brother, answered and said, "Let not my lord suppose they have killed all the young men, the king's sons, for only Amnon is dead. For by the command of Absalom this has been determined from the day that he forced his sister Tamar. **33** Now therefore, let not my lord the king take the thing to his heart, to think that all the king's sons are dead. For only Amnon is dead."

Absalom Flees to Geshur

**34** Then Absalom fled. And the young man who was keeping watch lifted his eyes and looked, and there, many people were coming from the road on the hillside behind him. **35** And Jonadab said to the king, "Look, the king's sons are coming; as your servant said, so it is." **36** So it was, as



***Read through 2 Samuel 14:1-20 for context***

## **2 Samuel 14:21-33**

21 And the king said to Joab, "All right, I have granted this thing. Go therefore, bring back the young man Absalom."

22 Then Joab fell to the ground on his face and bowed himself, and thanked the king. And Joab said, "Today your servant knows that I have found favor in your sight, my lord, O king, in that the king has fulfilled the request of his servant." 23 So Joab arose and went to Geshur, and brought Absalom to Jerusalem. 24 And the king said, "Let him return to his own house, but do not let him see my face." So Absalom returned to his own house, but did not see the king's face.

**25** Now in all Israel there was no one who was praised as much as Absalom for his good looks. From the sole of his foot to the crown of his head there was no blemish in him. 26 And when he cut the hair of his head — at the end of every year he cut it because it was heavy on him — when he cut it, he weighed the hair of his head at two hundred shekels according to the king's standard. 27 To Absalom were born three sons, and one daughter whose name was Tamar. She was a woman of beautiful appearance.

**28** And Absalom dwelt two full years in Jerusalem, but did not see the king's face. 29 Therefore Absalom sent for Joab, to send him to the king, but he would not come to him. And when he sent again the second time, he would not come. 30 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.

31 Then Joab arose and came to Absalom's house, and said to him, "Why have your servants set my field on fire?"

32 And Absalom answered Joab, "Look, I sent to you, saying, 'Come here, so that I may send you to the king, to say, "Why have I come from Geshur? It would be better for me to be there still.'" Now therefore, let me see the king's face; but if there is iniquity in me, let him execute me."

33 So Joab went to the king and told him. And when he had called for Absalom, he came to the king and bowed himself on his face to the ground before the king. Then the king kissed Absalom.







## **W**hat does it mean?

What **lesson** can I draw from my observations? **Ask yourself, “What was the intended meaning of the original author?”** Is there a command to obey, or a warning to heed? An example to follow or avoid? **State each lesson in a simple sentence that you could share with someone else.** (aim for 10 words or less).

2 Samuel 13:1-7 \_\_\_\_\_

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2 Samuel 13:8-22 \_\_\_\_\_

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2 Samuel 13:23-39 \_\_\_\_\_

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2 Samuel 14:21-33 \_\_\_\_\_

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## **H**ow can I apply it?

Ask yourself, **“What course of action do I need to take to apply each lesson?”** How should it change me? What does it challenge me to do? Does it point out error in my attitude or actions? (aim for 10 words or less)

2 Samuel 13:1-7 \_\_\_\_\_

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2 Samuel 13:8-22 \_\_\_\_\_

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2 Samuel 13:23-39 \_\_\_\_\_

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2 Samuel 14:21-33 \_\_\_\_\_

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**Challenge:** Use cross-references to find correlating scripture that backs up a main point of the chapter. Summarize your findings in your own words.

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## **Understanding the Heart . . .**

See if you can discover the **heart attitude** of those in the story. What emotions are they dealing with? What is God teaching them? How do they respond? How should they respond?

**T**he Heart of David:

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**T**he Heart of the people:

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**T**he Heart of God:

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**W**hat words or phrases are repeated? Repeated words help us discover the main point.

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## **Getting The Point**

See if you can boil down the meaning of **each section** into one or two words. This helps you fully understand what the author is trying to convey. (It's fun to alliterate if you want to try) Did you catch the vision?

2 Samuel 13:1-7 \_\_\_\_\_

2 Samuel 13:8-22 \_\_\_\_\_

2 Samuel 13:23-39 \_\_\_\_\_

2 Samuel 14:21-33 \_\_\_\_\_

### **Title**

State the main **point** of the passage in the form of a title.

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### **Flex Your Muscles**

Can you discover an N.T. example of this O.T. truth?

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## **Radiating His Truth . . .**

The principle of mercy: God does not take away life; instead, He devises ways so that a banished person may not remain estranged from Him. Bible

Knowledge Commentary

