



THE BOOK OF

2 SAMUEL



Sermon Series Notes

“King David’s Costly Mistakes” (II Samuel 14-19a)

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Summarize I Samuel 17, then the years of running from King Saul, finally taking the throne. And what a success story. See II Sam.8:6b, 14b; 7:18; 5:4; 2:1; 5:18-19, 23.

If David’s story had ended here, what a story it would be. National hero as teenager, beloved & victorious king as a young man. Married, kids, blessed beyond belief.

But that’s not the end of David’s story. As we saw a couple of weeks ago in our study, David fails greatly (Bathsheba, Uriah). Read II Sam.12:9-10.

There is great mystery here in that, the consequences of David’s sin does not mean God violated anybody’s free will, only that, as result of David’s failure, even though he finds grace, mercy, and forgiveness from the Lord, his actions bring about havoc for his entire family.

Last week, Ryan teaching from II Samuel 13 (summarize).

Read II Samuel 13:37-39; See II Sam.3:2-3; Talmai is Absalom’s grandfather on his mother’s side of the family.

Opening question: Why didn’t David go to Absalom? He does not treat his son the way the Lord has treated him.

There’s also something else missing at this troubled period in David’s life. There is no mention of him inquiring of the Lord.

II Samuel 14

v.14a This is kind of like saying, “You shouldn’t cry over spilled milk.” The idea is, we cannot go back and change the past. All we can do is take the opportunity to do what is right NOW, before we die!

v.14b This is right in David’s face – You are not acting toward your son the way God has acted toward you!

* Colossians 3: 13 Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

v.24 “TIME OUT!” (“Go to your room!”)

* What David does here is continue to punish his son...he fails to deal with Absalom in a godly manner...WHY?

* Of all the “Father Flaws” in David, this is perhaps the greatest. He will not forgive his son.

* I Cor.13: 5 It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

v.33 I have to conclude that, despite David’s kissing Absalom here, David still has not really forgiven him.

He also has not properly disciplined Absalom for his sin.

* If we do not discipline our children the way God directs us to, that discipline will fail.

* Even godly discipline may not bring about the desired results, but David never gives godly discipline a chance!

II Samuel 15

vv.1-6 Stole their hearts from whom? From Absalom's own father!

v.7a For four years Absalom has been conspiring against his own father. And do you know what is truly amazing – David doesn't seem to have a clue!

* Does it appear that during this time in David's life, he is a bit "self-absorbed?"

* Absalom is wrong, and we could spend more time focusing on Absalom's rebellion, but the main thrust of the text seems to focus on David as a father.

vv.7b-12 Now this soap opera adds an incredible twist – Ahithophel takes sides with Absalom! Why would he do such a thing?

* He desires to keep his government position, knowing that Absalom will soon be king.

* He is a relative of those David has wronged; See II Sam.23:34, 39; II Sam.11:3; Ahithophel was the grandfather of Bathsheeba, and Eliam (Ahithophel's son) was one of David's mighty men, along with Uriah the Hittite (Bathsheeba's husband).

* This is one way that David's failure with Bathsheeba followed him even years later, and how it affected not only his immediate family, but his co-workers as well.

David flees, Absalom takes the throne, and now a father and son lead their armies against one another. Absalom's intention is to see his father dead, but David instructs his men to "Be gentle with the young man Absalom for my sake" (II Sam.18:5). David is thinking more about himself than anyone else. Read II Sam.18:9-15. Summarize II Sam.18:32-19:8a.

CONCLUSION

* What a mess David's family becomes!

* Summary lessons

1. Realize the consequences of failure before you fail!

* See II Sam.12:10; The problems in David's family were a result of his own sin (mystery here).

2. Being a good son does not necessarily mean that you will be a good father.

3. Seek the Lord for help in resolving family conflict

* Note: No record of David inquiring of the Lord in this whole section.

4. Deal with your children the way God has dealt with you

* Rev.3: 19 Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline.

* Col.3:13; I Cor.13:5

5. Evaluate what type of parent you are, and make whatever changes are necessary to become a godly parent.

* Four types of parents

* Do I discipline my children? How do I discipline them?

- Prov.13:24; 22:15; 23:13; 29:15

* Do I spend time with my children?

- Spending time with them will let you know what's going on in their lives...

* Do I forgive my children?

6. Don't let bitterness take root in your heart

I Cor.7:12-14, 16

I Kings 21:25 Urged own by Jezebel his wife

Sarah urged Abraham to take Hagar; Peter attempted to sway Jesus from the path of the cross.

Matthew 18:6-7

