

# *Resurrection Life of Jesus Church*

## THE DESTINY OF HUMANITY

RLJ-1694

JOHN S. TORELL

MARCH 10, 2019

### PART 27: THE EFFECT OF GOD'S CURSE

#### **THE CURSE BY GOD**

The curse uttered by the prophet Nathan against King David was real.

*"Now therefore the sword shall never depart from thine house; because thou hast despised me, and hast taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be thy wife.*

*Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will raise up evil against thee out of thine own house, and I will take thy wives before thine eyes, and give them unto thy neighbour, and he shall lie with thy wives in the sight of this sun. For thou didst it secretly: but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun." (2 Samuel 12:10-12)*

This was a judgment from God and it did not take long for the destruction to begin. David prematurely ended Uriah's life on earth and denied him the right to have children with Bathsheba. As a result, God was going to take away children from David.

**Galatians 6:7-8**

#### **THE DEATH OF AMNON**

David's first wife was Ahinoam from Jezreel and she bore his first son. Amnon was born in Judah while David was running from King Saul.

David's third wife Maacah bore him a son named Absalom, who was also born before David became king of Israel. Maacah also had a daughter named Tamar.

As the children grew into adulthood, the Bible reveals Tamar was a beautiful young lady. **2 Samuel 13:1**

Amnon lusted after Tamar and became so obsessed with her that he got sick. **verse 2**

Amnon and Absalom were princes and Tamar was a princess. Amnon and Jonadab were cousins and close friends. Jonadab was a conniving man with an evil mind and he came up with a plan for Amnon to seduce Tamar. Since each adult prince had his own quarters in the palace compound, Jonadab proposed for Amnon to feign sickness, and when David came to see him, Amnon would ask his father for Tamar to be sent and serve him food until he got well. David did not see the evil of this plot and granted Amnon's request. **verses 4-7**

Amnon's plan was to seclude and rape Tamar, so he ordered all his servants out of his quarters and had her bring the food into his bedroom. Once he was alone with Tamar, he got up from the bed and forced himself on her. **verses 9-14**

Once he finished raping Tamar, Amnon's sexual lust turned into hate and he mercilessly thrust her out of his chamber, knowing that he had stolen her virginity. **verses 15-19**



Tamar was now a scorned woman that no man would want to have as wife. She had no other option than to move into Absalom's quarters. **verse 20**

David got very angry when he heard about the rape but took no action. **verse 21**

Absalom waited for two years before he taking revenge on his half-brother. Absalom was no saint and made plans to murder Amnon. Since Amnon was the oldest son and crown prince, giving Absalom another incentive to avenge his sister. With Amnon out of the way, only Abigail's son Daniel was in front of Absalom to be the next king. **verses 22-27**

The death of Amnon was premeditated murder and Absalom made sure that Amnon got drunk and then ordered his men to stab Amnon at the dinner table. **verses 28-29**

Jonadab had turned into a "fixer" at the palace. Having access to King David indicates that this nephew had weaseled himself into a position of power and he used it to console David when he heard that Amnon was dead. **verses 30-33**

Absalom did not trust his father and fled to his grandfather kingdom, King Talmai of Geshur, which was located on the eastern side of Lake Galilee and stayed there for three years. **verses 34-39**

## **JOAB'S MEDDLING**

David had 18 sons left after Amnon's murder. Joab was a conniving man and he wanted to be sure that the next king of Israel would retain him as the commander of the army. Life was difficult for David as he was a liar at times and carried out plots. It must have run in the family since Joab was a habitual liar and schemer, as was Jonadab, the son of David's brother Shimeah.

meddling

Joab hired a woman to deceive David and convince him to bring back Absalom from exile. **2 Samuel 14:1-3**

David realized the woman had been hired by Joab after she rambled on for a while. **verses 18-20**

The plan worked and David decided to bring Absalom back to Jerusalem. Joab got excited because Absalom would be indebted to him. **verses 21-23**

David was not fully happy with Absalom, and while he allowed his son to return, Absalom was not allowed into the palace. **verses 24-28**

Absalom was unhappy with this treatment after two years and realized that he must have access to the palace if he hoped to secure the throne after his father. Joab was the only one he knew with access to his father, but at this time, Joab did not want to rattle David and possibly incur his wrath. When Joab ignored Absalom, the prince had his men burn Joab's barley field to grab his attention. Absalom scolded Joab and asked what was the point of returning from Geshur if he was denied access to his father? **verses 29-32**

The tactic worked and Absalom was finally allowed to see David and be restored. **verse 33**

## **ABSALOM MAKES HIS MOVE**

Absalom had no love for his father and planned to overthrow him. He had been appointed a judge and used this position to ingratiate himself with the people by portraying himself as compassionate and caring. **2 Samuel 15:1-6**

In order to fuel the rebellion against his father, Absalom needed permission to leave Jerusalem and travel to Hebron and lied without hesitation to receive it. **verses 7-9**

Once in Hebron, Absalom declared his kingship and sent spies throughout Israel to rally support. **verses 10-11**

He also secured the support of David's chief counselor. **verse 12**

## **DAVID LOSES CONFIDENCE & COURAGE**

David lost all hope when he found out Absalom had organized a full-blown coup against him and that a large portion of Israel had sided with his son. The once fierce fighter turned into an old man that just wanted to flee. **verses 13-17**

David had a special detachment of foreign fighters which made up his special security service. These men were loyal to David and he tried in vain to tell them not to follow him. **verses 18-22**

As David, his soldiers, and servants fled from Jerusalem, the people in the countryside wept. **verse 23**

David told the priests to stay in Jerusalem with the Ark of the Covenant. David would be back if God was with him, and if not, then it was all over for him. **verses 24-29**

David wept as he left Jerusalem and passed Mount Olivet. It must have dawned upon him that he lost control of Israel on the night he raped Bathsheba and he was on the run once again. **verse 30**

David learned his chief counselor had joined the rebellion. **verses 31**

Instead of having his close friend flee with him, David sent Hushai to be a spy in Jerusalem. **verses 32-37**

Mephibosheth abandoned David when it seemed that his days were numbered even though the king had shown mercy unto him. Nevertheless, Mephibosheth's servant stayed loyal to David. **2 Samuel 16:1-4**

## **THE CURSES OF SHIMEI**

When David and his entourage came to Bahurim, a village east of Jerusalem, a man from the family of King Saul began to curse David and his people. **verses 5-8**

Abishai, the brother of Joab, sought permission to cut off the head of Shimei but David would not allow it and Shimei was moved by God to curse the king. David also let it be known that he was tired of the sons of Zeruihah. **verses 9-14**

## **ABSALOM TAKES CONTROL**

Absalom did not know that Hushai was a spy for David who was willing to lie for his king. **verses 15-19**

Absalom was not ready to be a king and lead the people of Israel and showed his insecurity and lack of leadership in asking Ahithophel what to do. Ahithophel was a shrewd and evil man and he told Absalom to have sexual relations with his father's concubines in order to show the people of Israel there could never be reconciliation between the two, unknowingly setting the stage for Nathan's prophecy to be fulfilled against David. **verses 20-23**

## **HUNTING DAVID**

Ahithophel had burned all his bridges with David and knew that if his life would be jeopardy if Absalom's rebellion failed. As a result, he urged Absalom to get his soldiers ready and begin the hunt for his father. Ahithophel lied to Absalom and his soldiers when he promised that David would be the only one killed. **2 Samuel 17:1-4**

Absalom was still unsure and wanted to hear what Hushai was thinking. Ahithophel's would succeed and David still needed time to escape, so Hushai instilled fear by stating that if Absalom brought all the fighting men from all the tribes of Israel, it would give David and his army a chance to defeat them in one place and put down the rebellion. **verses 5-13**

Absalom bought into Hushai's counsel advocating caution. **verse 14**

Having laid out the battle plan for Absalom, Hushai made sure that the plans were revealed to David so he could prepare his forces. **verses 15-16**

Zadok the priest kept his two sons out of Jerusalem so they could be quickly used to send a message to David. A maid servant at the palace was sent to the sons of Zadok with Absalom's battle plan. **verse 17**

A young man who had been watching Ahimaaz and Jonathan reported to Absalom that they left their place in a hurry and a search party was sent out. The two sons of Zadok took refuge in a woman's house and they successfully evaded Absalom's search party. **verses 18-21**

When Hushai's message reached David, he moved at once from his location and crossed the Jordan River. **verse 22**

In the meantime, Ahithophel realized he would never again be utilized by Absalom and committed suicide. **verse 23**

Absalom made Amasa the commander of his army. Both David and Absalom's forces crossed over the Jordan River. **verses 24-26**

David's army was supplied with food and bedding by people who were friendly to him. **verses 27-29**

## **THE BATTLE**

David had three skilled and seasoned military commanders in Joab, Abishai and Ittai and divided his army into three units with each man commanding a unit. **2 Samuel 18:1-2**

David wanted to join the battle but the people flat out told him they depended upon his survival. As much as he wanted to join the fight, David realized that he had to respect

the will of the people and he decided to stay in the city where they had taken refuge. **verses 3-4**

David specifically ordered Joab, Abishai and Ittai not to harm Absalom. **verse 5**

Joab and his two commanders decided to fight in the forest of Ephraim. Having previously fought King Saul and his army in the past in forested land, they knew how to navigate the forest and defeat the enemy.

Amasa was not a skilled commander, and as the battle took place, David's men slaughtered the army of Absalom. Many of Absalom's soldiers were killed by the terrain of the forest and Absalom lost a total of 20,000 soldiers. **verses 6-8**

## **THE DEATH OF ABSALOM**

Absalom rode on a mule, and when his forces were defeated and scattered, he found himself in front of soldiers from David's army. He tried to flee, but his famously thick hair got stuck in the branches of an oak tree. The mule kept going and Absalom was left hanging helplessly from the tree. **verse 9**

A soldier told Joab that he saw Absalom hanging from a tree and Joab scolded the man for not killing Absalom. When the man repeated King David's order that Absalom's life be spared, Joab disregarded the king and killed Absalom anyway. **verses 10-15**

Absalom's army disbanded and fled at the news of his death and Joab stopped pursuing them. Absalom's body was thrown into a deep pit and stones laid upon it. Joab showed no mercy or honor to the man whom he brought back to Jerusalem and aided in the reconciliation between father and son. **verses 16-18**

Joab did not want Ahimaaz (son of Zadok) to bring the news to David that Absalom was dead and sent another messenger. When Ahimaaz realized that a messenger had been sent, he begged to be allowed to run also. **verses 19-23**

David was overcome with grief and wished he was dead instead of Absalom. **verses 24-33**

## **THE WRATH OF JOAB**

When Joab found out that David and the people were lamenting over the death of Absalom, he became furious and went to the palace to confront the king. He accused David of loving his enemies and hating his friends. Joab demanded the mourning for Absalom end at once and that David was to sit at the judgment seat of the city and comfort his people. Joab threatened to remove his armed men and then the king would be worse off than all the evil he had hitherto experienced since being a young man.

David realized that Joab was righteously angry and acknowledged that Joab and his men had risked their lives to fight Absalom in standing by David. **2 Samuel 19:1-8**

## **BACK TO JERUSALEM**

The eleven tribes that lined up with Absalom were in an uproar; they had sided with Absalom and it did not bode well for them now that David was back in power. **verses 9-10**

David was upset with the elders of Judah because they did not come to him on the other side of Jordan River to escort him back to Jerusalem. **verses 11-12**

David sent a message to Amasa that he was forgiven and that he would have a place in David's army. **verses 13**

The leadership of Judah brought their men to meet David at Gilgal and honor him as he crossed the Jordan River. **verses 14-15**

Shimei even came and repented. Abishai was not happy with David forgiving Shimei and still wanted to behead him. David showed his secret hatred for Abishai and Joab as he rebuked the sons of Zeruiah even though the two brothers were the backbone of the army. Without these two nephews, David would never have been the king. He failed to recognize that these men were loyal and had risked their lives for years to make sure that David was safe. **verses 16-23**

David also forgave Mephibosheth for not having stood with him during the rebellion. **verses 24-30**

There was also a dispute between the men of Israel and the men of Judah. **verses 41-43**

## **THE REVOLT BY SHEBA**

Sheba was a worthless man from the tribe of Benjamin. He stood and blew the trumpet and told the men of Israel they had no part of David and that they should abandon the king and return to their homes. **2 Samuel 20:1-2**

David returned to Jerusalem and his first order of business was to remove the ten concubines Absalom had publicly violated and put them into retirement. **verse 3**

David ordered Amasa to assemble the men of Judah and fight Sheba, but he was slow in following the king's command. **verses 4-5**

David spoke to Abishai and told him that Sheba was going to be more trouble than Absalom unless he was found and killed. **verse 6**

Amasa was among the soldiers hunting Sheba. Joab had hate towards Amasa and he settled the score when they were marching. **verses 7-13**

Joab located Sheba in the city called Abel. As they prepared to lay siege to the city and take it by force, a woman began to negotiate with Joab that the head of Sheba could be thrown over the wall if Joab would spare the city. Joab agreed to the deal and the woman spoke to the elders of the city, who in turn killed Sheba and threw his head over the wall. Joab kept his word and took his troops back to Jerusalem. **verses 14-21**

## **SUMMARY**

God always means what He says. David was forgiven for what he did with Bathsheba and Uriah, but the curse over his family was not removed. The judgment started with the rape of Tamar and the subsequent murder of Amnon. Then Absalom rebelled and tried to kill his father. David fled and put up a fight, but he did not want his rebellious son to be killed. Life in Israel was never the same and David could not enjoy life as he had previously.

God forgave King David but the consequences of sin marred his life and brought grief. Sin may seem like fun but there is always a price to pay. Be careful how you live and don't do things that you will have to pay for later. **Galatians 6:7-9**

***Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!***

***Do you have an ear to hear with?***