

## FINAL STUDY NOTES – 2 Samuel Chapters 17-18      11/24-25/2025

### CLASSROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION:

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NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

**MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM PACIFIC STANDARD Time (US and Canada)**  
**THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING ON ZOOM ONLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!**

**MEETING ID - 878 5864 4763 Passcode: 087484**

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**TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM PACIFIC STANDARD Time (US and Canada).**

TUES MORNING MTG PLACE: 1201 KEY WEST, CORONA DEL MAR (shown as 1201 KW, Corona del Mar, CA 92625) on Global Positioning System (GPS) in automobiles. For driving directions, suggest using (waze.com/live map) or *MapQuest* (mapquest.com), **AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!**

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### OPENING PRAYER

**2 SAMUEL – Chapter 17 – The Advice of Ahithophel – (vs. 1-4); The Advice of Hushai – (vs. 5-14); Hushai Warns David to Escape – (vs. 15-29) Chapter 18 – Absalom’s Defeat and Death – (vs. 1-18); David Hears of Absalom’s Death – (vs. 19-32); David’s Mourning for Absalom – (v. 33).**

- **David is just fleeing from Jerusalem.** He had gotten out of the city, just before the advancing armies of his son, Absalom. Ahithophel, David’s close friend and one of his chief counselors, has joined the forces with Absalom. Not only has he defected, but he has great bitterness in his heart towards David. As David writes concerning Ahithophel, he said, “We took sweet counsel together, we went into the house of God together. You know, I cannot understand it, you, my friend. If it were an enemy that had reproached me, it would have been easier to take, but it was you!” Yet it seems that within the heart of Ahithophel, there was tremendous bitterness towards David. Because he really is wanting to kill David, promising that if Absalom would just give him some troops to pursue David immediately, he would destroy David, and deliver the kingdom completely to Absalom. He had no intention of destroying those that went with David, just David alone.

**Review: 2Sa 16:21 And 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 are abhorred by your father. Then the hands of all who are with you will be strong.” 2Sa 16:23 Now the advice of Ahithophel, which he gave in those**

days, was as if one had inquired at the oracle of God. So was all the advice of Ahithophel both with David and with Absalom.

### Hushai Saves David

**2Sa 17:1-2** Moreover Ahithophel said to Absalom, "Now let me choose twelve thousand men, and I will arise and pursue David tonight. [2] I will come upon him while he is weary and weak, and make him afraid. And all the people who are with him will flee, and I will strike only the king.

- Ahithophel's second piece of advice to Absalom was that he immediately pursue and kill David to remove any possibility of his reclaiming the throne, which would incline David's followers to return and submit to Absalom.

**2Sa 17:3** Then I will bring back all the people to you. When all return except the man whom you seek, all the people will be at peace."

- All we need to do is to kill David, and everything will be okay.

**2Sa 17:4** And the saying pleased Absalom and all the elders of Israel.

- Here is David's son, talking about killing his dad, and it pleases him. It looks like good counsel. Willing to destroy his own father, for his own ambition.
- They thought it was tremendous council. Now, there is only one weakness in Ahithophel's council. That Ahithophel requested that he, rather than Absalom would lead the army out and that he would be the one responsible for the death of David.

**2Sa 17:5** Then Absalom said, "Now call Hushai the Archite also, and let us hear what he says too."

- So Absalom called Hushai to get his counsel.
- Here was a wonderful effect of Divine Providence blinding Absalom's mind and influencing his heart, that he could not rest in Ahithophel's counsel, and that he should also desire Hushai's advice. But there is no question that God who can arm a man against himself, and destroy him by his own mistakes and passions. Ahithophel's former counsel regarding David's concubines was followed, for God intended to correct David; but his latter counsel was not followed, for God did not mean to destroy him. God can overrule all counsels. Whatever wisdom or help any man employs or affords, the success is from God alone, who will not let His people perish.

**2Sa 17:6-8** And when Hushai came to Absalom, Absalom spoke to him, saying, "Ahithophel has spoken in this manner. Shall we do as he says? If not, speak up." [7] So Hushai said to Absalom: "The advice that Ahithophel has given is not good at this time. [8] For," said Hushai, "you know your father and his men, that they are mighty men, and they are enraged in their minds, like a bear robbed of her cubs in the field; and your father is a man of war, and will not camp with the people.

- In other words, "Your father has much experience. He knows what it is to be on the run. He will not stay with the others. He will be hiding someplace apart from the people. So when you come upon the people; you know Joab and Abishai and those guys that are with David, they are really tough. In the first assault, they are going to wipe out the first crew that come in. When word gets around that the first assault was defeated, then everybody is going to get afraid, and they are going to flee, and man! You have blown the whole thing Absalom! Now here is what you should do."

**2Sa 17:9-14** Surely by now he is hidden in some pit, or in some other place. And it will be, when some of them are overthrown at the first, that whoever hears it will say, 'There is a slaughter among the people who follow Absalom.' [10] And even he who is valiant, whose heart is like the heart of a lion, will melt completely. For all Israel knows that your father is a mighty man, and those who are with him are valiant men. [11] Therefore I advise that all Israel be fully gathered to you, from Dan to Beersheba, like the sand that is by the sea for multitude, and that you go to battle in person. [12] So we will come upon him in some place where he may be found, and we will fall on him as the dew falls on the ground. And of him and all the men who are with him there shall not be left so much as one. [13] Moreover, if he has withdrawn into a city, then all Israel shall bring ropes to that city; and we will pull it into the river, until there is not one small stone found there." [14] So Absalom and all the men of Israel said, "The advice of Hushai the Archite is better than the advice of Ahithophel." For the LORD had purposed to defeat the good advice of Ahithophel, to the intent that the LORD might bring disaster on Absalom.

- So what Ahithophel said made sense. But then when Hushai gave his little speech, he persuaded the people that, "Hey, this sounds much better." It appealed to the pride of Absalom. "Do not let Ahithophel go down and get all the glory. You go down yourself, leading all of the people."

- ***It is difficult to put myself in Absalom's position as it is totally unspeakable, however in examining my pride, would I have been so influenced, as was Absalom was, by the aspect of my leading all of the people in Hushai's advice? Is my pride decreasing and my humility increasing?***
- Now, there are those who say that had Absalom followed the counsel of Ahithophel, that surely David would have been defeated, and Absalom would have been established as king. I do not think so. For David continued to reign as the result of God's providence. I believe that God would have delivered David from Ahithophel and his men. But God allowed the counsel of Hushai to stand, because God is wanting to get rid of Absalom. Notice, the Lord is seeking to bring a case against Absalom, and God wants Absalom destroyed in this battle. So that the revolt will be put over, put away completely.
- ***Notice the purpose of the LORD here, as He is coming against both Ahithophel and Absalom! How clear is it in my heart that all things must be done in accordance with His purpose and His will and not my own?***

*2Sa 17:15 Then Hushai said to Zadok and Abiathar the priests, "Thus and so Ahithophel advised Absalom and the elders of Israel, and thus and so I have advised."*

- These men were also in one accord with David. These three men were more or less, CIA agents, for David. They were spies in Absalom's camp. So, "Hushai got hold of Zadok and Abiathar."

*2Sa 17:16 Now therefore, send quickly and tell David, saying, 'Do not spend this night in the plains of the wilderness, but speedily cross over, lest the king and all the people who are with him be swallowed up.'"*

- "Warn David, tell him what was said. Tell him to get across on the other side of the Jordan river."

*2Sa 17:17-21 Now Jonathan and Ahimaaz stayed at En Rogel, for they dared not be seen coming into the city; so a female servant would come and tell them, and they would go and tell King David. [18] Nevertheless a lad saw them, and told Absalom. But both of them went away quickly and came to a man's house in Bahurim, who had a well (a cistern) in his court; and they went down into it. [19] Then the woman took and spread a covering over the well's mouth, and spread ground grain on it; and the thing was not known. [20] And when Absalom's servants came to the woman at the house, they said, "Where are Ahimaaz and Jonathan?" So the woman said to them, "They have gone over the water brook (Targum says Jordan)." And when they had searched and could not find them, they returned to Jerusalem. [21] Now it came to pass, after they had departed, that they came up out of the well and went and told King David, and said to David, "Arise and cross over the water quickly. For thus has Ahithophel advised against you."*

- "Get to a place of safety."

*2Sa 17:22 So David and all the people who were with him arose and crossed over the Jordan. By morning light not one of them was left who had not gone over the Jordan.*

- So they made a quick move across the Jordan river. Now the Jordan River was a barrier between David and Absalom and his army.

*2Sa 17:23 Now when Ahithophel saw that his advice was not followed, he saddled a donkey, and arose and went home to his house, to his city. Then he put his household in order, and hanged himself, and died; and he was buried in his father's tomb.*

- ***Ahithophel was a wise man!*** His wise counsel was like a person inquiring from an oracle of God. He was extremely wise, like God was almost speaking. The wisdom that was expressed in the counsel of Ahithophel. He sees the tremendous pride in Absalom, which will be his downfall. Ahithophel shows great wisdom in setting his household in order, taking care of all of the details. But then he shows folly, in killing himself.
- ***Suicide is never a solution.*** It is one of the cruelest things that a person can do. Because it creates such guilt feelings on all who are left. Everybody blames themselves for a suicide. "Why did not I do this. If only I had said that, maybe if I had done this..." and a person just beats himself to death mentally, because of a suicide of a friend or a member of the family. Suicide is not an answer, it is not a solution. It only compounds many times the problems that you leave in the minds and hearts of those that are left. So wise men can do stupid things.

*2Sa 17:24 Then David went to Mahanaim. And Absalom crossed over the Jordan, he and all the men of Israel with him.*

- **Mahanaim is the place where Jacob left his father**, Laban, the last place he saw him, and he was returning home. It is on the east side of the Jordan river.
- **Absalom is pursuing after David**. Now they have gathered this great army and the attack is formally on to seek his father's death.

**2Sa 17:25** *And Absalom made Amasa captain of the army instead of Joab. This Amasa was the son of a man whose name was Jithra, an Israelite, who had gone in to Abigail the daughter of Nahash, sister of Zeruiah, Joab's mother.*

- **Amasa was a cousin to Joab**, David's chief general. Joab had left the army to join David.

**2Sa 17:26-27** *So Israel and Absalom encamped in the land of Gilead. [27] Now it happened, when David had come to Mahanaim, that Shobi (brother of Hanun) the son of Nahash from Rabbah of the people of Ammon, Machir the son of Ammiel from Lo Debar, and Barzillai the Gileadite from Rogelim,*

- **David comes to Mahanaim, and there he is greeted with incredible kindness**. We remember Mahanaim, as Jacob on his way back from Padan Aram. It says (**Gen 32:1,2**) *So Jacob went on his way, and the angels of God met him. [2] When Jacob saw them, he said, "This is God's camp." And he called the name of that place Mahanaim (double camp).*
- **Jacob realized there was more than one host with him**. God's host was there to also assist him. And no doubt, David now coming to Mahanaim, was greeted with this incredible kindness from Shobi, Machir, and Barzillai! David must realize, Mahanaim, Lord, there is more than one host with me! Lord, You are so gracious, so gracious! Just think what the Lord is doing here for this man who He loved!

**2Sa 17:28** *brought beds and basins, earthen vessels and wheat, barley and flour, parched grain and beans, lentils and parched seeds,*

- **Notice this phraseology, this construction in the Hebrew. It is and, and, and, and, and, and**. Count the ands there. It is called polysyndeton. It draws attention to each thing that is said that the "and" divides. It is a way of drawing attention to the detail of each thing that is before and after the and. It is a very specific structure.

**2Sa 17:29** *honey and curds, sheep and cheese of the herd, for David and the people who were with him to eat. For they said, "The people are hungry and weary and thirsty in the wilderness."*

- **These are the same people that showed kindness to Mephibosheth**, the son of Saul, when David inquired, "Are there any descendants of Saul left?" They said, "The son of Jonathan, Mephibosheth, is still alive." So, David sent for Mephibosheth, who had sought refuge in Mahanaim, and these people had sustained him, and had taken care of him. When David showed his kindness to Mephibosheth, they probably were enamored with David at that point. They loved Mephibosheth, they saw the kindness that David gave unto him.
- **So when David was in trouble, these are the men, wealthy men, who stepped in and brought an abundance of supplies**, in order to take care of David, and those that were with him, after their flight through the wilderness from Jerusalem.

### Absalom Killed

**2Sa 18:1** *And David numbered the people who were with him, and set captains of thousands and captains of hundreds over them.*

- **David gathered and conscripted together an army**. Note we are now talking about "thousands!" No doubt, a great number of refugees had fled with David, because he placed his captains over the thousands, captains over the hundreds.

**2Sa 18:2** *Then David sent out one third of the people under the hand of Joab, one third under the hand of Abishai the son of Zeruiah, Joab's brother, and one third under the hand of Ittai the Gittite. And the king said to the people, "I also will surely go out with you myself."*

- **Ittai was the one who had just recently come from Gath**. David encouraged him to stay in Jerusalem, but he told David, "Hey, I have come to be your servant and in life or death, I'm going to be with you." He evidently was a man of renowned. Probably one of the generals of the Philistine armies, who had defected to David.
- **David recognizing the man's prowess, and leadership ability, made him a general over a third part of the troops**. So they divided the troops into three battalions. One under the headship of Joab, the other under his brother Abishai, and the third under Ittai.

**2Sa 18:3** *But the people answered, "You shall not go out! For if we flee away, they will not care about us; nor if half of us die, will they care about us. But you are worth ten thousand of us now. For you are now more help to us in the city."*

- **You shall not go out! We can run. They are not really after us.** They do not care if half of us die.
- **For you are now more help to us in the city.** You are the one they are after. They are not really after us. They do not care about us. They are after you, and you are worth ten thousand of us, so you stay here in Mahanaim as our support."

**2Sa 18:4** *Then the king said to them, "Whatever seems best to you I will do." So the king stood beside the gate, and all the people went out by hundreds and by thousands.*

- **So the people came out of Mahanaim**, and David was there at the gates, greeting them; encouraging them as they went out to war.

**2Sa 18:5** *Now the king had commanded Joab, Abishai, and Ittai, saying, "Deal gently for my (not Absalom's) sake with the young man Absalom." And all the people heard when the king gave all the captains orders concerning Absalom.*

- **David is asking his generals**, "Now, for my sake, go easy with Absalom." David still had a love for his son. Though he was a wayward son, though he was a rebellious son, though he was right now in the midst of his rebellion of his father; we still see David's love. "Go easy with him. Take it easy. Deal gently."

**2Sa 18:6** *So the people went out into the field of battle against Israel. And the battle was in the woods of Ephraim.*

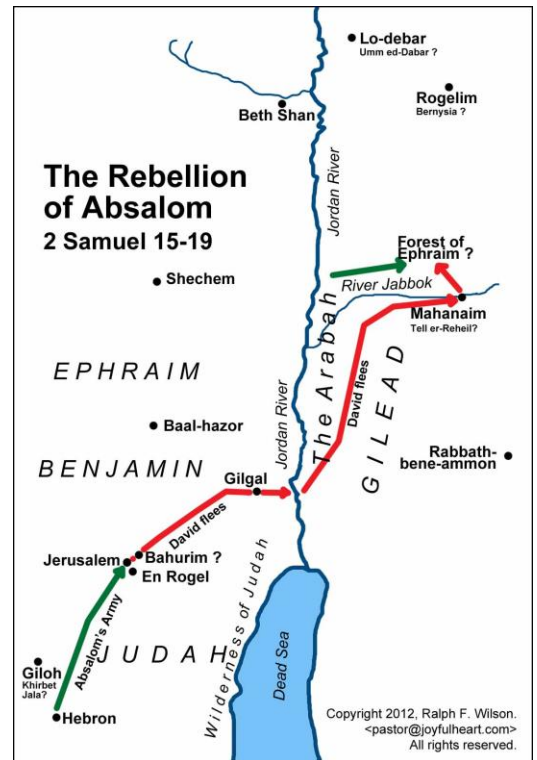
- **They are near the city of Mahanaim on the east side of Jordan** in the tribe of Gad. Many believe the Forest or Woods of Ephraim is that area given to us in Judges chapter 12, where the Ephraimites came to that side. They were in a battle there. Some of them evidently stayed there. Remember, the ones that wanted to come back, if they could not say Sh0ibboleth the right way, they got killed at the river. Evidently a number that stayed in that area and lived in that area, here described as the woods of Ephraim. (*Jdg 12:4-6*) *Now Jephthah gathered together all the men of Gilead and fought against Ephraim. And the men of Gilead defeated Ephraim, because they said, "You Gileadites are fugitives of Ephraim among the Ephraimites and among the Manassites."* [5] *The Gileadites seized the fords of the Jordan before the Ephraimites arrived. And when any Ephraimite who escaped said, "Let me cross over," the men of Gilead would say to him, "Are you an Ephraimite?" If he said, "No," [6] then they would say to him, "Then say, 'Shibboleth!'" And he would say, "Sibboleth," for he could not pronounce it right. Then they would take him and kill him at the fords of the Jordan. There fell at that time forty-two thousand Ephraimites.*

**2Sa 18:7** *The people of Israel were overthrown there before the servants of David, and a great slaughter of twenty thousand took place there that day.*

- **From confusion in the woods as the people tried to flee** from the forces of Joab, and Abishai, and Ittai. Here the generals choose to make their defense. Everything in the terrain favors the experienced soldier, the brave soldier who is able to have these people they come in hundreds at a time rather than thousands at a time, like having to come in through a narrow pass. You do not have to defeat the whole army, you just have to kill them as quickly as they come through that pass! Now they see what it is to take counsel *against the Lord and his anointed*, and to think of *breaking his bands asunder*. And that they might see that God fought against them,

**2Sa 18:8** *For the battle there was scattered over the face of the whole countryside, and the woods devoured more people that day than the sword devoured.*

- **So the "double camp" or second host of Mahanaim did more work** that day than the army did. The Lord allowing the forest, the circumstances to take place where God has joined the battle and the forest devoured more people that day than the sword.



**2Sa 18:9** Then Absalom met the servants of David. Absalom rode on a mule. The mule went under the thick boughs of a great terebinth (also translated oak) tree, and his head (Josephus says by his hair) caught in the terebinth; so he was left hanging between heaven and earth. And the mule which was under him went on.

- As he was going through on his mule, you remember he had this long hair. Evidently his hair got hung up in the bough of an oak and he was just sort of hanging there from this branch, because the mule kept going, and he just got ripped off.

**2Sa 18:10-11** Now a certain man saw it and told Joab, and said, "I just saw Absalom hanging in a terebinth tree!" [11] So Joab said to the man who told him, "You just saw him! And why did you not strike him there to the ground? I would have given you ten shekels of silver and a belt."

- "Man, I would have rewarded you!"

**2Sa 18:12** But the man said to Joab, "Though I were to receive a thousand shekels of silver in my hand, I would not raise my hand against the king's son. For in our hearing the king commanded you and Abishai and Ittai, saying, 'Beware lest anyone touch the young man Absalom!'"

- I heard what the king said, I am not going to touch that man, the king's son, because I know David and I know his command."

**2Sa 18:13-15** Otherwise I would have dealt falsely against my own life. For there is nothing hidden from the king, and you yourself would have set yourself against me." [14] Then Joab said, "I cannot linger with you." And he took three spears in his hand and thrust them through Absalom's heart, while he was still alive in the midst of the terebinth tree. [15] And ten young men who bore Joab's armor surrounded Absalom, and struck and killed him.

- Making sure he was dead.

**2Sa 18:16** So Joab blew the trumpet, and the people returned from pursuing Israel. For Joab held back the people.

- He stops the bloodshed before there is any more. There are over 20,000 dead at this point in time, And they return from pursuing after Israel, for Joab held back the people. There are some admirable things about Joab's character.

**2Sa 18:17-18** And they took Absalom and cast him into a large pit in the woods, and laid a very large heap of stones over him. Then all Israel fled, everyone to his tent. [18] Now Absalom in his lifetime had taken and set up a pillar for himself, which is in the King's Valley. For he said, "I have no son to keep my name in remembrance." He called the pillar after his own name. And to this day it is called Absalom's Monument.

- Just a little footnote on Absalom. He is slain. Interesting that he says he has no sons. (2Sa 14:27a) To Absalom were born three sons, and one daughter whose name was Tamar. They must have all died. Absalom was concerned about his name being remembered. So, there in the valley, he carved a pillar, that they called Absalom's pillar. Today when you go to Jerusalem, looking down in the Kidron valley from the area near the southeast corner of the temple mount, you see elaborate tombs that have been carved in the sandstone, down in the valley floor.

### **David Hears of Absalom's Death**

**2Sa 18:19-20** Then Ahimaaz the son of Zadok said, "Let me run now and take the news to the king, how the LORD has avenged him of his enemies." [20] And Joab said to him, "You shall not take the news this day, for you shall take the news another day. But today you shall take no news, because the king's son is dead."

- Joab does not want Ahimaaz's name to be associated with kind of the darkness of the day in David's heart, and so he wants to send a different messenger. He only wants this kid, a friend of the family, carrying only good news.

**2Sa 18:21** Then Joab said to the Cushite, "Go, tell the king what you have seen." So the Cushite bowed himself to Joab and ran.

- Joab wanted a foreigner to carry the news of Absalom's death.

**2Sa 18:22-23** And Ahimaaz the son of Zadok said again to Joab, "But whatever happens, please let me also run after the Cushite." So Joab said, "Why will you run, my son, since you have no news ready?" [23] "But whatever happens," he said, "let me run." So he said to him, "Run." Then Ahimaaz ran by way of the plain (a longer route but more favorable terrain), and outran the Cushite.

- **Ahimaaz.** Here is the runner who was the son of the priest, who brought David tidings. David had sort of appointed him as the official messenger or runner. He is wanting to run and tell David the news, but Joab says, "You don't know the whole story yet." "Yes, but I want to run."
- **Running without a message.** How many people are guilty of that today? "I want to run!" "Yes but you do not have anything to say." "Yes, but I want to run!" It is not only important to run, but it is also important to have a message. To have something to say. And you know, he outran his buddy, but yet without the message.
- **Am I at all guilty of just wanting to run, but without having been given a message?**

**2Sa 18:24** Now David was sitting between the two gates. And the watchman went up to the roof over the gate, to the wall, lifted his eyes and looked, and there was a man, running alone.

- There were these little chambers within the double gates. An outer gate to the city and then the inner gate. In between them were these chambers where the guards would defend the city. So, if they would break through the outer gate, then the guards would meet them. David was sitting between these two gates, there in the city, waiting for the news of the battle.

**2Sa 18:25-28** Then the watchman cried out and told the king. And the king said, "If he is alone, there is news in his mouth." And he came rapidly and drew near. [26] Then the watchman saw another man running, and the watchman called to the gatekeeper and said, "There is another man, running alone!" And the king said, "He also brings news." [27] So the watchman said, "I think the running of the first is like the running of Ahimaaz the son of Zadok." And the king said, "He is a good man, and comes with good news." [28] So Ahimaaz called out and said to the king, "All is well!" Then he bowed down with his face to the earth before the king, and said, "Blessed be the LORD your God, who has delivered up the men who raised their hand against my lord the king!"

- "King David," Ahimaaz said, "We have won! The victory is ours, all is well!"

**2Sa 18:29** The king said, "Is the young man Absalom safe?" Ahimaaz answered, "When Joab sent the king's servant and me your servant, I saw a great tumult, but I did not know what it was about."

- Joab had told him that Absalom was dead, however he did not give him any details. Ahimaaz knew David's love for Absalom, and his concern. He did not want to break the news to David, concerning Absalom's death. He just wanted to bring him the good news that, "Your forces have victory today."

**2Sa 18:30** And the king said, "Turn aside and stand here." So he turned aside and stood still.

- In other words, he ran, he did not have the real message that David wanted to hear about. He did not have the news that David was most concerned with.

### David's Grief

**2Sa 18:31-32** Just then the Cushite came, and the Cushite said, "There is good news, my lord the king! For the LORD has avenged you this day of all those who rose against you." [32] And the king said to the Cushite, "Is the young man Absalom safe?" So the Cushite answered, "May the enemies of my lord the king, and all who rise against you to do harm, be like that young man!"

- David's chief concern was for the safety of his own son. Though his son was in rebellion against him, though his son was out to kill him, yet David's chief concern still was for the safety of Absalom. "Is the young man Absalom safe?" And Cushi answered, "May the enemies of my lord the king, and all who rise against you to do harm, be like that young man!" Absalom is dead!

**2Sa 18:33** Then the king was deeply moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept. And as he went, he said thus: "O my son Absalom—my son, my son Absalom—if only I had died in your place! O Absalom my son, my son!"

- David was wailing, lamenting over the death of his son. David had great cause to hate Absalom, and yet his love prevailed. Absalom was a rebel. He had rebelled against his father, yet David's love for him was deep, and David was forgiving.
- Absalom is a type of us, who have rebelled against God. We have rebelled against the authority of God, and yet God loves us! (Rom 5:8) But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us! Absalom was seeking to take his father's life.
- Man in his rebellion against God was so obdurate against God that when God sent His only begotten Son, they slew Him, hanging Him on a tree. David's love was so great for Absalom, that he

had wished that he could have died in Absalom's stead. **"if only I had died in your place!"** Would to God, I could die for you!"

- **God's love is so great for rebelling man, that God was willing to die for man! He did die for man, while we were still sinners! Christ died for us!**
- **The thing that David desired, but could not do in dying in Absalom's place, God did for us, in that Jesus died in our place, in order to redeem us unto Himself! Such love! Such deep love! Oh, that we could only know how much God does love us!**
- **Look at what David was willing to overlook.** Look what David was willing to forgive. All of the rebellion of Absalom. Absalom's own desire to kill his father. David was willing to forgive and overlook all of that, because of the depth of his love for his son.
- **Even more as God is willing to overlook all of our rebellion! All of our sin, because of the depth of God's love for you, and for me. So in the cry of David, we actually hear the cry of God, for His lost children. His desire to restore, His desire to forgive. To that end, He sent His only begotten Son.**
- **Do I really comprehend the similarity of David's love for his rebellious son, Absalom, to that of my Lord and Savior's love toward me and my rebellious heart? What love! What grace. How thankful am I?**
- **THANK YOU JESUS!** For giving Your life for me!

## SUMMARY

- ***It is difficult to put myself in Absalom's position as it is totally unspeakable, however in examining my pride, would I have been so influenced, as was Absalom was, by the aspect of my leading all of the people in Hushai's advice? Is my pride decreasing and my humility increasing?***
- ***Notice the purpose of the LORD here, as He is coming against both Ahithophel and Absalom! How clear is it in my heart that all things must be done in accordance with His purpose and His will and not my own? (2Sa 17:14)***
- ***Am I at all guilty of just wanting to run, but without having been given a message? (2Sa 18:23)***
- ***Do I really comprehend the similarity of David's love for his rebellious son, Absalom, to that of my Lord and Savior's love toward me and my rebellious heart? What love! What grace. How thankful am I? (2Sa 18:33)***

## THANK YOU JESUS FOR THE BLOOD - C. Gayle (3:41/3:44)

*I was a wretch, I remember who I was I was lost, I was blind, I was running out of time.  
Sin separated, the breach was far too wide But from the far side of the chasm, You had me in  
Your sight So You made a way, across the great divide Left behind, Heaven's throne, to build it  
here inside There at the cross You paid the debt I owed Broke my chains, Freed my soul and for  
the first time I had Hope*

*(Chorus) Thank You Jesus, for the blood applied Thank You Jesus, it has washed me white  
Thank You Jesus, You have saved my life Brought me from the darkness into glorious light*

*You took my place, laid inside my tomb of sin You were buried for three days but then You walked right out again Now death has no sting and life has no end For I have been transformed by the blood of the Lamb (Chorus)*

*Glory to His name Glory to His name There to my heart was the blood applied Glory to His name!*

## CLOSING PRAYER

**NEXT WEEK: Study 2 Samuel, Chapters 19-20!**