



LIFEGROUP RESOURCES: 05.18.25 Pulpit Curriculum

Absalom's Great Demise

Main passage: 2 Samuel 18:19-19:8

1) David Argues for Mercy (2 Sam. 18:1-5)

[2 Sam. 11:1; 2 Sam. 17]

- Absalom heads east to defeat his father (David) in military conquest. While David organizes his troops and readies himself to go into battle, he is urged to stay behind. David agrees and foolishly asks for the army to spare his son's life, despite the threat to the throne God promised him. David was blind to his inappropriate weakness regarding his rebellious son, even though Absalom wanted to end his life.

A) David's repentance

B) David's blindness

- A. Sin blinds you and it ultimately, wants your life (Rom. 6:23). John Owen once said, "Be killing sin, or sin will be killing you." What sin in your life do you need to mortify? In what ways have you seen it cause your spiritual eyes to dim? Who in your life can help you see these blind spots?
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- B. What graces of God help strengthen your repentance and protect you from spiritual blindness? _____
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2) Absalom's Strange Demise (2 Sam. 18:6-18)

[Prov. 5:21; 2 Chron. 11; 2 Sam. 3:12-32; 5; 6; 11; 17:14; 20; 1 Kings 1; 1 Kings 2:29-34; Deut. 21:18-23; Joshua 7; 8; 10]

- As Absalom heads into battle, 20,000 of his men are lost and his life comes to a brutal and cursed end, being killed by Joab and his armorbearers with spears while hanging stuck in a tree. He was then thrown in a great pit with large stones piled upon him.

A) There is nothing hidden from the King

- C. Many often attempt to "hide" sin from God. This is often an indication of a lack of knowledge of who He is which hinders a healthy fear of God. What



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attribute of God do you need to meditate on/learn more about the most?

B) Joab's rebellion

C) Cursed and stoned

D. Although we do not adhere to the Mosaic code any longer, there is still grave consequences to our sin and rebellion against God Almighty. Share a time where you received the correction and discipline of the Lord, and it led to much fruit in your life. _____

3) **David Receives the News**- (2 Sam. 18:19-33)

- Ahimaaz and a Cushite go to tell David the news about Absalom's death. Ahimaaz had zeal to share news to the king but was intimidated and ill-prepared to tell David the truth. Finally, the Cushite gently tells David that his son is dead and David laments bitterly, unhinged from reality.

A) The gift of youth

E. What are the blessings of zeal in gospel ministry? How can you ensure your zeal is accompanied by knowledge as well? _____

B) Dealing with unconsolable grief

F. Ecclesiastes tells us that there is a time to mourn and a time to rejoice. We must trust that Christ is faithful to bring healing. Is there grief in your life that you have held onto in an unhealthy way? How can your Lifegroup encourage you in the process and pray for you regarding this?

4) **Joab's Bold Confrontation** (2 Sam. 19:1-8)

[2 Sam. 7:16; 2 Sam.12:10]

- Instead of rejoicing because of the victory over Absalom, it was a time of mourning on account of David's lamenting his son. Joab confronts David's selfishness.

A) Joab's loyal truthfulness

G. A friend speaks the truth plainly but always in love. Who are the top 3 people in your life that you know will always "shoot it to you straight?" Take a moment to praise God for them and thank them for their loyalty and friendship. _____



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5) David's Family Failure (1 Kings 1:5, 6)

- David was disabled by guilt and shame and did not hold his son accountable. Thus, his family experienced great destruction.

H. How are you engaging in the discipleship of the next generation in your home, in the church, in your community? _____
