

## Bibles???

### The Word of God is the Absolute Truth and the Final Authority

Please turn your bibles with me to 1 King 2

We are continuing our verse-by-verse study through 1 Kings

And last week – we saw the transition from David's reign to his Solomon.

In our text this evening – we are going to see David give Solomon some wisdom before he dies – he gives him instruction on how to conduct himself as king I the yes of the Lord and we will see how Solomon responds to his father's wisdom.

And some of the same wisdom that David gives can be applied to our lives as well.

Let's pray...

I mentioned it last week – and I will mention it again this week,

David served 40 years as king over Israel.

And the scriptures tell us that he was man after God's own heart.

God used David to unify the kingdom,

to bring about God's will to His people,

And also, God used David to help bring deliverance over the enemies and to prepare for the building of the temple.

And therefore, David wants to make sure that he gives Solomon guidance for him to follow.

But there is a problem – you see, David – had a life of ups and downs.

Even from a young age – he was leading sheep, he was killing bears and lions and giants and spent years being hunted down by King Saul.

He lived in caves

He hung out with bad hombres.

God used these hardships to make him a leader.

Solomon on the other hand – no hardships.

Lived in the palace his entire life.

He was protected

We might use the word “mamma’s boy”

He didn’t have the upbringing that David did.

And we will see reference to this in David’s speech.

**[1Ki 2:1-46 NKJV] 1 Now the days of David drew near that he should die, and he charged Solomon his son, saying: 2 "I go the way of all the earth; be strong, therefore, and prove yourself a man. 3 "And keep the charge of the LORD your**

**God: to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes, His commandments, His judgments, and His testimonies, as it is written in the Law of Moses, that you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn; 4 "that the LORD may fulfill His word which He spoke concerning me, saying, 'If your sons take heed to their way, to walk before Me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul,' He said, 'you shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel.'**

**Turn with me to Deut 17**

David begins by telling Solomon – to make sure that he reigns over the people in the way God wanted the kings to rule over the people.

Keep in mind that this was given to the people before they entered the Promised Land –

This was 400 years before David and Solomon

They were supposed to be ruled by God – but they demanded a king, like the pagan nations around them. So God – knew they were going to do this and gives instructions for the rulers.

Notice the instructions -

**[Deu 17:16-20 NKJV] 16 "But he shall not multiply horses for himself, nor cause the people to return to Egypt to multiply horses, for the LORD has said to you, 'You shall not return that way again.' 17 "Neither shall he multiply wives for**

himself, lest his heart turn away; nor shall he greatly multiply silver and gold for himself. 18 "Also it shall be, when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write for himself a copy of this law in a book, from [the one] before the priests, the Levites. 19 "And it shall be with him, and he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God and be careful to observe all the words of this law and these statutes, 20 "that his heart may not be lifted above his brethren, that he may not turn aside from the commandment [to] the right hand or [to] the left, and that he may prolong [his] days in his kingdom, he and his children in the midst of Israel.

Solomon as we will see in a few weeks (4:26) 40,000 stalls of horse for his chariots (10:28) he had horses imported from Egypt.

(11:3) He had 700 wives, 300 concubines

(10:23) He surpassed all the kings of the earth in riches

You know why God focused on these three things?

Because they are the same things that we struggle with today.

Power

Pleasure

Wealth

God didn't want the kings to put their trust in these things –

He wanted them to trust Him

The kings were also to be students of God's word – to be guided daily in everything they did.

They were to walk in the way of the Lord –

The same goes for you and me.

It takes real commitment to walk in the ways of the Lord

Because when we chose to follow God – we are choosing to go against the current of this world.

We are choosing the narrow way – not the wide way that everyone is taking.

**5 "Moreover you know also what Joab the son of Zeruiah did to me, [and] what he did to the two commanders of the armies of Israel, to Abner the son of Ner and Amasa the son of Jether, whom he killed. And he shed the blood of war in peacetime, and put the blood of war on his belt that [was] around his waist, and on his sandals that [were] on his feet. 6 "Therefore do according to your wisdom, and do not let his gray hair go down to the grave in peace.**

Both Abner and Amasa were killed by Joab in a time of peace.

Both men were killed by Joab against David's wishes.

Both men's deaths caused David much trouble.

Joab was very loyal to David – but he always didn't do what was right.

I don't believe that David is asking Solomon to clean up his mess or to do what he was unable to do.

I believe that David is warning Solomon that Joab will be a problem for him (we already saw last week that Joab went to the BBQ that was thrown by Adonijah)

**7 "But show kindness to the sons of Barzillai the Gileadite, and let them be among those who eat at your table, for so they came to me when I fled from Absalom your brother. 8 "And see, [you have] with you Shimei the son of Gera, a Benjamite from Bahurim, who cursed me with a malicious curse in the day when I went to Mahanaim. But he came down to meet me at the Jordan, and I swore to him by the LORD, saying, 'I will not put you to death with the sword.' 9 "Now therefore, do not hold him guiltless, for you [are] a wise man and know what you ought to do to him; but bring his gray hair down to the grave with blood."**

So David gives Solomon a charge to these two individuals – to the one that showed kindness to him – be kind to him. Bless him.

To the other guy Shimei -

When David was fleeing Absalom – not only did this guy curse David, he also threw rocks at him, and the reason that David didn't kill him was because he didn't know if it was of God.

So what David is telling Solomon is – “I promised not to kill him – but I didn't say anything about you”

So – do what is right.

If you let him live, he will bring you trouble.

David knew he can handle these two guys – he knows that Solomon might not be able to.

**10 So David rested with his fathers, and was buried in the City of David. 11 The period that David reigned over Israel [was] forty years; seven years he reigned in Hebron, and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty-three years. 12 Then Solomon sat on the throne of his father David; and his kingdom was firmly established.**

This phrase is going to be repeated at the end of the chapter –

This wasn't something that David did on his own.

God firmly established his kingdom.

And it was God who firmly transferred power to His chosen king.

**13 Now Adonijah the son of Haggith came to Bathsheba the mother of Solomon. So she said, "Do you come peaceably?" And he said, "Peaceably."**

Remember from our study last week – Adonijah tried to undermine the kingdom.

He tried to make himself king over Solomon.

And at the end of the chapter – Solomon, after he was anointed king, showed grace and mercy to him and let him live.

But he was going to keep an eye on him.

**14 Moreover he said, "I have something [to say] to you." And she said, "Say it."**

**15 Then he said, "You know that the kingdom was mine, and all Israel had set their expectations on me, that I should reign. However, the kingdom has been turned over, and has become my brother's; for it was his from the LORD. 16**

**"Now I ask one petition of you; do not deny me." And she said to him, "Say it."**

**17 Then he said, "Please speak to King Solomon, for he will not refuse you, that he may give me Abishag the Shunammite as wife." 18 So Bathsheba said, "Very well, I will speak for you to the king."**

So here we have proof that Adonijah had not repented.

At the end of chapter 1 as he was crying out for mercy – those cries, as he was holding on to the horns of the altar – they were as a result of what was going to happen to him.



And here – he is continuing to plot to undermine Solomon.

He is looking for ways to be able to make a claim to the throne.

So he comes before Bathsheba – Solomon’s mom and tells her to ask David if he can have David’s concubine – Abishag, the virgin nurse, that took care of him before he died.

So what would Absalom want with Abishag?

Because in the Old Testament times -it was viewed as a connection to the king.

When Absalom makes himself king – one of the first things he does is he takes over David’s concubines.

Adonijah is setting himself up to look like David’s heir to the throne.

Now – for those of us that didn’t read the chapter –

You think something good is going to happen to Adonijah or bad???

Bad – because he hasn’t truly repented.

There is some application for us here –

Regarding repentance –

If our repentance is not real – bad awaits us

It is not going to get good with fake repentance

Relationships are not going to be restored with fake repentance

God is not going to bless us when we are not being sincere in our repentance

**19 Bathsheba therefore went to King Solomon, to speak to him for Adonijah. And the king rose up to meet her and bowed down to her, and sat down on his throne and had a throne set for the king's mother; so she sat at his right hand.**

Now, the question is why would Bathsheba go to Solomon?

I believe it was because she knew his response –

She knew exactly what Adonijah was doing and she is going to give Solomon the perfect reason to get rid of Adonijah.

**20 Then she said, "I desire one small petition of you; do not refuse me." And the king said to her, "Ask it, my mother, for I will not refuse you." 21 So she said, "Let Abishag the Shunammite be given to Adonijah your brother as wife." 22 And King Solomon answered and said to his mother, "Now why do you ask Abishag the Shunammite for Adonijah? Ask for him the kingdom also--for he [is] my older brother--for him, and for Abiathar the priest, and for Joab the son of Zeruiah." 23 Then King Solomon swore by the LORD, saying, "May God do so to me, and more also, if Adonijah has not spoken this word against his own life! 24 "Now therefore, [as] the LORD lives, who has confirmed me and set me on the throne of David my father, and who has established a house for me, as He promised,**

**Adonijah shall be put to death today!" 25 So King Solomon sent by the hand of Benaiah the son of Jehoiada; and he struck him down, and he died.**

So when Solomon hears Bathsheba's request.

He knew exactly what Adonijah was doing

He knew that he was continuing to try to conspire to become king.

He knew that Adonijah had violated his parole.

So Solomon is quick to give justice to Adonijah.

**26 And to Abiathar the priest the king said, "Go to Anathoth, to your own fields, for you [are] deserving of death; but I will not put you to death at this time, because you carried the ark of the Lord GOD before my father David, and because you were afflicted every time my father was afflicted." 27 So Solomon removed Abiathar from being priest to the LORD, that he might fulfill the word of the LORD which He spoke concerning the house of Eli at Shiloh.**

Abiathar was one of those that conspired with Adonijah to lay claim to the throne –

Solomon spared his life – because he had served David

However, Solomon sends him into exile – meaning he was also removed from being a priest.

Which is a fulfillment of something we find back in 1 Samuel 2

**[1Sa 2:30-32 NKJV] 30 "Therefore the LORD God of Israel says: 'I said indeed [that] your house and the house of your father would walk before Me forever.' But now the LORD says: 'Far be it from Me; for those who honor Me I will honor, and those who despise Me shall be lightly esteemed. 31 'Behold, the days are coming that I will cut off your arm and the arm of your father's house, so that there will not be an old man in your house. 32 'And you will see an enemy [in My] dwelling place, [despite] all the good which God does for Israel. And there shall not be an old man in your house forever.**

That starts now.

So – now we move to the third conspirator.

**28 Then news came to Joab, for Joab had defected to Adonijah, though he had not defected to Absalom. So Joab fled to the tabernacle of the LORD, and took hold of the horns of the altar. 29 And King Solomon was told, "Joab has fled to the tabernacle of the LORD; there [he is], by the altar." Then Solomon sent Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, saying, "Go, strike him down." 30 So Benaiah went to the tabernacle of the LORD, and said to him, "Thus says the king, 'Come out!' " And he said, "No, but I will die here." And Benaiah brought back word to the king, saying, "Thus said Joab, and thus he answered me." 31 Then the king said to him, "Do as he has said, and strike him down and bury him, that you may take away from me and from the house of my father the innocent blood which Joab**

shed. 32 "So the LORD will return his blood on his head, because he struck down two men more righteous and better than he, and killed them with the sword--Abner the son of Ner, the commander of the army of Israel, and Amasa the son of Jether, the commander of the army of Judah--though my father David did not know [it]. 33 "Their blood shall therefore return upon the head of Joab and upon the head of his descendants forever. But upon David and his descendants, upon his house and his throne, there shall be peace forever from the LORD." 34 So Benaiah the son of Jehoiada went up and struck and killed him; and he was buried in his own house in the wilderness.

Now, It's possible that Joab thought that he might truly find mercy from Solomon if he clung to the altar, but the truth is, God's Word actually gave Solomon permission to have Joab put to death at the altar because he was a condemned murderer.

We looked at the verse in Exodus 21:12 – which said that if someone committed murder – they had to die – they couldn't hold on to the horns of the altar.

So Solomon is listening to His father's advice.

35 The king put Benaiah the son of Jehoiada in his place over the army, and the king put Zadok the priest in the place of Abiathar. 36 Then the king sent and called for Shimei, and said to him, "Build yourself a house in Jerusalem and dwell there, and do not go out from there anywhere. 37 "For it shall be, on the

day you go out and **cross the Brook Kidron**, know for certain you shall surely die; your blood shall be on your own head." 38 And Shimei said to the king, "The saying [is] good. As my lord the king has said, so your servant will do." So Shimei dwelt in Jerusalem many days.

Shimei is the one who cursed David and threw stones at him –

Notice that Solomon doesn't execute him.

He tells him first that he will be in house arrest.

But he also tells him to move –

You see, Shimei was a Benjamite. (2 Sam 16)

That is why he didn't like David – his loyalty was to Saul.

Solomon shows him mercy – but he has to move to Jerusalem – to keep an eye on him.

Now – keep in mind what happened to Adonijah – mercy was shown to him as long as he behaved.

Mercy is shown to Shimei as long as he abides by the rules of his house arrest.

**39 Now it happened at the end of three years, that two slaves of Shimei ran away to Achish the son of Maachah, king of Gath. And they told Shimei, saying, "Look, your slaves [are] in Gath!" 40 So Shimei arose, saddled his donkey, and went to**

Achish at Gath to seek his slaves. And Shimei went and brought his slaves from Gath. 41 And Solomon was told that Shimei had gone from Jerusalem to Gath and had come back. 42 Then the king sent and called for Shimei, and said to him, “Did I not make you swear by the LORD, and warn you, saying, ‘Know for certain that on the day you go out and travel anywhere, you shall surely die’? And you said to me, ‘The word I have heard [is] good.’ 43 “Why then have you not kept the oath of the LORD and the commandment that I gave you?” 44 The king said moreover to Shimei, “You know, as your heart acknowledges, all the wickedness that you did to my father David; therefore the LORD will return your wickedness on your own head. 45 “But King Solomon [shall be] blessed, and the throne of David shall be established before the LORD forever.” 46 So the king commanded Benaiah the son of Jehoiada; and he went out and struck him down, and he died. Thus the kingdom was established in the hand of Solomon.

Shimei obeyed for three years and then he disobeyed.

He decided that he could disobey the king’s commands and go after his two servants.

Shimei felt he no longer needed to be concerned about Solomon.

He felt that he could push the envelope

He wanted to see how much he could get away with –

And I think that sometimes, we follow in Shimei’s footsteps

We want to see how close we can get to a certain sin

How much we can get away with

Shimei had lost a sense of gratitude for the mercy both David & Solomon had shown him.

So much so, he'd stopped thinking about his duty to the king altogether.

All he had to do when his slaves ran off was to ask Solomon for help – but it never occurred to him.

And because Shimei had stopped thinking about his duty to Solomon, he forgot about that line that marked the difference between life & death

This is why Jesus calls us to celebrate communion – so that we'd never forget Him or lose grip on the gratitude we ought to have for His forgiveness.

Amen

Let's pray...

To Receive Christ do the following:

Admit, "I am a sinner."



Confess and be willing to turn from your sin.

Believe, by faith that Jesus Christ died for you on the cross.

Receive, through prayer, Jesus Christ into your heart and receive eternal life.

Dear Lord Jesus,

I know that I am a sinner and need Your forgiveness. I believe that You died on the cross for my sins. Please forgive me for my sins and cleanse me by Your blood. I accept You by faith as my personal Lord and Savior. Give me a thirst for Your Word and Help me to follow You all of my days. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

[Num 6:24-26 NLT] 24 '

May the LORD bless you and protect you.

May the LORD smile on you and be gracious to you.

May the LORD show you his favor and give you his peace.'