

1 & 2 Samuel (A Man After God's Own Heart)

God Pursues David, Part 4

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Chapters 1 to 4 of 2 Sameul tell a story of David mourning and patience to become what he was anointed to do.

2 Samuel 1

1 After the death of Saul, when David had returned from striking down the Amalekites, David remained two days in Ziklag. 2 And on the third day, behold, a man came from Saul's camp, with his clothes torn and dirt on his head. And when he came to David, he fell to the ground and paid homage. 3 David said to him, "Where do you come from?" And he said to him, "I have escaped from the camp of Israel." 4 And David said to him, "How did it go? Tell me." And he answered, "The people fled from the battle, and also many of the people have fallen and are dead, and Saul and his son Jonathan are also dead." 5 Then David said to the young man who told him, "How do you know that Saul and his son Jonathan are dead?" 6 And the young man who told him said, "By chance I happened to be on Mount Gilboa, and there was Saul leaning on his spear, and behold, the chariots and the horsemen were close upon him. 7 And when he looked behind him, he saw me, and called to me. And I answered, 'Here I am.' 8 And he said to me, 'Who are you?' I answered him, 'I am an Amalekite.' 9 And he said to me, 'Stand beside me and kill me, for anguish has seized me, and yet my life still lingers.' 10 So I stood beside him and killed him, because I was sure that he could not live after he had fallen. And I took the crown that was on his head and the armlet that was on his arm, and I have brought them here to my lord."

- Saul disobeyed God's command to destroy the Amalekites and now they would be the very people would destroy him. Cf. **1 Samuel 15:2-3**.

17 And David lamented with this lamentation over Saul and Jonathan his son, 23 "Saul and Jonathan, beloved and lovely! In life and in death they were not divided; they were swifter than eagles; they were stronger than lions. 24 "You daughters of Israel, weep over Saul, who clothed you luxuriously in scarlet, who put ornaments of gold on your apparel. 25 "How the mighty have fallen in the midst of the battle! "Jonathan lies slain on your high places.

- Saul, without repentance, took away David's best years of his life. Yet David wept, mourned, and fasted when he heard of Saul's death. Cf. **Matthew 5:43-44; Romans 12:14**

26 I am distressed for you, my brother Jonathan; very pleasant have you been to me; your love to me was extraordinary, surpassing the love of women. 27 "How the mighty have fallen, and the weapons of war perished!"

- Surpassing the love of women – David had 8 wives (Cf. 2 Samuel 3:2-5; 1 Chronicles 3:1-3) one of whom was Jonathan's sister, Michal. It was not a great relationship because Michal was "won" in a contest defeating the Philistines. We don't see her truly connected with David and would reject his love later. Cf. **1 Samuel 18:1-5**

- David was a success in his “career” but failed in his family. Showing good

2 Samuel 2

1 After this David inquired of the Lord, “Shall I go up into any of the cities of Judah?” And the Lord said to him, “Go up.” David said, “To which shall I go up?” And he said, “To Hebron.” 2 So David went up there, and his two wives also, Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail the widow of Nabal of Carmel. 3 And David brought up his men who were with him, everyone with his household, and they lived in the towns of Hebron. 4 And the men of Judah came, and there they anointed David king over the house of Judah.

- David will have 3 anointings and coronations: 1) Privately by Samuel (Cf. 1 Samuel 16); 2) Publicly for Judah (Southern Kingdom); 3) Publicly Over All Israel (Cf. 2 Samuel 5)
- We never see David try to rush the process of God. He is obedient to work in his season.

8 But Abner the son of Ner, commander of Saul's army, took Ish-bosheth the son of Saul and brought him over to Mahanaim, 9 and he made him king over Gilead and the Ashurites and Jezreel and Ephraim and Benjamin and all Israel. 10 Ish-bosheth, Saul's son, was forty years old when he began to reign over Israel, and he reigned two years. But the house of Judah followed David. 11 And the time that David was king in Hebron over the house of Judah was seven years and six months.

- Abner was the commander of the armies for Ishbosheth. Joab was the commander of the armies for David.

2 Samuel 3

1 There was a long war between the house of Saul and the house of David. And David grew stronger and stronger, while the house of Saul became weaker and weaker.

27 And when Abner returned to Hebron, Joab took him aside into the midst of the gate to speak with him privately, and there he struck him in the stomach, so that he died, for the blood of Asahel his brother. 28 Afterward, when David heard of it, he said, “I and my kingdom are forever guiltless before the Lord for the blood of Abner the son of Ner. 29 May it fall upon the head of Joab and upon all his father's house, and may the house of Joab never be without one who has a discharge or who is leprous or who holds a spindle or who falls by the sword or who lacks bread!”

31 Then David said to Joab and to all the people who were with him, “Tear your clothes and put on sackcloth and mourn before Abner.” And King David followed the bier. 32 They buried Abner at Hebron. And the king lifted up his voice and wept at the grave of Abner, and all the people wept.

37 So all the people and all Israel understood that day that it had not been the king's will to put to death Abner the son of Ner. 38 And the king said to his servants, “Do you not know that a prince and a great man has fallen this day in Israel? 39 And I was gentle today, though anointed king.

2 Samuel 4

1 When Ish-bosheth, Saul's son, heard that Abner had died at Hebron, his courage failed, and all Israel was dismayed.

5 Now the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, Rechab and Baanah, set out, and about the heat of the day they came to the house of Ish-bosheth as he was taking his noonday rest. 6 And they came into the midst of the house as if to get wheat, and they stabbed him in the stomach. Then Rechab and Baanah his brother escaped.

7 When they came into the house, as he lay on his bed in his bedroom, they struck him and put him to death and beheaded him. They took his head and went by the way of the Arabah all night, 8 and brought the head of Ish-bosheth to David at Hebron. And they said to the king, "Here is the head of Ish-bosheth, the son of Saul, your enemy, who sought your life. The Lord has avenged my lord the king this day on Saul and on his offspring."

9 But David answered Rechab and Baanah his brother, the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, "As the Lord lives, who has redeemed my life out of every adversity, 10 when one told me, 'Behold, Saul is dead,' and thought he was bringing good news, I seized him and killed him at Ziklag, which was the reward I gave him for his news.

Psalm 78:70-72

70 He chose David his servant and took him from the sheepfolds; 71 from following the nursing ewes he brought him to shepherd Jacob his people, Israel his inheritance. 72 With upright heart he shepherded them and guided them with his skillful hand. Cf.

Romans 12:17-21

You won't build the kingdom of God without kingdom values. See **Matthew 5:1-12**.

Discipleship Homework:

Our theme references David being a "man after his [God's] own heart." Throughout 1 and 2 Samuel God pursues this newly anointed king to lead His people.

- How did David respond to Saul, Jonathan, Abner, and Ish-bosheth dying? What does this reveal about David's heart?
- Can you recall a moment when you felt God calling to take a certain course of action, but the outcomes didn't align with your initial expectations? How do you respond when God doesn't meet your expectations? How can you learn to trust Him more in the process?
- Read Matthew 5:1-12. These are the values that we are called to live by. Spend some time asking the Holy Spirit to guide you in these truths.
- Have questions about the message or need help with the homework? Please email Pastor Jarrod at jarrod@1116.church.