

project 4:4

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David: Trouble in the Kingdom Lesson 16

April 18, 2010

This Week

▶ We'll cover readings for April 11-April 18

▶ **Absalom's Rebellion**

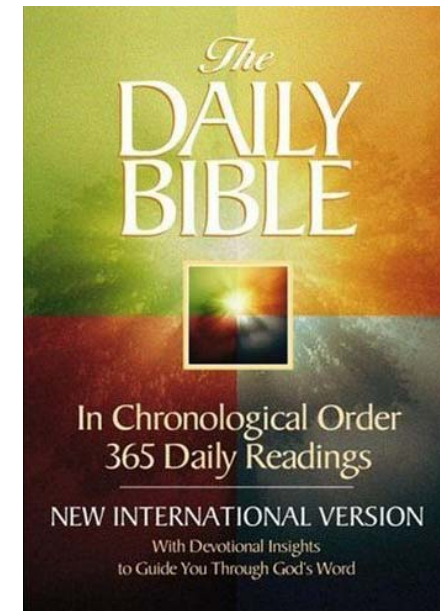
- ▶ Amnon rapes Tamar, Absalom kills Amnon, Joab brings Absalom back
- ▶ Absalom rebels, David goes into exile, Shimei curses David, Hushai advises Absalom
- ▶ David's warriors defeat Absalom, Absalom is killed, David mourns and
- ▶ regains throne, Sheba rebels and is killed

▶ **Two Major Calamities**

- ▶ Seven descendants of Saul killed to avenge Gibeonites and end famine
- ▶ David counts soldiers and Israel is punished

▶ **Preparations for Building the Temple**

- ▶ David gathers materials and assigns Levitical roles
- ▶ David instructs Solomon



David – A Man’s After God’s Heart

- ▶ We talked last week about what made David “a man after God’s own heart”
- ▶ What were some of those things?
 - ▶ Sincere heart
 - ▶ Devotion to God
 - ▶ Penitent spirit
 - ▶ Deep desire to know God
 - ▶ Thankfulness
- ▶ We’ll see a few more examples in this week’s lesson



David Answers the Lord

▶ 2 Samuel 7:22-24 (page 450)

- ▶ ²²“How great you are, O Sovereign LORD! There is no one like you, and there is no God but you, as we have heard with our own ears. ²³And who is like your people Israel—the one nation on earth that God went out to redeem as a people for himself, and to make a name for himself, and to perform great and awesome wonders by driving out nations and their gods from before your people, whom you redeemed from Egypt? ²⁴You have established your people Israel as your very own forever, and you, O LORD, have become their God.



Sound Familiar?

▶ Deuteronomy 4:32-34 (page 209)

- ▶ ³²Ask now about the former days, long before your time, from the day God created man on the earth; ask from one end of the heavens to the other. Has anything so great as this ever happened, or has anything like it ever been heard of? ³³Has any other people heard the voice of God speaking out of fire, as you have, and lived? ³⁴Has any god ever tried to take for himself one nation out of another nation, by testings, by miraculous signs and wonders, by war, by a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, or by great and awesome deeds, like all the things the LORD your God did for you in Egypt before your very eyes?



David's Punishment

▶ 2 Samuel 12:7-9 (page 455)

- ▶ ⁷Then Nathan said to David, “You are the man! This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: ‘I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. ⁸I gave your master’s house to you, and your master’s wives into your arms. I gave you the house of Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more. ⁹Why did you despise the word of the LORD by doing what is evil in his eyes? You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife to be your own. You killed him with the sword of the Ammonites.



David's Punishment (cont)

▶ 2 Samuel 12:10-12 (page 455)

- ▶ ¹⁰Now, therefore, **the sword will never depart from your house**, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own.' ¹¹“This is what the LORD says: ‘Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity upon you. Before your very eyes **I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will lie with your wives in broad daylight.**’ ¹²You did it in secret, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before all Israel.’”



A Quick Summary ...

- ▶ Amnon rapes Tamar
- ▶ Absalom consoles Tamar, but harbors vengeance against Amnon
- ▶ **Absalom plots and kills Amnon**, then flees to Geshur
- ▶ Joab convinces David to bring Absalom back to Jerusalem, where he steals the hearts of Israel
- ▶ Absalom declares himself king
- ▶ David and his loyal followers flee from Jerusalem



For Discussion

- ▶ In your view, is David an example of a good father?
 - ▶ What should he have done differently in his dealings with Amnon and Absalom?
 - ▶ Was David somehow at fault for what happened?
- ▶ How would you describe Absalom's driving motivations?
 - ▶ Was David at fault here?



David & Shimei

▶ 2 Samuel 16:5-8 (page 466)

- ▶ ⁵As King David approached Bahurim, a man from the same clan as Saul's family came out from there. His name was Shimei son of Gera, and he cursed as he came out. ⁶He pelted David and all the king's officials with stones, though all the troops and the special guard were on David's right and left. ⁷As he cursed, Shimei said, "Get out, get out, you man of blood, you scoundrel! ⁸The LORD has repaid you for all the blood you shed in the household of Saul, in whose place you have reigned. The LORD has handed the kingdom over to your son Absalom. You have come to ruin because you are a man of blood!"



David & Shimei (cont.)

▶ 2 Samuel 16:9-12 (page 466)

- ▶ ⁹Then Abishai son of Zeruiah said to the king, “Why should this dead dog curse my lord the king? Let me go over and cut off his head.” ¹⁰But the king said, “What do you and I have in common, you sons of Zeruiah? If he is cursing because the LORD said to him, ‘Curse David,’ who can ask, ‘Why do you do this?’” ¹¹David then said to Abishai and all his officials, “My son, who is of my own flesh, is trying to take my life. How much more, then, this Benjamite! Leave him alone; let him curse, for the LORD has told him to. ¹²It may be that the LORD will see my distress and repay me with good for the cursing I am receiving today.”



David & Shimei (cont.)

- ▶ 2 Samuel 16:13 (page 466)
 - ▶ ¹³So David and his men continued along the road while Shimei was going along the hillside opposite him, cursing as he went and throwing stones at him and showering him with dirt.
- ▶ What do we learn about David from this incident?



Meanwhile, Back at the Ranch

▶ 2 Samuel 16:21-23 (page 467)

- ▶ ²¹Ahithophel answered, “Lie with your father’s concubines whom he left to take care of the palace. Then all Israel will hear that you have made yourself a stench in your father’s nostrils, and the hands of everyone with you will be strengthened.” ²²So they pitched a tent for Absalom on the roof, and **he lay with his father’s concubines in the sight of all Israel.** ²³Now in those days the advice Ahithophel gave was like that of one who inquires of God. That was how both David and Absalom regarded all of Ahithophel’s advice.



Another Quick Summary

- ▶ Absalom's army goes out to attack David
- ▶ The two armies clash
- ▶ Absalom's hair get caught in a tree
- ▶ **Joab kills Absalom**, ending the battle
- ▶ David mourns for his son Absalom, but is scolded by Joab
- ▶ Judah calls for David's return



David & Shimei – Part Deux

- ▶ 2 Samuel 19: 15b-18a (page 472)
 - ▶ Now the men of Judah had come to Gilgal to go out and meet the king and bring him across the Jordan. ¹⁶Shimei son of Gera, the Benjamite from Bahurim, hurried down with the men of Judah to meet King David. ¹⁷With him were a thousand Benjamites, along with Ziba, the steward of Saul's household, and his fifteen sons and twenty servants. They rushed to the Jordan, where the king was. ¹⁸They crossed at the ford to take the king's household over and to do whatever he wished.



David & Shimei – Part Deux (cont)

- ▶ 2 Samuel 19: 18b-20 (page 472)
 - ▶ When Shimei son of Gera crossed the Jordan, he fell prostrate before the king ¹⁹and said to him, “May my lord not hold me guilty. Do not remember how your servant did wrong on the day my lord the king left Jerusalem. May the king put it out of his mind. ²⁰For I your servant know that I have sinned, but today I have come here as the first of the whole house of Joseph to come down and meet my lord the king.”



David & Shimei – Part Deux (cont)

▶ 2 Samuel 19: 21-23 (page 472)

▶ ²¹Then Abishai son of Zeruiah said, “Shouldn’t Shimei be put to death for this? He cursed the LORD’S anointed.”

²²David replied, “What do you and I have in common, you sons of Zeruiah? This day you have become my adversaries! Should anyone be put to death in Israel today? Do I not know that today I am king over Israel?”

²³So the king said to Shimei, “You shall not die.” And the king promised him on oath.

▶ What does this incident tell us about David?



The Census

- ▶ I Chronicles 21:1-5 (page 476)
 - ▶ ¹Satan rose up against Israel and incited David to take a census of Israel. ²So David said to Joab and the commanders of the troops, “Go and count the Israelites from Beersheba to Dan. Then report back to me so that I may know how many there are.” ³But Joab replied, “May the LORD multiply his troops a hundred times over. My lord the king, are they not all my lord’s subjects? Why does my lord want to do this? Why should he bring guilt on Israel?” ⁴The king’s word, however, overruled Joab; so Joab left and went throughout Israel and then came back to Jerusalem.



God's Anger

- ▶ I Chronicles 21:6-12 (pages 476-477)
 - ▶ ⁵Joab reported the number of the fighting men to David: In all Israel there were one million one hundred thousand men who could handle a sword, including four hundred and seventy thousand in Judah. ⁶But Joab did not include Levi and Benjamin in the numbering, because the king's command was repulsive to him. **⁷This command was also evil in the sight of God; so he punished Israel.** ⁸Then David said to God, "I have sinned greatly by doing this. Now, I beg you, take away the guilt of your servant. I have done a very foolish thing."



For Discussion

- ▶ Why was David's census of the soldiers a sin?
 - ▶ Hadn't there be censuses taken of the nation before?
 - ▶ (Have you turned yours in?)



David's Options

- ▶ I Chronicles 21:6-12 (page 477)
 - ▶ ⁹The LORD said to Gad, David's seer, ¹⁰“Go and tell David, ‘This is what the LORD says: I am giving you three options. Choose one of them for me to carry out against you.’” ¹¹So Gad went to David and said to him, “This is what the LORD says: ‘Take your choice: ¹²three years of famine, three months of being swept away before your enemies, with their swords overtaking you, or three days of the sword of the LORD—days of plague in the land, with the angel of the LORD ravaging every part of Israel.’ Now then, decide how I should answer the one who sent me.”



David Chooses

- ▶ I Chronicles 21:13-15 (page 477)
 - ▶ ¹³David said to Gad, “I am in deep distress. Let me fall into the hands of the LORD, for his mercy is very great; but do not let me fall into the hands of men.”
¹⁴So the LORD sent a plague on Israel, and seventy thousand men of Israel fell dead. ¹⁵And God sent an angel to destroy Jerusalem. But as the angel was doing so, the LORD saw it and was grieved because of the calamity and said to the angel who was destroying the people, “Enough! Withdraw your hand.” The angel of the LORD was then standing at the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite.

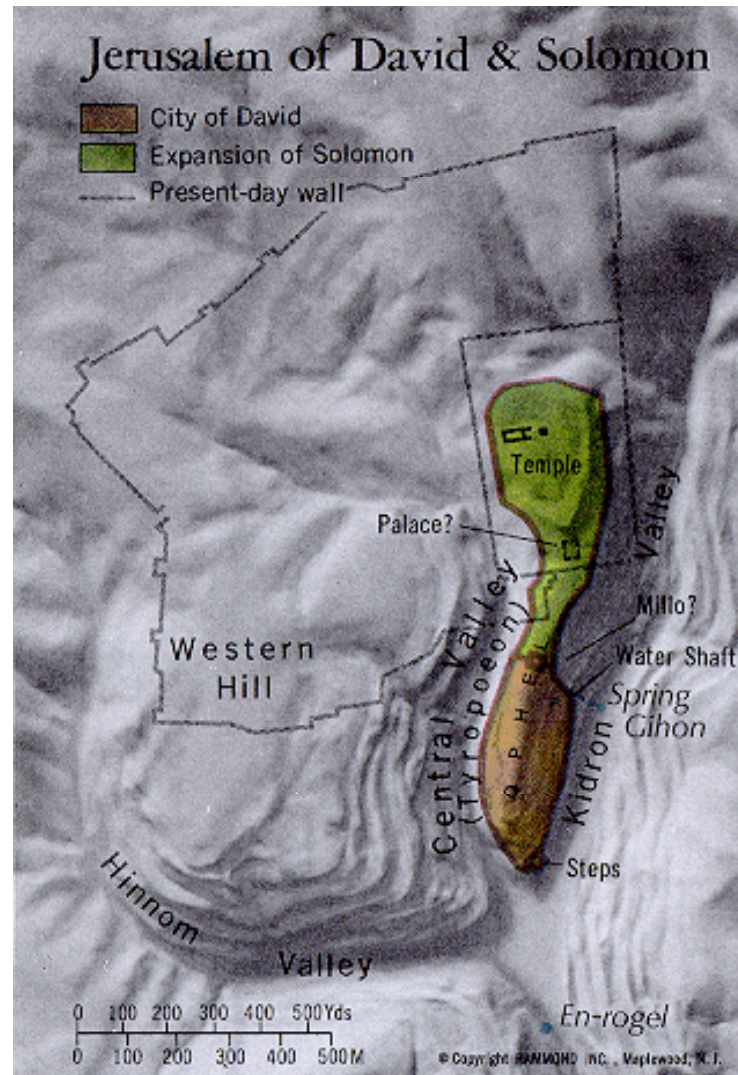


David's Confession

- ▶ I Chronicles 21:17-19 (page 477)
 - ▶ ¹⁷David said to God, “Was it not I who ordered the fighting men to be counted? **I am the one who has sinned and done wrong.** These are but sheep. What have they done? O LORD my God, let your hand fall upon me and my family, but do not let this plague remain on your people.” ¹⁸Then the angel of the LORD ordered Gad to tell David to go up and build an altar to the LORD on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite. ¹⁹So David went up in obedience to the word that Gad had spoken in the name of the LORD.



Jerusalem in David's Time



The Threshing Floor of Araunah

▶ I Chronicles 21:20-22 (page 477)

- ▶ ²⁰While Araunah was threshing wheat, he turned and saw the angel; his four sons who were with him hid themselves. ²¹Then David approached, and when Araunah looked and saw him, he left the threshing floor and bowed down before David with his face to the ground. ²²David said to him, “Let me have the site of your threshing floor so I can build an altar to the LORD, that the plague on the people may be stopped. Sell it to me at the full price.”



Araunah's Selfless Offer

- ▶ I Chronicles 21:23-24 (page 477-478)
 - ▶ ²³Araunah said to David, "Take it! Let my lord the king do whatever pleases him. Look, I will give the oxen for the burnt offerings, the threshing sledges for the wood, and the wheat for the grain offering. I will give all this."
²⁴But King David replied to Araunah, "No, I insist on paying the full price. **I will not take for the LORD what is yours, or sacrifice a burnt offering that costs me nothing.**"
- ▶ What does this say about David?
- ▶ How does this relate to our giving today?



Your Turn ...

- ▶ What insights have you gained from this week's study?
- ▶ What did you find in these passages that you have never seen before?
- ▶ How did the Lord speak to your heart through the Word this week?
- ▶ How will your walk with Him be different as a result?



Next Week

- ▶ Readings for April 19-April 24
 - ▶ Psalms of the Troubled Soul

Questions?

