

A Grief Observed & Hope in Christ

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2 Samuel 18:19-19:8

Oak Community Church (PCA)

A Brief Review

- Absalom erected a monument to himself^{25:18:18} ended up under a stone heap
- Joab had killed Absalom hanging in a tree^{25:18:14-15}, now David has to be told David must be told
- Ahimaaz desires to tell David, Joab refuses and sends a Cushite
- David like Eli^{15:4:13} waits by the gate for news
- Ahimaaz gets there 1st gives glory to God but falters when asked of Absalom
- Cushite gives news and states Absalom got what he deserved³²

David's Mourning Cry

- Good News of victory overshadowed by the loss of his son³³
- Narrator wants us to see David's grief
- Why? His son, his own failure to forgive and restore, if onlys...

Lessons:

- be careful to obey God's laws - David chose multiple wives^{Dt17:17}; be careful with our eyes & thoughts in leisure; even though a sinner be willing to confront others in love and truth of Word
- When we realize we've fallen short (sinned) don't seek to cover or ignore... Confess, repent and ask for God's grace to walk in new obedience
- It appears David felt disqualified to speak truth to his sons...
- God uses sinners as His ambassadors - 2 Cor 5:11-20
- All repentant sinners are called to be God's ambassadors for His glory!

David's Return to His Appointed Role

- David allowed his grief to overwhelm, lost sight of his God-given role
- Joab though brash and rash seemed to understand David's God-given role
- Joab speaks truth^{19:5-7} boldly and bluntly to David
- David responds^{19:8} when truth is spoken! Do you or do you double down?

So What?

- So why are these stories all here?
- While moral lessons are good they are only helpful with Gospel context!
- David is shown with all his sins so we can see that David was not the perfect king that God's people needed... only his promised Son, Jesus was!
- Absalom's rebellion should disgust us... but we are all Absaloms...
- We have rebelled against a Father more pure and holy than David... we've sought to steal His kingdom for ourselves... we publicly humiliated Him from the rooftops of our lives... we deserve the shameful fate of Absalom^{Rm6:23}
- YET, God does not give us what we deserve! Story of prodigal^{Lk15}
- The Father's forgiveness came at great cost^{1Pt2:24} David longed, Jesus acted!
- Only believing the Gospel will give us the power to break cycle of sin!
- God is not finished with us yet^{Ps23:6}. Live in hope of Gospel^{Lk23:43; 1Cor6:11}
- Live in Christ's righteousness, not your own attempts^{Rom3:22; 1Tim1:15} and live boldly as an ambassador^{2Cor5:20} for the Glorious Gospel!