

Our Promise Keeping King – 2 Samuel

2 Samuel 20:1-26

“Betrayed Again” – April 14, 2019



Introduction

Who wouldn't love to be in charge for a day!? A day when everyone does what we need them to, without hesitation, without question. It'd be nice for us, but the question is, how would that day be for the people around us? When we put ourselves first – when desire sits on the throne of our lives and drives our decision-making process, we can easily overlook the people we push to the ground to get what we want. But that's not how the Kingdom of God is meant to operate. As we come to the close of the rebellion section in 2 Samuel (chapters 11-20), we see the nauseating and heart-breaking effects of selfishness. These tragic results should not only deter us from embracing selfishness but point us to the selfless, life giving King who would come a millennium after David – the One who would be our *forever King*.

Pray

Before you begin, take some time to ask God to help you understand His word, to reveal what needs to change in you, and for the grace to follow Him in response. To help, use [Psalm 119:33-40](#) as a prayer for God to open His word up to you.

Sermon Outline

We can find hope and confidence in a world with imperfect authority by looking and pointing others to Jesus, our perfect King.

- I. Scene 1: Sheba (20:1-2)
- II. Scene 2: David (20:3)
- III. Scene 3: Joab (20:4-13)
- IV. Scene 4: The Wise Woman (20:14-22)
- V. Scene 5: David's Cabinet (20:23-26)

Read & Discuss

1. Read [2 Samuel 20:1-2](#)

Before the dust can settle from Absalom's rebellion (chapters 15-19), Sheba tries to lead the 10 northern tribes of Israel to ditch king David. Take a moment to reread [2 Samuel 19:43](#). Israel was upset because they felt 'despised' – overlooked, belittled, disrespected. It's easy to get angry and separate ourselves from those who wrong us or disrespect us. As followers of Christ however, we are called to be 'peacemakers' and to strive for unity ([Ephesians 4:1-3](#)), bear up with one another and forgive. That takes humility! How do you respond when disrespected or overlooked? How does knowing Jesus' response to such treatment help you respond in like manner? (See [1 Peter 2:22-23](#))

Additional Reading: Proverbs 6:16-19, 1 Corinthians 3:17, Matthew 5:9

2. Read [2 Samuel 20:3](#)

The ten concubines left in isolation for the rest of their lives is a sad consequence of David's past sin (see [2 Samuel 12:11-12](#)). If you're ever tempted to think your selfishness doesn't affect others – these ladies would tell you otherwise. How does seeing the seeing the sad consequences of sinful choices deter you from future selfishness? Where do you do with your tears and broken hearts that come from your own sin and being sinned against? (see the additional reading below for help...)

Additional Reading: Isaiah 25:8, Revelation 21:4, Psalm 147:3

3. Read [2 Samuel 20:4-26](#)

Though Joab has been demoted by David and replaced with Amasa, he's not about to roll over and just *let* it happen. Being in charge was *too important to him*. Joab's desire to be in charge appears to have become so strong, his desire had effectively taken over his decision-making process. David was still the king he supported and was loyal to, but in his heart, Joab was no different than Absalom or Sheba – he'd ignored David's will and done what *he* wanted. When our desire sits on the throne of our heart, quarrels, conflict and even murder isn't far behind (check out [James 4:1-4](#)). It took a wise woman to talk a bloodthirsty Joab off the ledge before he destroyed the entire city. What about you? What are the things you *want*, your heart *desires*? Desire isn't a bad thing, but *selfish* desire or desires that we hold with a closed fist (I *have* to have this) can become idols we worship. These idols can blind us to the truth, divide friendships, and lead to quarrels. Can you identify the desires you've held on to that have led to a recent fight or quarrel? What would it look like for you to humble yourself in that situation ([James 4:6](#)).

Compare the cabinet list in [2 Samuel 8:15-18](#) with [20:23-26](#). What's different – what's been lost for David and the nation? What does this reveal to us about the painful consequences of putting ourselves first (as David did back in chapter 11)?

Additional Reading: James 3:17, Ephesians 4:17

Prayer of Response

- 1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?
- 2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand*, *believe*, *desire*, or *do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come.

If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at <https://fbcum.org/sermons-new/>

***Next week's sermon text:** we'll pause our study of *2 Samuel* to look at **1 Peter 1:3-12, "A living Hope"**