

Chesswood Baptist Church

Where Everybody is Somebody

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MINISTRY OF THE WORD

WHO CAN TELL WHETHER GOD WILL BE GRACIOUS TO ME THAT THE CHILD MAY LIVE?

PASTOR HOWARD DANIEL JR.

SUNDAY EVENING, JULY 18, 2021

SCRIPTURE READING: **2 SAMUEL 12:11-25**

2 Samuel 12:22-23, And he said, While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept: for I said, Who can tell whether GOD will be gracious to me, that the child may live? 23. But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast? can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.

1. BACKGROUND

- a. This Background will encompass both **1 and 2 Samuel**.
- b. I take the position that this book was written by Samuel himself up to the 25th chapter which records his death.
- c. Apparently, Nathan and Gad completed the writings in this book as well as **2 Samuel**. We learn this from **1 Samuel 10:25, Then Samuel told the people the manner of the kingdom, and wrote it in a book, and laid it up before the Lord. And Samuel sent all the people away, every man to his house. And 1 Chronicles 29:29, Now the acts of David the king, first and last, behold, they are written in the book of Samuel the seer, and in the book of Nathan the prophet, and in the book of Gad the seer,**
- d. It is believed this book was possibly written in 1050 to 931 BC.
- e. It seems it did not appear in its final form until some years later, possibly around 930 to 722 BC.
- f. **2 Samuel** spans a period of about 40 years during the reign of King David.
- g. The book bears the name Samuel because he is one of the principal figures and he had the privilege of anointing King Saul and King David.
- h. A close examination would indicate that **Samuel** is a continuation of the **Book of Judges**.
- i. It was written during a very turbulent time when Eli was judge-priest and Israel was being oppressed heavily by the Philistines
- j. The three main characters of this book are Samuel, King Saul and King David.
- k. It was written primarily to the Israelites, of course as all Scripture, it does have application to the church.
- l. The **Book of Samuel** contains many familiar features.
 1. The rise of the Kingdom of Israel.
 2. The story of Hannah and her little boy Samuel.
 3. The story of David and Goliath.
 4. The unusual friendship between David and Jonathan.
 5. The account of King Saul's visit to the witch of Endor in **1 Samuel 28:7, Then said Saul unto his servants, Seek me a woman that hath a familiar spirit, that I may go to her, and enquire of her. And his servants said to him, Behold, there is a woman that hath a familiar spirit at Endor.**
 6. David's great sin with Bathsheba and the rebellion of his son, Absalom.
- m. In the **Book of Judges**, we find God uses so called ordinary people who have serious faults and defects to accomplish His will.
 1. Their story is very encouraging for people today who consider themselves ordinary.
 2. When we consider ourselves ordinary people and rid ourselves of pride, we can absolutely become great giants for God. **Proverbs 16:18, Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.**
- n. In **1 and 2 Samuel** we meet some outstanding people.

1. Hannah
 2. Eli
 3. Samuel
 4. Saul
 5. Jonathan
 6. David
- o. There are 3 subjects that may be considered major themes of **1 and 2 Samuel**.
1. Prayer
 - a. **1 Samuel** opens with prayer and **2 Samuel** closes prayer.
 - b. There is a great deal of prayer that runs through the entire book.
 2. The rise of the Kingdom.
 - a. The change of government from theocracy to a kingdom.
 - b. God's covenant with David given in **2 Samuel 7**.
 3. The rise of the office of prophets.
 - a. When Israel was a theocracy, God moved through the priesthood.
 - b. We know the priesthood failed and a king was anointed.
 - c. God set the priest aside and raised up the prophets as His messengers.
 - d. We will find for the Nation Israel this resulted in deterioration rather than improvement.
- p. **1 and 2 Samuel** record the origin of the kingdom which continues to be a particularly important subject in both the Old and New Testament.
- q. As John the Baptist steps out on the pages of history, his message was, "**And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.**" **Matthew 3:2**
- r. The kingdom that is spoken about in the Old Testament is the Millennial Kingdom where the Lord Jesus Christ will sit on the Throne of David and rule and reign for a thousand years.
- s. This book records the coming Millennium Kingdom and is foreshadowed in several respects for the setting up of the kingdom of Israel.
1. A king to exercise power in righteousness is none other than Jesus Christ. **Proverbs 29:2, When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.**
 2. A king who will rule in full dependence and obedience to God is also Jesus Christ.
- t. Our Lord Jesus Christ is the coming King who will be King of kings and Lord of lords.
- u. The Israelites wanted a king something similar to the heathen nations around them. **1 Samuel 8:5, And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.** **1 Samuel 8:22, And the LORD said to Samuel, Hearken unto their voice, and make them a king. And Samuel said unto the men of Israel, Go ye every man unto his city. 1 Samuel 8:7, And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them. 1 Samuel 8:18, And ye shall cry out in that day because of your king which ye shall have chosen you; and the LORD will not hear you in that day.**
- v. God selected David to replace Saul as king, but David had to flee to the wilderness to escape from Saul's rage of jealousy.
- w. A key word in these books is Jealousy in the heart. It is totally destructive in every walk of life.
- x. This book is full of jealousy; Israel asked for a king and Saul was the people's choice. David was God's choice. Thus, **God looks at the heart** and His selections are not always what man expects.
- y. This should be a wake-up call for Chesswood Baptist Church; we must depend on God as placements are made for various jobs and various responsibilities.
- z. Some key themes in the **Book of 2 Samuel** are:
1. God can accomplish extraordinary things through the lives of ordinary people.
 2. Our total trust should be only in the Lord Jesus Christ and not in men.
 3. Though forgiven, we must still pay the consequences of our sins. **Ecclesiastes 8:11, Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.**
 4. God is ready to forgive us and use us if we will repent and place our faith in Him.
 5. There is no sin so great that God will not forgive us if we sincerely forsake the sin and turn to Him.
 6. Obedience brings victory; disobedience brings defeat.
 7. As a ruler thrives, so thrives, the nation; as a ruler stumbles, so stumbles, the nation.

2. INTRODUCTION

- a. Please refer to the July 18, 2021 Morning Message for the Introduction.

3. SEVEN POINTS TO THE MESSAGE

i. Thus saith the LORD.

1. **2 Samuel 12:11, Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will raise up evil against thee out of thine own house, and I will take thy wives before thine eyes, and give them unto thy neighbour, and he shall lie with thy wives in the sight of this sun.**
2. Evil is going to arise in the house of David.
3. Notice it does not come from the outside, but from within.
4. I have always said that Chesswood Baptist Church cannot be damaged from the outside; it is always the inside that causes problems. God reminds us to not have any divisions and that we all speak the same mind. **1 Corinthians 1:10, Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.**
5. When there are hidden agendas in the church there are problems.
6. David is coming to realize, what he has done has severe extreme consequences.
7. The judgment that will come on this man will haunt him for a long time.
8. I want to take a moment and analyze some of these judgments since there are many who misunderstand this passage.
9. David truly did repent. We will see that in **verse 13**.
10. Many things happen because of this sin.
11. The sword would never depart from his house and the evil would come from within his own household. The word sword does not speak of a weapon of war, but of judgment and circumstance that would arise.
12. David lost a child that Bathsheba conceived. David fasted and prayed that God would spare the child's life, but the child died.
13. I want to comfort those who have lost children. Until they reach the age of accountability, they will go to Heaven to be with the Lord Jesus. **2 Samuel 12:23, But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast? can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.**
14. **Galatians 6:7-8, Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. 8: For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.**
15. There is no question that David had sown to the flesh. The sword shall never depart.
16. Absalom and Tamar had the same mother and father. Tamar was Amnon's half-sister. David was the father, but they had different mothers.
17. David's daughter is raped by his own son. **2 Samuel 13:4, And he said unto him, Why art thou, being the king's son, lean from day to day? wilt thou not tell me? And Amnon said unto him, I love Tamar, my brother Absalom's sister. 2 Samuel 13:14, Howbeit he would not hearken unto her voice: but, being stronger than she, forced her, and lay with her.**
18. Then later on there was murder. Absalom caused Amnon to be killed. **2 Samuel 13:28, Now Absalom had commanded his servants, saying, Mark ye now when Amnon's heart is merry with wine, and when I say unto you, Smite Amnon; then kill him, fear not: have not I commanded you? be courageous, and be valiant.**
19. Then, David permits Absalom to return to the kingdom and there was a rebellion against David. **2 Samuel 15:9-10, And the king said unto him, Go in peace. So he arose, and went to Hebron. 10: But Absalom sent spies throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, As soon as ye hear the sound of the trumpet, then ye shall say, Absalom reigneth in Hebron.**
20. David loved his son. His instruction to the army is in **2 Samuel 18:12, And the man said unto Joab, Though I should receive a thousand shekels of silver in mine hand, yet would I not put forth mine hand against the king's son: for in our hearing the king charged thee and Abishai and Ittai, saying, Beware that none touch the young man Absalom.**
21. Absalom caused David to have to flee from his kingdom. Later, Joab murdered Absalom as he hung in the tree. **2 Samuel 18:9, And Absalom met the servants of David. And Absalom rode upon a mule, and the mule went under the thick boughs of a great oak, and his head caught hold of the oak, and he was taken up between the heaven and the earth; and the mule that was under him went away. 2 Samuel 18:14, Then said Joab, I may not tarry thus with**

thee. And he took three darts in his hand, and thrust them through the heart of Absalom, while he was yet alive in the midst of the oak.

22. The sword never departed from David's house. This is just a few of the awful things that took place and all of it resulted because David sinned and stepped outside the will of God.
23. The next verse will show just how great a man David truly was when he was in God's will.

j. I have sinned against the LORD.

1. **2 Samuel 12:12-13, For thou didst it secretly: but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun. 13: And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.**
2. David is reflecting on **Psalm 42:1, As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God.** – David's soul had been saved but he had lost fellowship. **Leviticus 17:11, For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.**
3. He did a secret sin; God exposed it and brought it out in the open.
4. Our sins might be a secret to man or woman, **but God knows all.**
5. He even knows the very intent of our heart. **Hebrews 4:12, For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.**
6. David said he had sinned against the Lord and Nathan is quick to tell him **The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.** This verse emphatically sets forth the doctrine of eternal security in a very unique way. **1 John 3:9, Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. 1 John 5:1, Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him. 1 John 5:18, We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.**
7. There are three kinds of death: spiritual death – we are all born separated from God. There is physical death – where the body and the soul are separated, the body goes to the cemetery and depending on the decision we have made in this life – our soul will go to Heaven or Hell. **Job 18:21 Surely such are the dwellings of the wicked, and this is the place of him that knoweth not God.**
8. Lastly, there is the Second Death – eternal separation from God.
9. David had not committed the second death because he had peace with God. **Romans 5:1, Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:**
10. All of us has the capability to sin, even believers. But isn't it wonderful that the Lord is longsuffering not willing that any perish but that all come to the truth? **2 Peter 3:9, The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.**
11. David's sin was not covered up. Although David did not die, the Lord had taken care of his sin. David did lose four sons.

k. Howbeit, because by this deed thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of the Lord to blaspheme.

1. **2 Samuel 12:14, Howbeit, because by this deed thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also that is born unto thee shall surely die.**
2. When we step **outside the will of God** as believers, **we give the unsaved world the privilege to blaspheme.**
3. I wonder sometimes, in the actions of Christians as an example, to leave a church, to void a ministry that has been given to them – if they understand the impact it has on the unbelieving world?
4. Wherever God has called us we need to stay there. We need to bloom wherever we are planted, and we need to do it to the glory of God.
5. We need to get our eyes off people as to how they feel and what they think. We need to realize that we do not work for the pastor or members of the congregation– we work for our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

6. Are you where He has called you, my friend? When He called you to go to Nineveh did you go to Tarsus instead?
 7. Some ask why God chose David. He chose David because David was like all the rest of us – he was a sinner and desperately wicked.
 8. His heart was deceptive. **Jeremiah 17:9, The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?**
 9. Because David gave cause for the enemies of God to blaspheme, God is going to take David to the woodshed.
- i. And Nathan departed unto his house.**
1. **2 Samuel 12:15-17, And Nathan departed unto his house. And the LORD struck the child that Uriah's wife bare unto David, and it was very sick. 16: David therefore besought God for the child; and David fasted, and went in, and lay all night upon the earth. 17: And the elders of his house arose, and went to him, to raise him up from the earth: but he would not, neither did he eat bread with them.**
 2. Although David's life is spared, he has agony because he loses the child that he and Bathsheba brought into the world.
 3. David even fasted, went in and lay all night upon the earth. He was agonizing with God to save the life of the child.
 4. We must understand that our sins will find us out. **Numbers 32:23, But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the LORD: and be sure your sin will find you out.**
 5. This child went to Heaven to be with the Lord.
- m. David perceived that the child was dead.**
1. **2 Samuel 12:18-20, And it came to pass on the seventh day, that the child died. And the servants of David feared to tell him that the child was dead: for they said, Behold, while the child was yet alive, we spake unto him, and he would not hearken unto our voice: how will he then vex himself, if we tell him that the child is dead? 19: But when David saw that his servants whispered, David perceived that the child was dead: therefore David said unto his servants, Is the child dead? And they said, He is dead. 20: Then David arose from the earth, and washed, and anointed himself, and changed his apparel, and came into the house of the LORD, and worshipped: then he came to his own house; and when he required, they set bread before him, and he did eat.**
 2. David had his priorities right. He worshipped in the house of the Lord even before he goes to his own house. **Matthew 6:33, But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.**
 3. David is no longer mourning for the child. His grief is over. Notice God's way reflected in the life of a believer, that the grieving started and continued while the child was sick. And when the child died David submitted to God's will and returned to business as usual. The world's way is the grieving starts at death and continues for an undetermined amount of time. Notice, David is perfectly comforted because he knows the child is going to Heaven.
- n. Who can tell whether GOD will be gracious to me , that the child may live?**
1. **2 Samuel 12:22-23, And he said, While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept: for I said, Who can tell whether GOD will be gracious to me, that the child may live? 23: But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast? can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.**
 2. This shows us that David's little child went to Heaven. He will see him one of these days. **Matthew 18:10, Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven.**
 3. David was comforted in the fact that his child was not coming back. He did try to save the child from death, but he was not heartbroken after it was over with because he knew the child was in the hands of the Lord.
 4. Now when it comes to Absalom, it is a different situation. He truly did not believe that Absalom was saved. Upon receiving the news of Absalom's death David mourned. **2 Samuel 18:33, And the king was much moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept: and as he**

went, thus he said, O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! would God I had died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!

o. And David comforted Bathsheba his wife.

1. **2 Samuel 12:24-25, And David comforted Bathsheba his wife, and went in unto her, and lay with her: and she bare a son, and he called his name Solomon: and the LORD loved him. 25: And he sent by the hand of Nathan the prophet; and he called his name Jedidiah, because of the LORD.**
2. God gives David another son, Solomon. Jedidiah means beloved of the Lord.
3. If you recall Solomon is the one to succeed David on the throne.
4. David really wanted Absalom to succeed him, but God's choice was Solomon.
5. Remember David could not build the Lord's temple because of the much blood shed – the sword would never depart from his house, but Solomon was permitted build God's temple. **1 Chronicles 22:5, And David said, Solomon my son is young and tender, and the house that is to be builded for the LORD must be exceeding magnifical, of fame and of glory throughout all countries: I will therefore now make preparation for it. So David prepared abundantly before his death. 1 Chronicles 29:1, Furthermore David the king said unto all the congregation, Solomon my son, whom alone God hath chosen, is yet young and tender, and the work is great: for the palace is not for man, but for the LORD God.**
6. Although David got into some quicksand and in to trouble, he was indeed a great man of God.
7. As we look at this man after God's own heart, we see a great general who stepped outside the will of God.
8. Would to God that we in America would turn back to our Maker, to the Word of God and to the things that He has for us.

4. CONCLUSION

- a. Do you know the Saviour? If you do not know Jesus as your personal Saviour, today needs to be your day of salvation. **2 Corinthians 6:2, (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)**
- b. **Matthew 11:28-29, Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29: Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.**
- c. If you do not know the Saviour do not allow breath to leave your body without making a reservation for a home in Heaven. This reservation is made only on the basis of what one believes with respect to the Gospel Message. **Acts 16:30-31, And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? 31: And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.**
- d. **Romans 3:23, For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;**
- e. **Romans 3:10, As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:**
- f. **Romans 10:9-10, That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10: For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.**
- g. Would you please stand?

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