



RETURN TO THE KING

THE BOOKS OF 1 & 2 SAMUEL

Samuel, so far

- Judges was a march to the bottom
- God used Samuel to start the journey back to the top!
- Saul was a failure
- David is now king of Israel
- David sins and repents, consequences follow
- Absalom, David's son is dead after trying to overtake the kingship

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

1 It was told Joab, "Behold, the king is weeping and mourning for Absalom." 2 So the victory that day was turned into mourning for all the people, for the people heard that day, "**The king is grieving for his son.**" 3 And the people stole into the city that day as people steal in who are ashamed when they flee in battle. 4 The king covered his face, and the king cried with a loud voice, "O my son Absalom, O Absalom, my son, my son!"

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

5 Then Joab came into the house to the king and said, “You have today covered with shame the faces of all your servants, who have this day saved your life and the lives of your sons and your daughters and the lives of your wives and your concubines, 6 because you love those who hate you and hate those who love you. For you have made it clear today that commanders and

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

servants are nothing to you, for today I know that if Absalom were alive and all of us were dead today, then you would be pleased. 7 **Now therefore arise, go out and speak kindly to your servants,** for I swear by the Lord, if you do not go, not a man will stay with you this night, and this will be worse for you than all the evil that has come upon you from your youth until now.”

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

8 Then the king arose and took his seat in the gate. And the people were all told, "Behold, the king is sitting in the gate." And all the people came before the king.

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

Now Israel had fled every man to his own home. 9 And all the people were arguing throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, “The king delivered us from the hand of our enemies and saved us from the hand of the Philistines, and now he has fled out of the land of Absalom.

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

10 But Absalom, whom we anointed over us, is dead in battle. **Now therefore why do you say nothing about bringing the king back?"**

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

11 And King David sent this message to Zadok and Abiathar the priests: "Say to the elders of Judah, 'Why should you be the last to bring the king back to his house, when the word of all Israel has come to the king? 12 You are my brothers; you are my bone and flesh. Why then should you be the last to bring back the king?'

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

13 And say to Amasa, 'Are you not my bone and my flesh? God do so to me and more also if you are not commander of my army from now on in place of Joab.'"

14 And he swayed the heart of all the men of Judah as one man, so that they sent word to the king, "Return, both you and all your servants."

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

16 And Shimei the son of Gera, the Benjaminite, from Bahurim, hurried to come down with the men of Judah to meet King David. 17 And with him were a thousand men from Benjamin. And Ziba the servant of the house of Saul, with his fifteen sons and his twenty servants, rushed down to the Jordan before the king...

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

And Shimei the son of Gera fell down before the king, as he was about to cross the Jordan, 19 and said to the king, “Let not my lord hold me guilty or remember how your servant did wrong on the day my lord the king left Jerusalem. Do not let the king take it to heart. 20 For your servant knows that **I have sinned.**

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

Therefore, behold, I have come this day,
the first of all the house of Joseph to
come down to meet my lord the king.”
21 Abishai the son of Zeruiah answered,
“Shall not Shimei be put to death for this,
because he cursed the Lord’s anointed?”

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

22 But David said, “What have I to do with you, you sons of Zeruiah, that you should this day be as an adversary to me? Shall anyone be put to death in Israel this day? **For do I not know that I am this day king over Israel?**” 23 And the king said to Shimei, “**You shall not die.**” And the king gave him his oath.

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

24 And Mephibosheth the son of Saul came down to meet the king. He had neither taken care of his feet nor trimmed his beard nor washed his clothes, from the day the king departed until the day he came back in safety. 25 And when he came to Jerusalem to meet the king, the king said to him,

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

“Why did you not go with me, Mephibosheth?” 26 He answered, “My lord, O king, my servant deceived me, for your servant said to him, ‘I will saddle a donkey for myself, that I may ride on it and go with the king.’ For your servant is lame. 27 He has slandered your servant to my lord the king. But my lord the king is

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

like the angel of God; do therefore what seems good to you. 28 For all my father's house were but men doomed to death before my lord the king, but you set your servant among those who eat at your table. What further right have I, then, to cry to the king?"

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

29 And the king said to him, “Why speak any more of your affairs? I have decided: you and Ziba shall divide the land.” 30 And Mephibosheth said to the king, “Oh, let him take it all, since my lord the king has come safely home.”



2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

2 Samuel 19:31-40
Barzillai

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

41 Then all the men of Israel came to the king and said to the king, “Why have our brothers the men of Judah stolen you away and brought the king and his household over the Jordan, and all David’s men with him?” 42 All the men of Judah answered the men of Israel, “Because the king is our close relative. **Why then are you angry over this matter?** Have we eaten at

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

all at the king's expense? Or has he given us any gift?" 43 And the men of Israel answered the men of Judah, "We have ten shares in the king, and in David also we have more than you. Why then did you despise us? Were we not the first to speak of bringing back our king?" But the words of the men of Judah were fiercer than the words of the men of Israel.

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

1 Now there happened to be there a worthless man, whose name was Sheba, the son of Bichri, a Benjaminite. And he blew the trumpet and said,

“We have no portion in David,
and we have no inheritance in the Son of Jesse;
every man to his tents, O Israel!”

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

2 So all the men of Israel withdrew from David and followed Sheba the son of Bichri. But the men of Judah followed their king steadfastly from the Jordan to Jerusalem.

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

3 And David came to his house at Jerusalem. And the king took the ten concubines whom he had left to care for the house and put them in a house under guard and provided for them, but did not go in to them. So they were shut up until the day of their death, living as if in widowhood.

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

4 Then the king said to Amasa, "Call the men of Judah together to me within three days, and be here yourself." 5 So Amasa went to summon Judah, but he delayed beyond the set time that had been appointed him. 6 And David said to Abishai, "Now Sheba the son of Bichri will do us more harm than Absalom."

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

Take your lord's servants and pursue him, lest he get himself to fortified cities and escape from us." 7 And there went out after him Joab's men and the Cherethites and the Pelethites, and all the mighty men. They went out from Jerusalem to pursue Sheba the son of Bichri. 8 When they were at the great stone that is in Gibeon, Amasa came to meet them.

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

Now Joab was wearing a soldier's garment, and over it was a belt with a sword in its sheath fastened on his thigh, and as he went forward it fell out. 9 And Joab said to Amasa, "Is it well with you, my brother?" And Joab took Amasa by the beard with his right hand to kiss him.

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

10 But Amasa did not observe the sword that was in Joab's hand. So Joab struck him with it in the stomach and spilled his entrails to the ground without striking a second blow, and he died.

Then Joab and Abishai his brother pursued Sheba the son of Bichri.

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

14 And Sheba passed through all the tribes of Israel to Abel of Beth-maacah, and all the Bichrites assembled and followed him in. 15 And all the men who were with Joab came and besieged him in Abel of Beth-maacah. They cast up a mound against the city, and it stood against the rampart, and they were battering the wall to throw it down.

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

16 Then a wise woman called from the city, "Listen! Listen! Tell Joab, 'Come here, that I may speak to you.'" 17 And he came near her...

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

18 Then she said, “They used to say in former times, ‘Let them but ask counsel at Abel,’ and so they settled a matter.
19 I am one of those who are peaceable and faithful in Israel. You seek to destroy a city that is a mother in Israel. Why will you swallow up the heritage of the Lord?

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

20 Joab answered, "Far be it from me, far be it, that I should swallow up or destroy! 21 That is not true. But a man of the hill country of Ephraim, called Sheba the son of Bichri, has lifted up his hand against King David. Give up him alone, and I will withdraw from the city."

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

And the woman said to Joab, “Behold, his head shall be thrown to you over the wall.” 22 Then the woman went to all the people in her wisdom. And they cut off the head of Sheba the son of Bichri and threw it out to Joab. So he blew the trumpet and they dispersed from the city, every man to his home. **And Joab returned to Jerusalem to the king.**

2 Samuel 19:1-20:26

23 Now Joab was in command of all the army of Israel; and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was in command of the Cherethites and the Pelethites; 24 and Adoram was in charge of the forced labor; and Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud was the recorder; 25 and Sheva was secretary; and Zadok and Abiathar were priests; 26 and Ira the Jairite was also David's priest.

So What?

- Lose your mind, lose your head
- There is chaos when the King is not on the throne

TIME OF GIVING

Online giving is also available on our church website,
www.westmiddlebury.org, and on our Tithely app.

Offering boxes are
available at both entrances.

2 Corinthians 9:7

