

ABSALOM COMES HOME IN BODY, BUT CERTAINLY NOT IN SPIRIT

(2 Samuel 14)

I. DAVID'S MOVE TO HEBRON (2 Samuel 1-4:12)

II. DAVID'S REIGN OVER ALL ISRAEL AT JERUSALEM (2 Samuel 5-10:19)

III. DAVID'S MANY TROUBLES (2 Samuel 11-20:26)

A. Joab ARRANGES to have Absalom brought home (14:1-23)

1. Sensing that his king was _____ by his prodigal son, Joab implemented a plan that was very similar to Nathan's, when he told the king a fictitious story with the hopes of having him _____ himself.

2. Joab used a wise woman who _____ to be a widow in mourning over one of her sons killing the other son; only to have her relatives _____ against the murderer.

* In v. 8 what did the king try to do with the woman and her problem?

3. This persistent woman continued relentlessly until she finally elicited from David a royal _____ that her guilty son would not be harmed in any way for _____ of murdering his own brother.

4. This brave woman then _____ the king on a personal level; if he were willing to pardon her son for murder, why would he not be willing to do the very same _____ Absalom?

* In verses 15-17 how did this woman from Tekoa try to disguise her true intentions?

5. Unlike the situation with Nathan, David readily seen through her story and _____ that his general was behind the scenes in _____ this whole story.

* What did the king do in response to her confession regarding Joab?

B. King David REFUSES to see Absalom (14:24)

1. While David _____ Absalom to return to the royal city of Jerusalem, he personally did _____ want his son in his _____.
2. The king most likely wanted to give the _____ to the people of Israel that he was not _____ Absalom's grievous crime of murdering his own brother.

C. David and Absalom are RECONCILED (14:25-33)

1. Like a politician, despite the fact that Absalom was guilty of a capital offense— his good looks and _____ with the people only _____.
2. In the two year period of estrangement from his father, Absalom _____ on two separate occasions to get Joab to _____ on his behalf but to no avail, i.e., until he set his barley field on fire.

* Why would the personal details about his family be important to the average reader (v. 27)?

* What evidence do we have that David finally forgave Absalom (v. 33)?

* How can you apply this chapter in your own life?