

2 Samuel  
Part #8 –  
Absalom

**Absalom's reckless &  
unruly behavior**



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# Introduction

*Absalom's unruly and reckless behavior goes unchecked and would eventually harden his heart.*

# Introduction – Cont'd

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## Key Scriptures

Now Joab the son of Zeruiah perceived that the king's heart was toward Absalom. – 2 Samuel 14:1

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And Joab sent to Tekoah, and fetched thence a wise woman, and said unto her, I pray thee, feign thyself to be a mourner, and put on now mourning apparel, and anoint not thyself with oil, but be as a woman that had a long time mourned for the dead: – 2 Samuel 14:2

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For we must needs die, and are as water spilt on the ground, which cannot be gathered up again; neither doth God respect any person: yet doth he devise means, that his banished be not expelled from him. – 2 Samuel 14:14

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# Introduction – Cont'd

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## **Key Scriptures**

And the king said unto Joab, Behold now, I have done this thing: go therefore, bring the young man Absalom again. – 2 Samuel 14:21

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So Absalom dwelt two full years in Jerusalem, and saw not the king's face. – 2 Samuel 14:28

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Therefore he said unto his servants, See, Joab's field is near mine, and he hath barley there; go and set it on fire. And Absalom's servants set the field on fire. – 2 Samuel 14:30

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# Introduction – Cont'd

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## Key Scriptures

So Joab came to the king, and told him: and when he had called for Absalom, he came to the king, and bowed himself on his face to the ground before the king: and the king kissed Absalom. – 2 Samuel 14:33

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And it came to pass after this, that Absalom prepared him chariots and horses, and fifty men to run before him. – 2 Samuel 15:1

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And Absalom said unto him, See, thy matters are good and right; but there is no man deputed of the king to hear thee. – 2 Samuel 15:3

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# Introduction – Cont'd

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## Key Scriptures

Absalom said moreover, Oh that I were made judge in the land, that every man which hath any suit or cause might come unto me, and I would do him justice! – 2 Samuel 15:4

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And on this manner did Absalom to all Israel that came to the king for judgment: so Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel. – 2 Samuel 15:6

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And it came to pass after forty years, that Absalom said unto the king, I pray thee, let me go and pay my vow, which I have vowed unto the LORD, in Hebron. – 2 Samuel 15:7

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# Introduction – Cont'd

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## Key Scriptures

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. – 2 Samuel 15:10

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And with Absalom went two hundred men out of Jerusalem, that were called; and they went in their simplicity, and they knew not any thing. – 2 Samuel 15:11

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And Absalom sent for Ahithophel the Gilonite, David's counsellor, from his city, even from Giloh, while he offered sacrifices. And the conspiracy was strong; for the people increased continually with Absalom. – 2 Samuel 15:12

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# Introduction – Cont'd

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**Key  
Scriptures**

And there came a messenger to David, saying, The hearts of the men of Israel are after Absalom. – 2 Samuel 15:13

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And David said unto all his servants that were with him at Jerusalem, Arise, and let us flee; for we shall not else escape from Absalom: make speed to depart, lest he overtake us suddenly, and bring evil upon us, and smite the city with the edge of the sword. – 2 Samuel 15:14

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And all his servants passed on beside him; and all the Cherethites, and all the Pelethites, and all the Gittites, six hundred men which came after him from Gath, passed on before the king. – 2 Samuel 15:18

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# Introduction – Cont'd

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## **Key Scriptures**

And David said to Ittai, Go and pass over. And Ittai the Gittite passed over, and all his men, and all the little ones that were with him. – 2 Samuel 15:22

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The king said also unto Zadok the priest, Art not thou a seer? return into the city in peace, and your two sons with you, Ahimaaz thy son, and Jonathan the son of Abiathar. – 2 Samuel 15:27

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And it came to pass, that when David was come to the top of the mount, where he worshipped God, behold, Hushai the Archite came to meet him with his coat rent, and earth upon his head: Unto whom David said, If thou passest on with me, then thou shalt be a burden unto me: So Hushai David's friend came into the city, and Absalom came into Jerusalem. – 2 Samuel 15:32,33,37

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# Keys

## Keywords

- Joab
- Absalom
- Wise woman of Tekoah
- King's words
- Spiritual principle
- Ostracized or in house arrest
- Plots, plans, pretense
- Indolence, Insurrection, insubordination
- Treason and conspiracy
- Counsel of Ahithophel
- The six hundred men
- Ittai
- Hishai

In this lesson

## **Absalom's Reckless and Unruly Behavior**

- Perception, Pining & Partiality
- Principles of Leadership
  - 5 Ps of Leadership
  - 4 Ms of Influence
- Pretense, Plans, & Plots
- Prudence

# Perception, Pining & Partiality

*Now Joab the son of Zeruiah perceived that the king's heart was toward Absalom. – 2 Samuel 14:1*

## **Mercy over judgment?**

- Proverbs 20:28
- It had been three years – 2 Samuel 13:37
- The king was bound by the laws of the land
- Joab – David's nephew and perhaps age mates perceived David's' pining for Absalom
- Prudent use of a wise woman of Tekoah
- Absalom returns unchanged and without severe consequence to curb the reckless and unruly behavior
- Absalom took advantage of the favorable position his beauty afforded him

# Drawn out judgment

*So Joab came to the king, and told him: and when he had called for Absalom, he came to the king, and bowed himself on his face to the ground before the king: and the king kissed Absalom. – 2 Samuel 14:33*

## **Expression of dismay without follow through**

- Causes contempt for the laws
- Causes others to justify their own interpretation of the law
- Creates a total disrespect for the law
- Precipitates chaos and revolution
- May result in a dreadful end such as death

# Principles of Leadership

*My life shall touch a dozen lives before this day is done,*

*leaves countless marks for good or ill ere sets the evening sun,*

*This is the wish, I always wish, the prayer I always pray;*

*Lord, may my life help other lives it touches by the way.*

***A life isn't significant except for its impact on other lives –  
Jackie Robinson***

# Principles of Leadership – Cont'd

*And Absalom rose up early, and stood beside the way of the gate: and it was so, that when any man that had a controversy came to the king for judgment, then Absalom called unto him, and said, Of what city art thou? And he said, Thy servant is of one of the tribes of Israel. – 2 Samuel 15:2*

**Decorated as a leader but not having what it takes to lead.**

## **5 Ps of Leadership**

1. Position
2. Permission
3. Production
4. People Development
5. Personhood

# Principles of Leadership – Cont'd

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**Decorated as a leader but not having what it takes to lead.**

## **5 Ms of Influence**

- Level I – Modeling
- Level II – Motivating
- Level III – Mentoring
- Level IV - Multiplying



# Pretense, Plans & Plots

*And it came to pass after forty years, that Absalom said unto the king, I pray thee, let me go and pay my vow, which I have vowed unto the LORD, in Hebron. – 2 Samuel 15:7*

## **Fully set to do evil**

- Prepares chariots and horses and fifty men
- Reaches the people in the throes of their pain
- Stole the hearts of the men of Israel
- Sent off in peace
- Palace coup d'état
- Partnered with prestigiously men in leadership

*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.*

# Prudence

*And there came a messenger to David, saying, The hearts of the men of Israel are after Absalom. – 2 Samuel 15:13*

**...but the prudent man looketh well to his going – Proverbs 14:15**

- Escape from the city for the city
- Servants - Covenants and Trusts tested and verified
- 10 concubines left behind without support
- Cherethites, Pelethites, Gittites, 600 men from Gath, Zadok, Levites, the ark of the covenant of God,
- Strategizes with Hushai the Archite his friend to defeat the counsel of Ahithophel

# Summary

The Judgment of the house continues

Next Week

Absalom