**2 Samuel 19** (https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+19/)

Peter B. Luh, 7/17, 20, 22, 25, 26/2018

**Joab Rebukes David**

19 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!”

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

 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 (corresponding to v. 5)

 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.”

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.

**David Returns to Jerusalem**

 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 from Absalom.

10 But

 Absalom,

 whom we anointed over us,

 is dead in battle.

 Now therefore

 why do you say nothing about bringing the king back?”

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

 my flesh.

 Why then should you be the last to bring back the king?’

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.”

15 So the king came back to the Jordan,

 and

 Judah came to Gilgal

 to meet the king

 and

 to bring the king over the Jordan.

**David Pardons His Enemies**

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,

18 and

 They crossed the ford

 to bring over the king's household

 and

 to do his pleasure.

 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.

 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?”

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.

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,

 “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 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?”

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.”

31 Now

 Barzillai the Gileadite had come down from Rogelim,

 and

 he went on with the king to the Jordan,

 to escort him over the Jordan.

32 Barzillai was a very aged man,

 eighty years old.

 He had provided the king with food

 while he stayed at Mahanaim,

 for he was a very wealthy man.

33 And

 the king said to Barzillai,

 “Come over with me,

 and

 I will provide for you with me in Jerusalem.”

34 But

 Barzillai said to the king,

 “How many years have I still to live,

 that I should go up with the king to Jerusalem?

35 I am this day eighty years old.

 Can I discern what is pleasant

 and

 what is not?

 Can your servant taste what he eats

 or

 what he drinks?

 Can I still listen to the voice of singing men

 and

 singing women?

 Why then should your servant be an added burden to my lord the king?

36 Your servant will go a little way over the Jordan with the king.

 Why should the king repay me with such a reward?

37 Please let your servant return,

 that I may die in my own city near the grave of my father

 and

 my mother.

 But

 here is your servant Chimham.

 Let him go over with my lord the king,

 and

 do for him

 whatever seems good to you.”

38 And

 the king answered,

 “Chimham shall go over with me,

 and

 I will do for him

 whatever seems good to you,

 and

 all that you desire of me

 I will do for you.”

39 Then all the people went over the Jordan,

 and

 the king went over.

 And

 the king kissed Barzillai

 and

 blessed him,

 and

 he returned to his own home.

40 The king went on to Gilgal,

 and

 Chimham went on with him.

 All the people of Judah,

 and also

 half the people of Israel, brought the king on his way.

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 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.