

FINAL STUDY NOTES – *1 Kings Chapter 1:1-2:12* 12/22-23/2025

CLASSROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION:

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NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM PACIFIC STANDARD Time (US and Canada)
THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING ON ZOOM ONLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!

MEETING ID - 878 5864 4763 Passcode: 087484

Join Zoom Meeting -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87858644763?pwd=b25tUzhkaTE0UzIrSnpkVmZEWGJVQT09>

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One tap mobile: +16699006833,,87858644763# US (San Jose) +13462487799,,87858644763# US (Houston)
Dial by your location: +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose); +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston); +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma); +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C); +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago); +1 929 436 2866 US (New York). Meeting ID: 878 5864 4763 Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kbUX7eWEpN>

TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM PACIFIC STANDARD Time (US and Canada).

TUES MORNING MTG PLACE: 1201 KEY WEST, CORONA DEL MAR (shown as 1201 KW, Corona del Mar, CA 92625) on Global Positioning System (GPS) in automobiles. For driving directions, suggest using (waze.com/live map) or *MapQuest* (mapquest.com), AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!

MEETING ID# - 853 0915 0746 - Passcode: 715340

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OPENING PRAYER

1 KINGS – Chapter 1 – Adonijah Presumes to Be King – (vs. 1-27); David Proclaims Solomon King – (vs. 28-53). Chapter 2 – David’s Instructions to Solomon – (vs. 1-9); Death of David – (vs. 10-12)!

- **In 1 Kings, we are coming to the end of King David's reign** and his place in the history of the nation of Israel. David's son, Solomon, came to the throne in 971 B.C. Timewise think about Isaiah (740 B.C.), and where was David (1000 B.C.) and how far back was Abraham (2000. B.C.) Jesus is easy for us because the calendar does the work for us. His ministry was 2,000 years ago.
- **First and Second Kings, in the Jewish Bible are one book.** At the time of the Septuagint's writing, it was broken into two books in order to make it more manageable. Second Samuel is a continuation of Israel's historical account in 2 Samuel. 1 and 2 Kings just continue through Israel's history, covering a period of about 400 years, from the end of David's reign on into Solomon's reign, all the way into the division of the nation of Israel into northern and southern kingdoms. In 722 B.C. the northern kingdom of Israel went into Assyrian captivity because of apostasy and rebellion against God. About 586 B.C. the southern kingdom of Judah similarly went into Babylonian captivity.
- **This is really is a book that is a lot more than mere history.** God's truths, which are clothed in these men and women that are so easy to relate to. The spiritual truths that are found are just priceless. One of the great lessons is the terrible consequences of rebelling against God, a great warning needed

today. The book also speaks of the sovereignty of God, that despite man's failure, God is faithful. He cannot deny Himself!

Chapter 1 - 1Ki 1:1 Now King David was old, advanced in years; and they put covers on him, but he could not get warm.

- He is just cold, having poor circulation. The body would not warm up. He is confined to his bed.

1Ki 1:2 Therefore his servants said to him, "Let a young woman, a virgin, be sought for our lord the king, and let her stand before the king, and let her care for him; and let her lie in your bosom, that our lord the king may be warm."

- "So let us find a beautiful young girl. She can minister to you, and feed you your food, and then she can lie close to you so that her body heat can warm you." No sexual relationship. Abishag was King David's electric blanket.

1Ki 1:3-4 So they sought for a lovely young woman throughout all the territory of Israel, and found Abishag the Shunammite, and brought her to the king. [4] The young woman was very lovely; and she cared for the king, and served him; but the king did not know her.

- Thus she became a part of David's harem.

1Ki 1:5 Then Adonijah the son of Haggith exalted himself, saying, "I will be king"; and he prepared for himself chariots and horsemen, and fifty men to run before him (similar to what Absalom did).

- **Adonijah really is a very beautiful name.** Adoni, in Hebrew is Lord, and Jah, is Jehovah. So, really the name is "Jehovah is my Lord." Beautiful name. Adonijah.
- **"Exalted himself!"** Selfish ambition is very dangerous. Without exception, it ends up in our being greatly humbled and God will make sure of it. Godly ambition is good! What the Bible condemns is selfish or self-centered ambition and also self-exaltation! We will see how Adonijah ends up. It is not pretty!
- **How strong is my self-exhortation compared to my Godly ambition? Does our life reflect that we are living to please God or to exhort self, as Adonijah did?**

1Ki 1:6 (And his father had not rebuked him at any time by saying, "Why have you done so?" He was also very good-looking. His mother (Haggith) had borne him after Absalom. (Maacah, his mother.)

- David never did ask the question, "Son, why did you do that thing that was wrong? David was an extremely poor disciplinarian in his own home. He had a lot of trouble as a result. Later, Solomon writes about discipline within the home. **(Pro 22:15) The rod and rebuke give wisdom. But a child left to himself brings shame to his mother.** "A child left to himself will bring reproach to his parents."
- **Born after Absalom.** His mother was Haggith. Absalom's mother was Maacah. But he was the next son in line for kingship, after Absalom.
- **Adonijah sought to set himself up.** He saw his dad was waning, getting old. So he called together these men, and the chariots, and went to proclaim himself king. He conferred with Joab, who realized that David was going to be dying soon, Joab knew that he was not really in that much favor with the family of the king, so he threw his lot in with Adonijah.
- **We see that David was not a good disciplinarian with his children. How concerned am I with the discipline of my children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. What am I doing about it?**

1Ki 1:7 Then he conferred with Joab the son of Zeruiah and with Abiathar the priest, and they followed and helped Adonijah.

- **So there was a conspiracy.** These men were all at one time, David's faithful men. But now, as David is dying, they begin to cast their lots with Adonijah. By having these two men in his cabinet and supporters, it gave a gravity, a seriousness to him being the king that he would not have otherwise had.

1Ki 1:8 But Zadok the priest, Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, Nathan the prophet, Shimei, Rei, and the mighty men who belonged to David were not with Adonijah.

- **There were two priests, Abiathar, who probably was over the tabernacle that was still in Gibeon. Zadok was a priest** there in Jerusalem. So we have the sides being formed now.

1Ki 1:9 And Adonijah sacrificed sheep and oxen and fattened cattle by the stone of Zoheleth, which is by En Rogel; he also invited all his brothers, the king's sons, and all the men of Judah, the king's servants.

- **Adonijah carefully sets the stage for taking control of the nation. He called everyone to come.** It was a big celebration, we are going to have a sacrifice and Adonijah is to be proclaimed king."

1Ki 1:10 But he did not invite Nathan the prophet, Benaiah, the mighty men, or Solomon his brother.

- He called the other sons, but he did not call Solomon, because no doubt he knew that David had made a vow to Bathsheba, that Solomon was going to be the king after him. He knew that Nathan was with David and Benaiah, so he did not call them to this coronation.

1Ki 1:11-12 So Nathan spoke to Bathsheba the mother of Solomon, saying, "Have you not heard that Adonijah the son of Haggith has become king, and David our lord does not know it? [12] Come, please, let me now give you advice, that you may save your own life and the life of your son Solomon.

- No doubt, had Adonijah taken the throne, he would have killed Solomon and Bathsheba, so that there would be no conflict in the future, as to his reign. So, "If you're going to save your own skin, you better do something!"

1Ki 1:13-14 Go immediately to King David and say to him, 'Did you not, my lord, O king, swear to your maid servant, saying, "Assuredly your son Solomon shall reign after me, and he shall sit on my throne"? Why then has Adonijah become king?'" [14] Then, while you are still talking there with the king, I also will come in after you and confirm your words."

- I will collaborate your story.

1Ki 1:15 So Bathsheba went into the chamber to the king. (Now the king was very old, and Abishag the Shunammite was serving the king.)

- David was confined now to the bedroom, and to his bed.

1Ki 1:16-17 And Bathsheba bowed and did homage to the king. Then the king said, "What is your wish?" [17] Then she said to him, "My lord, you swore by the LORD your God to your maid servant, saying, 'Assuredly Solomon your son shall reign after me, and he shall sit on my throne.'

- Adonijah is not only rebelling against David, but he is also rebelling against God! God had determined that Solomon would be the next king.
- **(1Ch 28:5, 6) And of all my sons (for the LORD has given me many sons) He has chosen my son Solomon to sit on the throne of the kingdom of the LORD over Israel. [6] Now He said to me, It is your son Solomon who shall build My house and My courts; for I have chosen him to be My son, and I will be his Father.**

1Ki 1:18-20 So now, look! Adonijah has become king; and now, my lord the king, you do not know about it. [19] He has sacrificed oxen and fattened cattle and sheep in abundance, and has invited all the sons of the king, Abiathar the priest, and Joab the commander of the army; but Solomon your servant he has not invited. [20] And as for you, my lord, O king, the eyes of all Israel are on you, that you should tell them who will sit on the throne of my lord the king after him.

- Bathsheba tells David this is not only a concern for Solomon and herself, but the whole nation is getting these mixed signals of who is going to be the next king. They need you to step up and appoint and make clear whom you have chosen to be the next king!

1Ki 1:21 Otherwise it will happen, when my lord the king rests with his fathers, that I and my son Solomon will be counted as offenders."

- We will probably be put to death.

1Ki 1:22-24 And just then, while she was still talking with the king, Nathan the prophet also came in. [23] So they told the king, saying, "Here is Nathan the prophet." And when he came in before the king, he bowed down before the king with his face to the ground. [24] And Nathan said, "My lord, O king, have you said, 'Adonijah shall reign after me, and he shall sit on my throne'?

- When he came in, Bathsheba stepped out. That was just common courtesy in those days. "Nathan said, My lord."

1Ki 1:25 For he has gone down today, and has sacrificed oxen and fattened cattle and sheep in abundance, and has invited all the king's sons, and the commanders of the army, and Abiathar the priest; and look! They are eating and drinking before him; and they say, 'Long live King Adonijah!'

- This is what we are up against. This is whom he has invited, whom he's left out. Do you see what is going on here? David, they are having a big party! A celebration, a coronation! Saying, Long live King Adonijah. Is this what you wanted? Is this what you planned?

1Ki 1:26-27 But he has not invited me—me your servant—nor Zadok the priest, nor Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, nor your servant Solomon. [27] Has this thing been done by my lord the king, and you have not told your servant who should sit on the throne of my lord the king after him?"

- Why didn't you tell me David? That you are planning this kind of celebration, I thought you would had let me know. I thought we were friends!

Solomon Anointed King

1Ki 1:28-29 Then King David answered and said, "Call Bathsheba to me." So she came into the king's presence and stood before the king. [29] And the king took an oath and said, "As the LORD lives, who has redeemed my life from every distress,

- David is swearing now, by the **LORD**. In so doing, he declares, "God has delivered me out of every problem!" Going back over the life of David, we find that man, David had been in some pretty tight scrapes. There were times that he despaired for his own life. "But God has redeemed my life from every distress!"

1Ki 1:30 just as I swore to you by the LORD God of Israel, saying, 'Assuredly Solomon your son shall be king after me, and he shall sit on my throne in my place,' so I certainly will do this day."

- David may be old, he may have poor circulation, but the guy's still mentally alert and sharp. He starts ordering things now, and putting things together! mind. The rest of the body may be going, but his brain is still functioning very well. So he renews the promise to Bathsheba, that Solomon was going to reign after him. He acknowledges that was his vow that he had made, and he reaffirms it now.
- **(1Ch 22:9-10) Behold, a son shall be born to you, who shall be a man of rest; and I will give him rest from all his enemies all around. His name shall be Solomon, for I will give peace and quietness to Israel in his days. [10] He shall build a house for My name, and he shall be My son, and I will be his Father; and I will establish the throne of his kingdom over Israel forever!**

1Ki 1:31 Then Bathsheba bowed with her face to the earth, and paid homage to the king, and said, "Let my lord King David live forever!"

- She really did not mean that, because that would be cruel, that a guy so weak now, you know that he cannot get out of bed, shivering all the time! You would not want to go on living forever in that condition. But it was just a common courtesy kind of a thing.

1Ki 1:32 And King David said, "Call to me Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada." So they came before the king.

- The combination of the high priest, the prophet, and the captain of the bodyguard would show the people that the proceedings had the king's sanction!

1Ki 1:33 The king also said to them, "Take with you the servants of your lord, and have Solomon my son ride on my own mule, and take him down to Gihon.

- Mules were very rare in Israel. They were forbidden by law to breed them. So they had to import them, and they were usually only used by the king. This was a female mule, according to the Hebrew, because it is in the feminine tense. Thus it was extremely valuable, and only the king would ride upon it, or only those that were allowed to ride by the king. "So, let my son, Solomon ride on my own mule!"
- **Gihon was the main water source for Jerusalem.** The greatest place in the city that you could find a ready-made crowd was the water source for the city. David knew there is going to be a large crowd there at that place any time of the day. So go down there and we will proclaim Solomon king in that place.

1Ki 1:34 There let Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet anoint him king over Israel; and blow the horn, and say, 'Long live King Solomon!'

- David quickly sets up this counter move to Adonijah's, to assure Solomon upon the throne, riding David's own mule. Which is testimony to the people that this is David's choice as his successor to the throne!

1Ki 1:35 Then you shall come up after him, and he shall come and sit on my throne, and he shall be king in my place. For I have appointed him to be ruler over Israel and Judah."

- **Down in the valley of Gihon, they come up through the city then.** David's palace was in the upper part of the city. The spring of Gihon in the lower part.
- **David makes the appointment official, before Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, Benaiah, the man who was in charge of the king's personal bodyguard.**

1Ki 1:36-37 Benaiah the son of Jehoiada answered the king and said, "Amen! May the LORD God of my lord the king say so too! [37] As the LORD has been with my lord the king, even so may He be with Solomon, and make his throne greater than the throne of my lord King David."

- Benaiah really responds to this in a very affirmative way. We have been prospered under you, King David, now may Solomon be even greater! David was not threatened by that, one bit!
- **Note the difference here between David and Saul of not being threatened by a successor king, being greater than himself! Would I have been so or would my pride have gotten in the way?**

1Ki 1:38-39 So Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, the Cherethites, and the Pelethites (David's personal bodyguards) went down and had Solomon ride on King David's mule, and took him to Gihon. [39] Then Zadok the priest took a horn of oil from the tabernacle and anointed Solomon. And they blew the horn, and all the people said, "Long live King Solomon!"

- They had those rams horns, they would fill them with oil, the holy oil that was in the tabernacle that was compounded, and was used within the tabernacle.
- This oil is falling all over him, recognizing that he would need the Holy Spirit to be successful as king!

1Ki 1:40 And all the people went up after him; and the people played the flutes and rejoiced with great joy, so that the earth seemed to split with their sound.

- This was just a great time of rejoicing! The music, the shouting, and the happy crowd! It was just earth splitting the celebration that broke out. David has let us know who is going to be our next king and it is Solomon!

1Ki 1:41 Now Adonijah and all the guests who were with him heard it as they finished eating. And when Joab heard the sound of the horn, he said, "Why is the city in such a noisy uproar?"

- Joab was an army man, a general, and his ear was tuned to the trumpet. He said, "Uh oh, there is a trumpet. What is going on in Jerusalem?" It sounds like there is a real uproar going on!

1Ki 1:42-43 While he was still speaking, there came Jonathan, the son of Abiathar the priest. And Adonijah said to him, "Come in, for you are a prominent man, and bring good news." [43] Then Jonathan answered and said to Adonijah, "No! Our lord King David has made Solomon king.

- Sorry, bad news!

1Ki 1:44 The king has sent with him Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, the Cherethites, and the Pelethites; and they have made him ride on the king's mule.

- Adonijah you have had it!

1Ki 1:45 So Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet have anointed him king at Gihon; and they have gone up from there rejoicing, so that the city is in an uproar. This is the noise that you have heard.

- Jerusalem will be in an uproar again when David's son, a greater than David comes! THE KING OF KINGS, THE LORD OF LORDS! It is going to happen! Imagine, the city will be in uproar again!

1Ki 1:46-47 Also Solomon sits on the throne of the kingdom. [47] And moreover the king's servants have gone to bless our lord King David, saying, 'May God make the name of Solomon better than your name, and may He make his throne greater than your throne.' Then the king bowed himself on the bed.

- The king expressed approval to it. When they said this, the king bowed there on the bed, agreeing to what they had declared.
- David agrees and he bows before the hand of the LORD. God, this is Your will, You told me Solomon would take the throne. How different from Saul, there is no envy, no jealousy! This is God's plan, David has bowed to it! He is rejoicing that His son Solomon has taken the throne.

1Ki 1:48 Also the king said thus, 'Blessed be the LORD God of Israel, who has given one to sit on my throne this day, while my eyes see it! '

- David abdicated the throne, even before his death. He turned it over to Solomon, in order that there would be no question in the minds of the people, that this was the choice of David. To be his successor upon the throne. Now David thanks God that he has the opportunity of seeing this, even before he dies. "I can see now, one sitting upon my throne."
- **We see the wisdom in David's determining who his successor should be to avoid a national power struggle at his death. To what extent are we planning ahead to make our passing smoother and less chaotic?**

1Ki 1:49 So all the guests who were with Adonijah were afraid, and arose, and each one went his way.

- They realize they were on the wrong side of this power struggle. They run for their treasonous lives! So much for loyalty to Adonijah. Everyone is now trying to save his own skin.

1Ki 1:50 Now Adonijah was afraid of Solomon; so he arose, and went and took hold of the horns of the altar.

- The altar had four horns, one on each corner of the altar. In praying, they would often grab hold of the horns of the altar. It was a place of really seeking God, in the time of great desperation. So, Adonijah ran in and caught hold of the horns on the altar, which was a cry for grace, a cry for mercy.

1Ki 1:51 And it was told Solomon, saying, "Indeed Adonijah is afraid of King Solomon; for look, he has taken hold of the horns of the altar, saying, 'Let King Solomon swear to me today that he will not put his servant to death with the sword.'"

- Adonijah knew he was deserving of death for what he had done. He is wanting a guarantee that he will not be put to death for his treason. Solomon extends grace to him. He did not need to; he could have had him executed.

1Ki 1:52-53 Then Solomon said, "If he proves himself (behaves) a worthy man, not one hair of him shall fall to the earth; but if wickedness is found in him, he shall die." [53] So King Solomon sent them to bring him down from the altar. And he came and fell down before King Solomon; and Solomon said to him, "Go to your house."

- If Adonijah continues to attempt to secure the crown, then he will be executed. So Solomon is giving him some space to prove whether he is a good or bad! He is a bad man, and it is going to cost him his life, but not at this time.

David's Instructions to Solomon

Chapter 2 - 1Ki 2:1 Now the days of David drew near that he should die, and he charged Solomon his son, saying:

- **Here is David's instruction to Solomon immediately before his death.** David looks at this young son of his, probably between sixteen and eighteen years old, who is about to become the king of the most important nation in the history of the world, because it would be through the nation of Israel and the Jewish people that God would provide the world with a Savior, the person of Jesus Himself, and provide us with the Hebrew Scriptures, the Old Testament, the Law and the Prophets.
- **David gives the secret to his son, how to be a great king** and how to successfully follow God's call upon your life to be the king of Israel.

1Ki 2:2 "I go the way of all the earth; be strong, therefore, and prove yourself a man.

- **David summons his son Solomon, to his death bed.** The kingdom has been established now, in the hand of Solomon. People have acclaimed him, as king, acknowledging David's desire. As David summons him to the bedside, he says, "I am dying. *I go the way of all the earth.*" This was an emotional scene! Unfortunately in David's day, there was not any strong teaching in the scriptures, concerning the resurrection. They knew that death was inevitable. "I'm going the way of the earth."
- **Be strong, therefore, and prove yourself a man.** The issue is if you are going to be the man that God needs now, that God wants now, that can change human history, then you are a man who will walk in His ways. you will keep His statutes, and His testimonies, and His judgments, that you may be blessed, that you may prosper in everything that you do.
- **Here we see the importance for a son to "man up!" Again for our sons and grandsons are we making any effort to see them developing Godly masculinity? "I go the way of all the earth; be strong, therefore, and prove yourself a man."**
- Today if we should talk about our death, we usually talk about it as, "Going to be with the Lord." We have that glorious assurance of the scripture (2Co 5:8) We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.
- **What a glorious hope we have of eternal life in Jesus Christ!** What a wonderful thing it is, when a person has that hope, and when they come to the place of death, to be there in His presence! The joy, the excitement, the glory of seeing our Lord Jesus Christ! So, David just declared, "I am going away of all the earth. I am dying, son. Now you be strong, prove yourself a man!"

1Ki 2:3 And keep the charge of the LORD your God: to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes, His commandments, His judgments, and His testimonies, as it is written in the Law of Moses, that you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn;

- **That is the hardest thing a man will do in life.** It is the way to prove yourself a man! To go against the strength of this ungodly culture that we live in. And to say, I am going to exercise in the power of the Holy Spirit, the discipline and determination to walk contrary to all of that and walk with God!
- **David knew men!** He has his three hundred that were with him, which turned into six hundred! He has his thirty mighty men, and he has got a group of six in there. I mean, he knew what tough was like. It was his real life for forty years. He said, You want to know what a man is? That is what a man is. It is the same in every age!

1Ki 2:4 that the LORD may fulfill His word which He spoke concerning me, saying, 'If your sons take heed to their way, to walk before Me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul,' He said, 'you shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel.'

- **David's encouragement to Solomon to keep the laws of God,** because, "I want to see the succession on the throne. If you are obedient, if you keep the ways of the *LORD*, with all your heart, and all your soul."
- **Notice that God's promise to David, was conditional.** Conditional upon his children walking in truth, with all their heart and soul. His children unfortunately did not, as Jeremiah testifies at the time of Zedekiah, and these descendants of David, who turned away from God, suffering that horrible calamity of captivity in Babylon. King Zedekiah, and thus the descendants of David ceased from the throne, because they did not keep God's covenant.

1Ki 2:5 "Moreover you know also what Joab the son of Zeruiah did to me, and what he did to the two commanders of the armies of Israel, to Abner the son of Ner and Amasa the son of Jether, whom he killed. And he shed the blood of war in peacetime, and put the blood of war on his belt that was around his waist, and on his sandals that were on his feet.

- **David turns his attention to Joab.** As the head over David's army, he was an extremely powerful man. A valiant warrior, but was guilty of premeditated murder. Joab had killed both Abner, and Amasa, killing them in cold blood, not in war, that was excusable. But the cold blooded killings of Abner, and Amasa, should be punished with death under the law. David was reluctant to bring to bear the law upon him.
- **Now, David having just said to Solomon, "Keep the law of God."** He realized that in the case of Joab, and Shimei, that he had failed to keep the law of God. Shimei was a blasphemer. The blasphemer also was to be put to death. But David, in generosity had excused the guy his blasphemy.
- **David is now telling Solomon, "Now you keep the judgements,"** He is now encouraging Solomon, to take care of his unfinished business, in keeping the judgements, thus bringing these two men to justice, who had violated the law of the *LORD*.

1Ki 2:6 Therefore do according to your wisdom, and do not let his gray hair go down to the grave in peace.

- **Joab needs to be executed.** David reminds Solomon not to allow Joab to die a natural death. He was to be executed as a murderer. The law of Moses required that that would be the case.
- **It would be upon the nation. David did not want the whole nation guilty** of the shedding of innocent blood, so he ordered that Joab to be put to death. It is not an act of vengeance on David's part, but it is an act of justice. Murder was a capital crime and he was to be executed.
- **Notice how in God's love for His people, capital punishment requires blood for blood.**
How far we have gone astray from this! Lawlessness abounds!

1Ki 2:7 "But show kindness to the sons of Barzillai the Gileadite, and let them be among those who eat at your table, for so they came to me when I fled from Absalom your brother.

- **David is saying to Solomon that Barzillai did a good deed.** I do not want him to be forgotten when I die taking care of his families through your reign as well. It just shows the good heart of David!

1Ki 2:8 "And see, you have with you Shimei the son of Gera, a Benjamite from Bahurim, who cursed me with a malicious curse in the day when I went to Mahanaim. But he came down to meet me at the Jordan, and I swore to him by the LORD, saying, 'I will not put you to death with the sword.'

- **When David was fleeing from Absalom, this is the guy who came out and cursed and threw rocks at David.** Abishai wanted to go up and take his head off. But David said, "No, let him curse. Maybe God said, Go out and curse David." So David let him go.
- **Now when David was coming back following Absalom's death,** people were coming down to bring David back. Shimei was down there, telling David he was sorry. David said, "That is alright. Forget it." But now he is telling Solomon to take care of him.

1Ki 2:9 Now therefore, do not hold him guiltless, for you are a wise man and know what you ought to do to him; but bring his gray hair down to the grave with blood."

- **David knew that Shimei still could not be trusted once** David was gone. He is telling Solomon here, Don't show him any mercy at even just the slightest show of rebellion. I do not trust him. If he shows rebellion or disloyalty, then execute him because he is a danger to you and a treasonous man. Solomon allowed Shimei to prove his own disloyal heart.

The Death of David

1Ki 2:10 So David rested with his fathers, and was buried in the City of David.

- **The end of the illustrious career of this man, David.** The Psalmist of Israel, a man after God's own heart. An interesting testimony of God concerning David, which gives us insight into the heart of God, and the kind of men that God is seeking. David was not a perfect man. If God only used perfect men, He could not use anybody. God uses imperfect men whose hearts are towards the *LORD*.
- **The real thrust of my life is to please God, to do His will.** I do fail. But the main thrust of my heart is towards the Lord. May I have a heart like David's! to seek the pardon, the mercy of God. "I have sinned," the prophet said, "God has forgiven your sin." A man who praised the Lord. As he said, "I will bless the Lord at all times. His praise shall continually be in my mouth." A man who sought the Lord. A man whose heart was after God. Not perfect.
- **But these other Characteristics in David's life are things that God saw**, and God said, "That's the kind of man I like."

1Ki 2:11-12 The period that David reigned over Israel was forty years; seven years he reigned in Hebron, and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty-three years. [12] Then Solomon sat on the throne of his father David; and his kingdom was firmly established.

- **He became firmly established in the kingdom.** Adonijah's attempt to become king had failed. David had said to let him ride on my mule. Let him proclaim Solomon is king." Solomon was established and people all began to rejoice! **(1Ki 1:40) And all the people went up after him; and the people played the flutes and rejoiced with great joy, so that the earth seemed to split with their sound.**
- **May we "split the earth" with the rejoicing, thanksgiving and witness** for our King, this Christmas season!

SUMMARY

- **How strong is my self-exhortation compared to my Godly ambition?**
- **We see that David was not a good disciplinarian with his children.**
- **Note the difference here between David and Saul of not being threatened by a successor king,**
- **We see the wisdom in David's determining who his successor should be.**
- **Here we see the importance for a son to "man up!"**
- **(Luk 2:4) Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David,**

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM - (1868) Phillips Brooks (1835-1893), Nat King Cole (2:21/2:25)

O little town of Bethlehem how still we see thee lie. Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light. The hopes and fears of all the years are met in Thee tonight

For Christ is born of Mary and gathered all above. While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love. O morning stars together proclaim the holy birth and praises sing to God our King And peace to men on earth

CLOSING PRAYER

NEXT WEEK: Study *I Kings, Chapters 2-3*

Pastor Jack, CCCH is currently doing four Biblical messages of "Why celebrate Christmas." The fourth and last one will be on Christmas Eve at 3:00 and 5:00 pm. <https://calvarycch.org/>