

Word TO THE FATHERS



A scroll of parchment with a textured, aged appearance. The scroll is unrolled, showing a central rectangular area with text. The edges of the parchment are irregular and slightly frayed. The scroll is held by two wooden rollers on the left and right sides.

**2 Samuel 18:24-33;
2 Samuel 19:1-2**

2 Samuel 18:24-33; 2 Samuel 19:1-2

"Now David was sitting between the two gates, and the watchman went up to the roof of the gate by the wall, and when he lifted up his eyes and looked, he saw a man running alone.

The watchman called out and told the king.

And the king said, 'If he is alone, there is news in his mouth.' And he drew nearer and nearer.

2 Samuel 18:24-33; 2 Samuel 19:1-2

The watchman saw another man running.

And the watchman called to the gate and said, 'See, another man running alone!' The king said, 'He also brings news.'

The watchman said, 'I think the running of the first is like the running of Ahimaaz the son of Zadok.'

And the king said, 'He is a good man and comes with good news.'

2 Samuel 18:24-33; 2 Samuel 19:1-2

"Then Ahimaaz cried out to the king, 'All is well.'

And he bowed before the king with his face to the earth and said, 'Blessed be the LORD your God, who has delivered up the men who raised their hand against my lord the king.'

And the king said, 'Is it well with the young man Absalom?' Ahimaaz answered, 'When Joab sent the king's servant, your servant, I saw a great commotion, but I do not know what it was.'

2 Samuel 18:24-33; 2 Samuel 19:1-2

And the king said, 'Turn aside and stand here.' So he turned aside and stood still.

"And behold, the Cushite came, and the Cushite said, 'Good news for my lord the king! For the LORD has delivered you this day from the hand of all who rose up against you.'

The king said to the Cushite, 'Is it well with the young man Absalom?' And the Cushite answered, 'May the enemies of my lord the king and all who rise up against you for evil be like that young man.'

2 Samuel 18:24-33; 2 Samuel 19:1-2

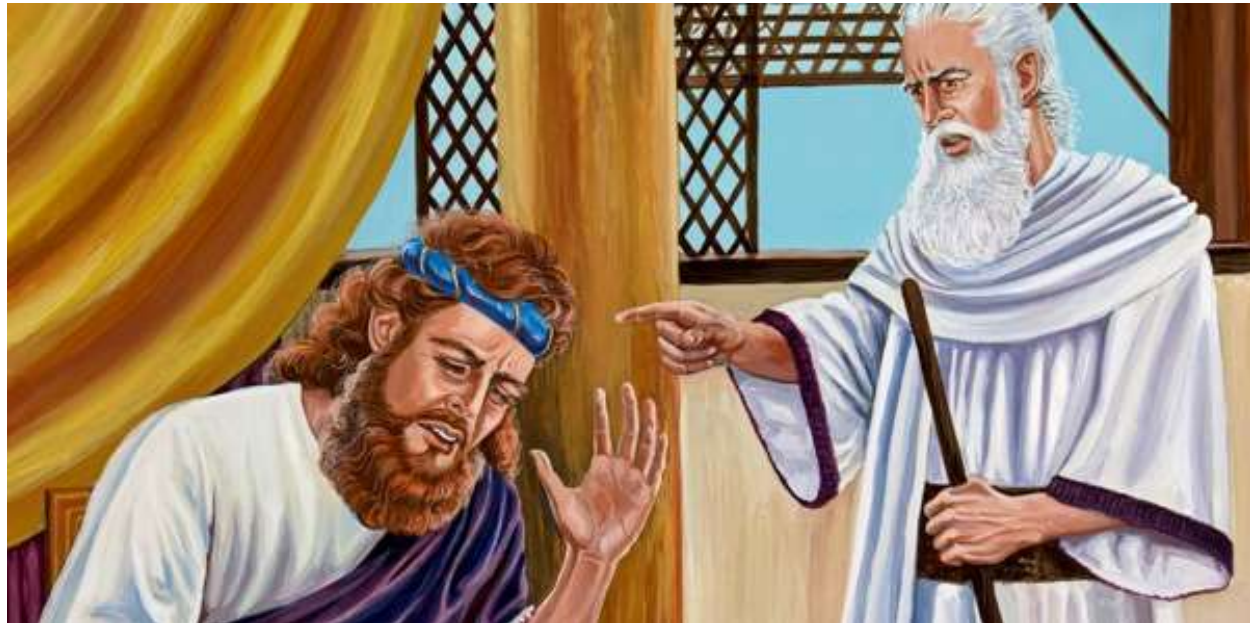
And the king was deeply moved and went up to the chamber over the gate and wept. And as he went, he said, 'O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!'

"It was told Joab, 'Behold, the king is weeping and mourning for Absalom.' 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.'"

Background:

David was a great man, but he was guilty of great sin, which infected his home.

In **2 Samuel 12:11-13**, Nathan confronted David about his sin with Bathsheba.



David had seven wives when he took Bathsheba from his servant Uriah the Hittite.

In **2 Samuel 12**, Nathan said that David's great sin had resulted in judgment.

The sword would not leave his home.



By **2 Samuel 13** it happens: Incest and Murder

In **2 Samuel 14**, Absalom conspires to dethrone his father and become King.



2 Samuel 18 chronicles the climax of the sordid story.

"O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!"

Was there a root cause for this lament?



I. THE SECRET SINS.

The fathers' secret sins will bring sorrow to their families.

Therefore, today is a day of repentance.

David's cry, *"O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I have died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!"* is an awful statement of remorse and regret.



It is a hard one for all of us.

It is hard for those women who have suffered because of the sins of their husbands.

It is hard for children who have suffered because of sin in their own homes, but we must look up to be healed.

How did David — how do broken fathers — end up with such a painful plea of the soul as to cry, ***"O my son, my son"?***

REJECTION! - the act of refusing to accept,
believe or consider.

- **Remorse starts with Rejection.**

David rejected GOD'S LAW, and it set into effect a judgment that reached down through his generations.

-David rejected God's law by marrying many wives.

This never was condoned by God and was a direct rejection of God's intention.

Jesus said, “He who created them from the beginning made male and female, and said, *‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh’*” (Matthew 19:5).



Paul: the intention of God is for a man to have only one wife.

- David also rejected the Law of God in coveting what was not his.

When you break one commandment, you break them all.

Sexual sin is a sin against God's laws for life and always results in pain and even in violence in the land.

Men of God, the spirit of this age seeks to destroy your lives by promising fulfillment through sensuality.

It is a lie from the pit of hell that must be rejected by trusting in Christ, honoring our wives, thinking of the great damage that could come to your children and the horrors of hell.

- **Rebellion Roots from Rejection.**

David's children rebelled.



The sin of Amnon with Tamar, the sin of Absalom against his brother and the sin of Absalom against his father's kingdom all came about as rebellion against David.

Children rebel when they see duplicitous living in their parents' lives.

Children rebel when they see a demand for holiness to which their parents do not adhere.

The child is responsible before God for his or her own faithfulness to God.

Earthly parents are not perfect, and we cannot use their sins to disguise our own.

God calls us to repent and be obedient to them.

- **Repetition sparks in Rejection.**

The rebellion by children toward the father's sin leads to repetition of the sin.

The warning of God is clear: *“for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me”* (Deuteronomy 5:9b).

II. THE SETTLEMENT OF SIN

God is in the business of transforming lives today, giving hope today.

New life begins with the rejection of the old which has brought sorrow and embracing the new which brings life.

Today is a day that God has visited you and called you to return to Him.

Though your sin be done in secret, the defiance of God in the most private areas will become the devastation of your family and your soul in the most public of ways.

Jesus said that if your eye offends you, **PLUCK IT OUT.**

He was using extreme language to address a heart issue that demands extreme and immediate attention.

It is a call to repent, to turn from the sin in order to embrace healing and renewal and life.

The way to turn from something that is powerful is to be compelled by a greater power.

The power is the power of God's love in Jesus Christ.

The power is something you can relate to now — the power of God the Father in His brokenness in sending His only begotten Son for you.

III. THE SETTLEMENT OF THE SON

The holy love of our heavenly Father through the suffering of His one and only Son will bring salvation to broken fathers and their broken children.

This is a day of resurrection hope.

David's cry ended as, ***"My son, my son"; but Jesus' cry was, "My God! My God! Why have You forsaken Me?"***

The cry of David was the cry of a broken father.

The cry of Jesus was the cry of a forsaken Son.

The cry of David came from the failure to follow God's plan for living.

The cry of Jesus came from the fulfillment of God's plan of salvation for those who have failed.

The cry of David brought only more remorse.

The cry of Jesus on the cross brings miraculous resurrection.

Broken fathers — from Adam to David, are nothing in comparison with the brokenness that had to occur as a result of a covenant between God the Father and God the Son.

For it was ordained before the foundation of the world that God the Son would leave His Father's glorious presence in heaven to come to live among His created beings —

- **to be rejected by the very ones He came to save and abandoned on the cross with all of the wrath of God coming down on His pure soul.**

Broken fathers and fractured families are healed by the brokenness of God the Father sending His Son to be forsaken on Calvary's Cross for you.

Not only that, but in Jesus' brokenness, being forsaken by His Father on the cross, Who was sent to the grave.



But God did not leave Him there; He raised Him up on the third day.



Forevermore, there is hope and renewal for broken fathers and fractured families through the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

"For our sakes, He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God" (2 Corinthians 5:21).

CONCLUSION:

There is reconciliation for estranged families, renewal and hope for remorseful fathers and mothers, restoration for prodigal children, through Jesus Christ.

“For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through His blood, shed on the cross. Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior.

Now He has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in His sight, without blemish and free from accusation, if you continue in your faith, established and firm, not moved from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant (Colossians 1:19-23).

Through Jesus Christ the Redeemer, families can be brought together; marriages can be healed; abandoned spouses and children can be ministered to and given a new life; heart-broken children can be mended; the cycle of pain that afflicts generations can be snapped, not by remorse but by repentance before a holy God who is quick to receive you because of His Son, Jesus.