

VV March 8, 2025

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2 Samuel 18: 19-33 (David grieves for Absalom) (We will read the whole passage)

There is no record of Absalom's son having died, but the building of the monument in verse 18 suggests it must have happened. The erection of the pillar suggests it had a significant impact on Absalom.

v. 19 -23 Ahimaaz requested to carry the message. David instructed that one of Zadok's two sons should be responsible for communications. (2 Sam 15:36)

Why would Joab want the Cushite to carry the message?

Why did he agree to let Ahimaaz go as well?

Why did Ahimaaz ask to run behind the Cushite, then deliberately overtake him?

v. 24-32

Did the confusion caused by the two messengers and the delivery of the messages, especially Ahimaaz telling the king a lie, help or hinder David's ability to process the truth?

V. 33

Is David's response to Absalom's Death normal, or unique?

The real significance of this incident is the CONTEXT in which it happens.

The Jews understanding of themselves was that they served the ONE GOD.

In the first two commandments (Exodus 20:7) they had been given some critical guidance.

1. No worship of other God's

- That was not an acceptance of their existence, but rather man's belief that they did.
why did I make the above comment?

2. Outcomes for obedience and disobedience

- Were these blessings and curses...
 - a. ...the outcomes of human actions?
 - b. ...inflicted by God?

3. Defending the character of God.

"You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God"

What did JESUS teach that clarifies the meaning of this commandment?

What significance does this have TODAY?

Had David dishonoured himself, his kingdom and God when he raped Bathsheba and killed her husband?

Had the GUILT & SHAME from those actions cripple David's ability to handle the events that followed?

Were the outcomes predetermined?

Could he have done anything that may have changed the outcomes?

IS DAVID THE ONLY PERSON TO BE TRAPPED IN SUCH A DILEMMA?

ARE, MORAL DILEMMAS' PART OF HUMAN EXPERIENCE?

HAVE YOU FACED A MORAL DILEMMA YOURSELF?