



# The Life of David

2 Samuel 14

*Absalom's Estrangement from David*



...his righteousness un-  
a people that shall be born, th  
he hath done *this*.

**PSALM 23**  
A Psalm of David.

**THE LORD** is my shepherd;  
1 I shall not want.  
2 He maketh me to lie down  
in green pastures: he leadeth  
me beside the still waters.  
3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth  
me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.



# Introduction

*Theme: Just as God declared would happen, calamity continues to unfold in David's family amid sins and their consequences. Absalom's estrangement from David promotes bitterness that will later escalate to full blown ungodly rebellion.*

**2 Samuel 12:10–11** <sup>10</sup>‘Now therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised Me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.’ <sup>11</sup>“Thus says the LORD, ‘Behold, I will raise up evil against you from your own household; I will even take your wives before your eyes and give *them* to your companion, and he will lie with your wives in broad daylight.

# Joab seeks to return Absalom to Jerusalem (vv1-24)

- He perceives the need, plans the strategy, and recruits a woman from Tekoa (vv1-3)
- The woman presents her fictitious story to David (vv4-17)
  - The woman's story (vv4-7)

**Her painful situation:** My husband died and one of my two sons killed the other

**Her present problem:** The rest of the family seeks justice by wanting to kill my remaining son

**Her undesired outcome:** This would end the family line and my husband's name

**The imminent request:** My remaining son needs protection

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Her painful situation

Her present problem

Her undesired outcome

The imminent request

	Woman of Tekoa	Cain and Abel
Someone kills another (and why)	Son #1 kills son #2 (conflict/anger)	Cain kills Abel (jealousy/anger)
Someone wants to avenge or put away the murderer	Rest of the family	Other people
Someone's future is in jeopardy	Woman of Tekoa and family name	
Someone with authority intervenes in mercy to save the murderer's life	➔ David ➔	God

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  - David's decisions (vv8-11)
    - *No one will be allowed to blame you in any way (v10)*

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■ No one

	Woman of Tekoa	Cain and Abel	David
Someone kills another (and why)	Son #1 kills son #2 (conflict/anger)	Cain kills Abel (jealousy/anger)	David kills Uriah (adultery)
Someone wants to avenge or put away the murderer	Rest of the family	Other people	
Someone's future is in jeopardy	Woman of Tekoa and family name		People of Israel
Someone with authority intervenes in mercy to save the murderer's life	David	God	God

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  - David's decisions (vv8-11)
    - *No one will be allowed to blame you in any way (v10)*
    - *No one will touch a hair on your son (v11b)*

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  - The woman applies the principle to Absalom's situation (vv12-14)

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	Woman of Tekoa	Cain and Abel	David	Absalom
Someone kills another (and why)	Son #1 kills son #2 (conflict/anger)	Cain kills Abel (jealousy/anger)	David kills Uriah (adultery)	Absalom kills Amnon (rape of Tamar)
Someone wants to avenge or put away the murderer	Rest of the family	Other people		Various
Someone's future is in jeopardy	Woman of Tekoa and family name		People of Israel	People of Israel
Someone with authority intervenes in mercy to save the murderer's life	David	God	God	➔ David ➔

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  - The woman applies the principle to Absalom's situation (vv12-14)
  - Awkwardly, the woman returns to her fictitious story (vv15-17)

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- The woman presents her fictitious story to David (vv4-17)
- David unmaskes the fictitious story and its source (vv18-20)
- David instructs Joab to bring Absalom back to Jerusalem (vv21-24)
  - However, he's not permitted to see the king (v24)

Absalom is highly praised among the people (vv25-27)



# Absalom is highly praised among the people (vv25-27)

- All Israel consider him (v25)
  - Handsome
  - Highly praised
  - Without defect
- He had lots of hair (v26)
- He had 3 sons and a beautiful daughter (v27)

## Absalom seeks to be reconciled to David (vv28-33)

- After 2 years in Jerusalem without seeing David, he asks Joab repeatedly to help (vv28-29)
- After Absalom sets Joab's barley field on fire, Joab finally says ok (vv30-32)
- Joab brings Absalom before David where David kisses and embraces him (v33)

# Closing Observations

- Remember the big picture of what God said would happen

*Theme: Just as God declared would happen, calamity continues to unfold in David's family amid sins and their consequences. Absalom's estrangement from David promotes bitterness that will later escalate to full blown ungodly rebellion.*

- You can see David's struggle with moral authority based on his own sin
- Sin and its consequences really make life complicated
- Unresolved conflict with no communication easily promotes bitterness
- How quickly and easily the heart of man falls away from the Lord in disobedience