

## How to Steal a Kingdom

2 Samuel 15:1-12

3 November 2013

### I. Absalom the Candidate

- A. Looking the part
- B. Sowing dissatisfaction
- C. The everyman
- D. "Oh, that I were judge!"

### II. Absalom the False King

- A. Fool me twice
- B. Hebron (see 2 Samuel 2:3; 5:11)
- C. Spies
- D. An unwitting retinue
- E. The counselor (see 2 Samuel 16:23; 23:34)

### III. Absalom the Serpent

- A. On reading the Bible well (see 1 Samuel 8:11)
- B. The land of Israel and the garden of God (see Genesis 1:27 with 5:3; Luke 3:38; also Genesis 3:22-24)
- C. The garden and the city
- D. The king and the first man (see 2 Samuel 7:14; Psalm 2:7; 2 Samuel 12:10-11a)
- E. The serpent in the garden

### IV. How Temptation Works

- A. What he does
- B. How he does it
  - i. he plays on the desire of all human beings for the satisfaction of justice
  - ii. he calls into question either the competence or the goodness of their rightful lord
  - iii. he justifies people in their own minds and hearts
  - iv. he holds out the desirability of a substitute lord who will give the people whatever it is they want
- C. This is how temptation works! (see Proverbs 14:12; 16:25; see also Hebrews 12:1-2)