

BOOK 2 SAMUEL
IS THE YOUNG MAN ABSALOM SAFE?
2 SAMUEL 18:1-33

Introduction

“Is the young man Absalom safe?” This heartfelt question was asked twice by David here in our text. David dreaded to hear the answer to that question because in his heart, he already knew the answer!

I. **ABSALOM WAS NOT SAFE BECAUSE OF HIS FATHER’S SIN!**

Some of **the most difficult battles** and **life changing battles** that take place in folks lives can be **those that take place within families**. We see it all the **time in the news**, but sadly sometimes **it is even witnessed in our own families as Believers!**

We can **wish it weren’t so** and **we can pray for it not to be so**, but **sometimes it seems that it cannot be escaped**. Such is the case that we see within David’s family.

No doubt **David is living with a great amount of regret over his sins and the consequences associated with them**. Part of what we see **here came because David had that time in his life when he let his lusts get out of control and he committed egregious sin before God!**

We can imagine that he might have had some thoughts about how **things might have been different in his family** if he could just go back and have a **“do over”** in that particular time of his life!

Remember when we’d ask for a do over out on the playground? But **life is not a playground where you get “do overs”!** **Life is not a golf course where you get a mulligan!** Unfortunately, in sin there are no **“do overs”** and there are no **mulligans!**

Now, thank God **there is mercy, there is grace, and there is forgiveness when we repent and get back to where we need to be!** Nevertheless, **the consequences of our sins** and shortcomings can be **not only inescapable, but they can be brutal** like they were in David’s life!

BOOK 2 SAMUEL
IS THE YOUNG MAN ABSALOM SAFE?
2 SAMUEL 18:1-33

We’ve seen previously that when David **did not promptly confess and forsake his sin on his own**, the LORD sent the Prophet Nathan to confront him!

*2 Samuel 12:10-13 “10 Now therefore **the sword shall never depart from thine house**; because thou hast despised me, and hast taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be thy wife. 11 Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will raise up evil against thee out of thine own house, and I will take thy wives before thine eyes, and give them unto thy neighbour, and he shall lie with thy wives in the sight of this sun. 12 For thou didst it secretly: but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun. 13 And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.”*

Might things have been different had kept a short account with God and confessed and repented on his own without having to be confronted? I think so, but only the LORD knows for sure!

Don’t you know that David beat himself up over and over again knowing that **that a great part of what was going on in his family was his own fault!**

Oh how we need to keep this story before us as parents and grandparents! We need to understand how **our lives, our children’s lives, and even our children’s children’s lives can be either helped or hurt by our own lives!**

Living in the righteousness of God before them can bring great blessing in our families! But, allowing sin to dwell in our lives before them can bring great hurt!

ABSALOM WAS NOT SAFE BECAUSE OF HIS FATHER’S SIN!

II. **ABSALOM WAS NOT SAFE BECAUSE OF HIS FRIENDS AND ASSOCIATES!**

You think peer pressure might have had anything to do with Absalom being the way he was?

**BOOK 2 SAMUEL
IS THE YOUNG MAN ABSALOM SAFE?
2 SAMUEL 18:1-33**

Listen, **without followers Absalom could not and would not have been a leader!** Unfortunately for him, **his friends and followers were a stumbling block to him!**

Without the encouragement of his friends and followers, Absalom **COULD NOT and WOULD NOT** have done all that he did! There were many that **urged him on in his rebellion and wickedness against God and against his Father!**

1 Corinthians 15:33 “Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.”

Proverbs 1:10 “My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not.”

Be careful who you hang with and listen to (i.e. I’m talking about your close associations and friendships!) Because, peer pressure can be very strong!

*ABSALOM WAS NOT SAFE BECAUSE OF HIS FATHER’S SIN...
ABSALOM WAS NOT SAFE BECAUSE OF HIS FRIENDS AND
ASSOCIATES...*

**III. ABSALOM WAS NOT SAFE BECAUSE OF HIS FAILURES!
(i.e. HIS OWN CHOICES TO SIN!)**

While there can certainly be blame on the part of his **FATHER**, and blame on the part of his **FRIENDS AND ASSOCIATES**, that **didn’t relieve Absalom of his PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY** before the **LORD!**

It is always **easy for us to try to blame others for our own FAULTS AND FAILURES!** But listen, **not ALL the blame can be laid on others!** The **LORD** still holds each of **US** personally responsible for our own choices, **no matter what influence our family or others may have had on us!**

**BOOK 2 SAMUEL
IS THE YOUNG MAN ABSALOM SAFE?
2 SAMUEL 18:1-33**

Part of the problem with our society today is people want to blame the way they are on someone or something else rather than their OWN FOOLISH CHOICES! (i.e. They fail to take personal responsibility!)

Ultimately the problem boils down to WHAT WE CHOOSE! (What I’m saying is that the **REAL PROBLEM** is not primarily our **FAMILY, FRIENDS, NEIGHBORHOOD, or THINGS THAT HAVE HAPPENED TO US—IT IS OUR SINFUL HEART!**)

Absalom **did NOT** have to be the way he was! He **did NOT** have to **allow his Dad’s sins and shortcomings to affect him the way it did!** Realize that **he made some wrong personal choices to be what he was!**

His attitude was, *“Phooey on my old man and his God! I’m going to live my life the way that I want to and nobody is going to stop me!”* Like Frank Sinatra’s song, **“I DID IT MY WAY!”** **He did life HIS way AND he died a tragic death while doing it HIS way! But always remember, it didn’t have to be that way! He could have made different choices!**

IV. ABSALOM WAS NOT SAFE BECAUSE HE WAS WRONG!

A. He Was Wrong With His Father!

Absalom rebelled against his father! Listen to me, **no one can be wrong with their parents and be right with God!**

1. Rebellion And Disobedience Against Parents Is Sin Against God!

In *Romans 1:28-32* it is listed with some of the most despicable sins known to mankind!

God looks upon it as deserving of the death penalty!
(*Deuteronomy 21:18-21*)

The Bible says it will be a part of what causes the last days to be such perilous times! (*2 Timothy 3:1-5*)

BOOK 2 SAMUEL
IS THE YOUNG MAN ABSALOM SAFE?
2 SAMUEL 18:1-33

2. Rebellion And Disobedience To Parents Is Sin Against Them!

We have all heard of the term “*child abuse.*” It’s a terrible and tragic thing! But so is “*parent abuse!*”

The first step in *parent abuse* is disobedience!

It can be **DIRECT**—Talking back; say things to hurt them; when told to do something, disobey to their face and before others!

It can be **INDIRECT**—This is done behind their back! Living a lifestyle away from home different from what you were taught at home!

Doing things your parent’s disapprove of when you are sure you won’t get caught!

The second step in *parent abuse* is disrespect!

This is caused by rebellion—It becomes an attitude—It takes over the actions of your life!

No matter how lightly one views it, the Bible calls it sin! It is very serious sin!

1 Samuel 15:23 “For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry.”

One cause for disobedience and disrespect can be having the wrong kind of friends! We become like those we hang around with! That’s called peer pressure!

The third step in *parent abuse* is dishonor!

Exodus 20:12 “Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.”

BOOK 2 SAMUEL
IS THE YOUNG MAN ABSALOM SAFE?
2 SAMUEL 18:1-33

Honor—To bring glory!
Dishonor—To bring shame!

3. “Why Should A Child Honor And Obey Their Parents?”

a. God’s Word Commands It!

Ephesians 6:1 “Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.”

b. Because It Is Right!

c. Because It Is Well-Pleasing To The LORD!

Colossians 3:20 “Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.”

d. There Is No Way To Be Right With God Without It!

4. Your Parents May Not Always Be Right!

They are wrong if they go against God’s Word!
Nevertheless, they deserve your honor and obedience!

If you’ve been wrong to your parents and haven’t done it already, ask the LORD to forgive you and make it right with them if they are still around!

Absalom Was Wrong With His Father...

B. Absalom Was Wrong With His Country!

C. Absalom Was Wrong With His God!