



“A Tale of Two Counselors”

II Samuel 16:15 – 17:29

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2 Samuel 16:15 – 17:29

Intro: David’s retreat from Jerusalem taught us several lessons:

- 1.** To trust the *sovereignty* of God in all our circumstances,
- 2.** The pitfalls of making *hasty* judgments,
Prov. 18:13,17
- 3.** How to *avoid* a critical spirit, one that is desirous to cause *pain* and is driven by *revenge*.

We learned that *silence* under provocation is *safety*, that often to govern our *lips* is to govern our *hearts*.

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2 Samuel 16:15 – 17:29

I. Ahithophel and Revenge-Led Counsel

While David sought *godly* counsel, Absalom trusted *human* wisdom.

In his counsel Ahithophel wanted to *avenge* himself against David.

In his *counsel* we saw:

A. The *power* of Bitterness;

1 *Defiles* the many, Deut. 29:16-19, Heb. 12:15.

2. Leads to *murder*, Matt. 5:21-22

3. It is only safeguarded against by *forgiveness*,
Col. 3:13.

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I. Ahithophel and Revenge-Led Counsel

A. The *power* of Bitterness;

1 *Defiles* the many, Deut. 29:16-19, Heb. 12:15.

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B. What we do in *secret* will come out in the open.

Num. 32:23, Rom. 2:16.

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II. Hushai and Ordained Counsel

Hushai was God’s *agent* to turn Ahithophel’s counsel into foolishness.

That Absalom took Hushai’s *counsel* over Ahithophel’s was God ordained, **2 Sam. 17:14**.

Due to Ahithophel’s *obsession* with revenge, he stopped serving the Lord and began *servicing* his own self-interests.

David did the *work* he could do and *trusted* God for the outcome.

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III. God's Gift

When David and his people were tired, hungry and worn out, God *provided* an unexpected blessing.

When we *receive* a blessing that has nothing to do with what we may have *done* or *accomplished*, it's a *reminder* that we are important and *accepted* by God, that He cares about us.