

A Bad Decision and a Dead Dog

2 Samuel 16:1-14

2/2/2020

Intro:

Scripture is often **redundant** on certain Biblical truths.

In this morning's **scripture** we'll learn three important **truths** from three Biblical characters, all of whom we have seen before:

1. Ziba, Saul's **deceitful** former servant;
2. Shimei, a **relative** of Saul and a **Dead Dog** ;
3. **King David**.

A recurring **theme** in this chapter is that of not **reviling** when reviled by someone.

I. Making Hasty Judgments

Vss. 1-4

Ziba conspires to **defame** Mephibosheth and show him as a **traitor**. David **believes** Ziba in violation of **Prov. 18:13**.

Two spiritual **truths** that guard against making hasty **judgments**:

1. Don't be **superficial** in our **assessment** of people;
John 7:24,
 - A. Don't be **quick** to form a favorable judgment,
 - B. Don't form too **harsh** a judgment of people.
2. If we **walk** in the Spirit we can **appraise** all things,
1 Cor. 2:15.

Take time to examine the entire matter

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II. Characteristics of a Critical Spirit

Vss. 5-9a

Shimei's outburst was the **result** of a 20 yr **grudge**. He:

1. **Focused** on the negative;
He dwelt on the faults of other.
2. Magnified the **faults** of others to **ease** the pain of his own,
Criticism produced by hatred, envy and malice
3. Wasn't concerned of the **truth** of his accusations,
Such criticism is often as regardless of prudence as truth.
4. Made **truthful** yet mis-appropriated **application**,
Such justify their unjust surmises and malignant passions.
5. The critical spirit often **provokes** wrath in others.
When two flints are rubbed together a fire starts.

III. Forbearance in the Face of Hate

Vss. 9b-14

David received Shimei's **accusations**:

1. In **silence**; **Prov. 19:11**

Silence under **provocation** is safety. To govern our **lips** is to govern our **hearts**.

2. In **submission**; **2 Sam. 15:26**

David **accepted** the chastisement of God;

3. With **hope**; **Ps. 109:28**; **Micah 7:9**

The hope of God's **mercy** sustained him and gave him **courage**.