

PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

II SAMUEL 1:11-12, 17-27

LESSON: DAVID'S GRIEF FOR SAUL AND JONATHAN—

August 23, 2020

INTRODUCTION:

2ND Samuel 1:1-10 David was not apart of the battle where Saul and his sons died, but David returned from Ziklag after slaughtering the Amalekites, and dwelt two days there in Ziklag. On the third day a man (an Amalekite) came out of the camp from the Israelite's army, clothes torn, and dirt on his head as a sign of mourning, and fell to the ground before David in deep respect. David interrogates him: "Where have you come from?" He says he escaped from the camp of Israel. "What is the situation there?" He says the Israelite soldiers ran away from the battle and many people had fallen dead, Saul and his son Jonathan are dead (because of the Philistines). David asked very abruptly: "How do you know that Saul and Jonathan are dead?" And the young man that brought this news began to tell what happened. By chance he happened to be on Mount Gilboa and seen Saul leaning upon his spear and the chariots and horsemen of the Philistines followed hard after him. Saul looked around and saw him and called out to him. He answered and Saul asked him who he was, and the young man said "I am an Amalakite." Saul told him to stand on him, meaning lean over him so the sword can thrust more and kill him for he was in anguish and he still had life in him. When we go back to 1st Sam. 31:3-4, it shows us that the archers overtook Saul and wounded him badly, and Saul took his own sword and fell upon it after his armor bearer wouldn't do it for him. So, if the young man was lying or not, he confessed to killing Saul with the sword by saying *"So I stood upon him and slew him because he was sure that he could not live."* So, he took Saul's crown that was upon his head and his bracelet that was on his arm and brought them to give to David (his lord). This was to prove that Saul had really fallen in the battle.

LESSON: I. MOURNING THE HOUSE OF SAUL II SAMUEL 1:11-12

2ND Samuel 1:11 **Then David took hold on his clothes, and rent them; and likewise all the men that were with him:—** The reaction David took after hearing of the death of Saul and Jonathan was to take hold of and rip away his own clothing as a sign of grief and deep mourning, especially the death of God's man and of his friend.

2ND Samuel 1:12 **And they mourned, and wept, and fasted until even, for Saul, and for Jonathan his son, and for the people of the LORD, and for the house of Israel; because they were fallen by the sword.** David and his men mourned and wept and fasted for Saul and his best friend Jonathan, and for the people of the LORD, and for the house of Israel; because they were come to their end by the sword.

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David's further conversation with the young man, whom he had asked where are you from? answers that he is the son of a stranger, an Amalekite. Well, **"how were you not afraid to stretch out your hand to destroy the Lord's anointed?"** This brings us to 1st Chronicles 16:22 and Psalms 105:15 which says **"Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm."** This is something David would have never done to Saul even when he had a chance to do this very thing the Amalekite did. David knew that Saul had been chosen by the Lord, and because of the office God placed Saul into, he was to respect the office. Even though he was *"son of a stranger, an Amalekite"*—living in a new land without all the rights and cultural backgrounds of a native citizen, he should have known the seriousness of harming the Lord's anointed, even Saul's armor bearer wouldn't kill him; he killed his own self. David then calls one man over and tells him to strike him (the Amalekite) down, and it was done. He died on the spot, and David says *"your blood be upon my head, for your mouth testified against you, saying I have slain the Lord's anointed."* If he didn't do it, he confessed to it, and David took him at his word.

BACK TO THE LESSON:

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II. LAMENTATION FOR THE FALLEN II SAMUEL 1:17-18

2ND Samuel 1:17 **And David lamented with this lamentation over Saul and over Jonathan his son:**— The word "*lament*" is a song or psalm of mourning. This is what David did: he composed a poem for the king and his son ((Saul and Jonathan) in which he mourned over. Even though Saul had caused so much trouble for David, David chose not to hate Saul, but to show respect unto him. He chose to ignore the times Saul had tried to attack him. David was an excellent musician, and he sang or spoke expressions of deep mourning over the deaths of Saul and his best friend Jonathan.

2ND Samuel 1:18 **(Also he bade them teach the children of Judah the use of the bow: behold, it is written in the book of Jasher.)**— David gave orders to teach the children of Judah this song of lament. It came to be known as the Song of the Bow and written in the "*Book of Jasher.*" "*Jasher*" means "*upright, right standing, and righteous.*" The Book of Jasher is translated in the "*Book of Righteousness*" as it is in the Septuagint (a translation of the Old Testament from Hebrew into Greek) into a collection of poems.

III. DEEP SORROW EXPRESSED II SAMUEL 1:19-27

2ND Samuel 1:19 **The beauty of Israel is slain upon thy high places: how are the mighty fallen!**— "*The beauty of Israel*" refers to Saul and Jonathan. They were "*killed upon thy high places*" meaning the mountain of Gilboa (the place they died), for great soldiers have died in the battle, and Saul and Jonathan were the mighty who had fallen!

2ND Samuel 1:20 **Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Askelon; lest the daughters of the Philistines rejoice, lest the daughters of the uncircumcised triumph.** Don't announce this news in Gath. Don't declare it in the streets of Ashkelon, lest the Philistine daughters rejoice, and lest the daughters of the uncircumcised (Philistines) will have victory.

2ND Samuel 1:21 **Ye mountains of Gilboa, let there be no dew, neither let there be rain, upon you, nor fields of offerings: for there the shield of the mighty is vilely cast away, the shield of Saul, as though he had not been anointed with oil.** David speaks to the mountains of Gilboa: "*Don't let any dew on the mountain, neither rain come upon the mountains or their fields of offerings, for the shield of the mighty is vilely cast away, (dishonored, stained, defiled) which is the shield of Saul, as though he had not been anointed with oil.*" On the mountains of Gilboa was where the battle was fought, and Saul was defeated and died, and David is really grieving over this place to where he doesn't want God to prosper it.; the warrior's shield he held was vilely dishonored; the shield of Saul was never to be anointed with oil again by him.

2ND Samuel 1:22 **From the blood of the slain, from the fat of the mighty, the bow of Jonathan turned not back, and the sword of Saul returned not empty.** The actions they took to achieve victory were from the shed blood of the slain, from those owning great wealth or from the flesh of the strong and mighty. The bow of Jonathan didn't return back, and Saul's sword hit its mark; each shedding blood.

2ND Samuel 1:23 **Saul and Jonathan were lovely and pleasant in their lives, and in their death they were not divided: they were swifter than eagles, they were stronger than lions.** This seemed to say that Saul and Jonathan were able to get along with each other. In 1st Samuel 19:3-5 Jonathan was able to commune with his father Saul, and verse 6 Saul was able to hear and heed what Johnathan was trying to get over to him. In battle they fought side by side on Mount Gilboa and not divided. And in their death they died the same day. Saul and Jonathan were swifter than eagles, and stronger than lions illustrating animal agility and strength that's powered

to stay on course.

2ND Samuel 1:24 **Ye daughters of Israel, weep over Saul, who clothed you in scarlet, with other delights, who put on**



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ornaments of gold upon your apparel. Saul had clothed the daughters of Israel with vibrant colors: scarlet (crimson, ruby red, burgundy, cherry) with other delights; ornaments of gold worn upon their apparel, but now David tells the daughters of Israel, it was not a time to rejoice, it's time to weep over Saul.

2ND Samuel 1:25 **How are the mighty fallen in the midst of the battle! O Jonathan, thou wast slain in thine high places.** This is said again in David's poem and song. *"How are the mighty fallen in the midst of the battle!"* This again speaks of Saul and Jonathan in battle against the Philistines, for David is truly sad over the death of his best friend Jonathan killed in the high places (Mount Gilboa), so he laments (mourns).

2ND Samuel 1:26 **I am distressed for thee, my brother Jonathan: very pleasant hast thou been unto me: thy love to me was wonderful, passing the love of women.** He is distraught over his faithful friend that he called brother; treated him like his own brother; affirming their deep friendship and how agreeable Jonathan had been toward him, helping him, talking with him, and being there for him. Jonathan, the Prince realized that David would be king and not he. However, it didn't weaken his love for David. Jonathan's love was more wonderful, passing the love of women. He can say that his wife Michal helped him get away from her father, but lied on him in the process. But later he had many wives and women in his life.

2ND Samuel 1:27 **How are the mighty fallen, and the weapons of war perished!**— To conclude the poem or song he sings, "How the mighty Saul and Jonathan have fallen with their weapons of war that came to an end.

SUMMARY:

The reaction David took after hearing of the death of Saul and Jonathan was to take hold of and rip away his own clothing as a sign of grief and deep mourning. David and his men mourned and wept and fasted for Saul and his best friend Jonathan, and for the people of the LORD, and for the house of Israel because they were come to their end by the sword (**1:11-12**).

David composed a poem expressing deep mourning over the deaths of the king and his son. He gave orders to teach the children of Judah this song of lament and it's written in the *"Book of Jasher"* (**1:17-18**).

"The beauty of Israel" refers to Saul and Jonathan *"killed upon thy high places"* meaning the mountain of Gilboa (the place they died), for great soldiers have died in the battle, and Saul and Jonathan were the mighty who had fallen! They were not to announce it out in the streets where the Philistine daughters would rejoice over it and have victory. He talks about the mountains of Gilboa, the blood of the slain, how lovely and pleasant were the lives of Saul and Jonathan, tells the daughters of Israel to weep over Saul. *"How are the mighty fallen in the midst of the battle! O Jonathan."* He speaks of how distraught over the death of his faithful friend that he called brother; treated him like his own brother; and affirming their deep friendship. To conclude the poem or song of lament: *"How the mighty Saul and Jonathan have fallen along with their weapons of war that came to an end"* (**1:19-27**).

