

Discovered:

- Absalom had a beautiful sister, Tamar that Amnon loved. He pretended to be ill & have Tamar take care of him, instead he raped her - then he hated her & threw her out. Tamar mourned & David was angry, but there were no consequences for Amnon's rape of his sister.
- Absalom invited all his brothers out to Baal-hazor & instructed his servants to strike Amnon once he was drunk. Absalom fled to Geshur, David & sons mourned Amnon's death.
- Joab found a way to return Absalom to court, a woman caused David to bring Absalom back to court by seeking judgement. David understood Joab was behind it. Absalom could come back but could not come into David's presence. not forgiven
- Absalom grew bitter and sat at the gate, siding with anyone bringing a grievance before the King - endearing himself to the people. After 4 years, Absalom staged a rebellion, even taking Ahithophel, David's counselor) to his side.
- David fled for his life with all of his household but 10 concubines. David sent the ark & priests back to Jerusalem. He sent Hushai to be a counselor to Absalom and a spy using the priest's sons: Ahimaaz & Jonathan to send messages. David prayed that Ahithophel would become a foolish counselor. Ziba came to David's aid.
- Shimei (house of Saul) came out to curse David & David accepted it, saying it was from God.
- Absalom went into the 10 concubines David left to keep house, in a tent on the roof for all to see.
- Ahithophiel wanted to take 12,000 men & hunt down David, but Hushai wanted to gather all of Israel to go after David. Absalom liked Hushai's advice better. Hushai then had time to send a warning to David. Ahithophiel went home and hung himself.
- David & his household were provided for by Barzillai at Mahanaim.
- David divided the army into 3, he wanted to go with, but was told to stay. He gave orders to treat Absalom gently. Absalom was found caught in a tree & Joab killed him w/ 3 javelins. They buried him @ forest, rocks on top.
- Joab sent a Cushite to deliver the news but Ahimaaz beat him telling David a lie. David mourned Absalom.
- Joab tells David off for mourning the death of a traitor, Absalom. David returned to Jerusalem & forgave his enemies: Shimei, Mephibosheth & Ziba (lied about his master)
- Sheba revolted & took with the men of Israel. David ordered Amasa to gather Judah for battle but he delayed and was killed by Joab for his slowness to obey. Joab & Abishai chased Sheba to Abel & took siege. A wise woman asked why? They just wanted Sheba - she promised his head if they would leave they city & delivered his head by throwing it over the wall.
- There was a famine for 3 years, when David asked God why, he said there was guilt on Saul for killing Gibeonites. Gibeonites demanded 7 sons of Saul be hung in restitution. Rizpah protected the men from scavengers. They were buried with Saul. Famine ended.
- Israel went to war with Philistines but David now had to stay home - too old for war.
- David wrote a song of praise/thankfulness to the Lord. He also praised the top 37 men (warriors) memorializing their deeds.
- Despite a warning from Joab, David took a census: 800,000 men. God was angry @ David. He was to pick his punishment: 3 years, 3 months or 3 days. David picked 3 days of pestilence as he knew God would be more merciful than man.

Help me to remember:

There are consequences for my actions, good & bad and I can't just talk/pray my way out of them.

Lord, I ask that

you help to remind me to pause before I act. Ask me if my actions are honoring you.

Heavenly Father, I am thankful for...

Consequences. They are reminders of my actions and guide my future behavior.