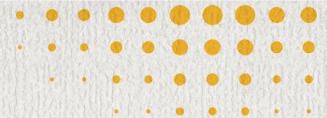


TRIUMPHS AND TRIALS of the KING



How Do the Faithful Love?

2 SAMUEL 1

Why are we so quick to celebrate the downfall of those who have hurt us?



2 Samuel 1:4

Saul and his son Jonathan are dead





Matthew 5:44–45

“But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven.

For he causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good.”





2 Samuel 1

11 Then David took hold of his clothes and tore them, and all the men with him did the same.

12 They mourned, wept, and fasted until the evening for those who died by the sword—for Saul, his son Jonathan, the LORD's people, and the house of Israel.



2 Samuel 1

13 David inquired of the young man who had brought him the report, “Where are you from?” “I’m the son of a resident alien,” he said. “I’m an Amalekite.”

14 David questioned him, “How is it that you were not afraid to lift your hand to destroy the LORD’s anointed?”



2 Samuel 1

15 Then David summoned one of his servants and said, “Come here and kill him!” The servant struck him, and he died.

16 For David had said to the Amalekite, “Your blood is on your own head because your own mouth testified against you by saying, ‘I killed the LORD’s anointed.’”





2 Samuel 1

17 David sang the following lament for Saul and his son Jonathan, 18 and he ordered that the Judahites be taught The Song of the Bow. It is written in the Book of Jashar:
19 The splendor of Israel lies slain on your heights.

How the mighty have fallen!

20 Do not tell it in Gath,
don't announce it in the marketplaces of Ashkelon,
or the daughters of the Philistines will rejoice,
and the daughters of the uncircumcised will celebrate.



2 Samuel 1

21 Mountains of Gilboa, let no dew or rain be on you,
or fields of offerings,
for there the shield of the mighty was defiled—
the shield of Saul, no longer anointed with oil.

22 Jonathan's bow never retreated,
Saul's sword never returned unstained,
from the blood of the slain,
from the flesh of the mighty.



2 Samuel 1

23 Saul and Jonathan, loved and delightful,
they were not parted in life or in death.

They were swifter than eagles, stronger than lions.

24 Daughters of Israel, weep for Saul,
who clothed you in scarlet, with luxurious things,
who decked your garments with gold ornaments.



2 Samuel 1

25 How the mighty have fallen in the thick of battle!
 Jonathan lies slain on your heights.

26 I grieve for you, Jonathan, my brother.
 You were such a friend to me.

 Your love for me was more wondrous than the love
 of women.

27 How the mighty have fallen
 and the weapons of war have perished!



John 13:1

“Having loved his own who were in the world,
he loved them to the end.”



How do the faithful love?

- *Death is our enemy. It will continue to reign until Christ judges death and throws it into the lake of eternal fire.
- *When we grieve over those we love, we reveal the cost of loving, like Jesus, who wept over Lazarus' death.
- * God understands our suffering. Jesus suffered for us, leaving us an example.
- *Christ's resurrection is our hope. Our future resurrection brings dignity to our present tears.

