

TRIUMPHS
AND TRIALS
of the
KING



The Weeping King

2 SAMUEL 18




Have you ever loved someone deeply, only to watch them drift away, or lose them, knowing you cannot bring them back?



2 Samuel 18

1 David reviewed his troops and appointed commanders of thousands and of hundreds over them.

2 He then sent out the troops, a third under Joab, a third under Joab's brother Abishai son of Zeruiah, and a third under Ittai of Gath. The king said to the troops, "I must also march out with you."

3 "You must not go!" the people pleaded. "If we have to flee, they  will not pay any attention to us. Even if half of us die, they will not

2 Samuel 18

4 “I will do whatever you think is best,” the king replied to them. So he stood beside the city gate while all the troops marched out by hundreds and thousands.

5 The king commanded Joab, Abishai, and Ittai, “Treat the young man Absalom gently for my sake.” All the people heard the king’s orders to all the commanders about Absalom.





“As a father has compassion on his children,
so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him.”

Psalm 103:13



2 Samuel 18

6 Then David's forces marched into the field to engage Israel in battle, which took place in the forest of Ephraim.

7 Israel's army was defeated by David's soldiers, and the slaughter there was vast that day—twenty thousand dead.

8 The battle spread over the entire area, and that day the forest claimed more people than the sword.




2 Samuel 18

9 Absalom was riding on his mule when he happened to meet David's soldiers. When the mule went under the tangled branches of a large oak tree, Absalom's head was caught fast in the tree.

The mule under him kept going, so he was suspended in midair.

10 One of the men saw him and informed Joab. He said, "I just saw Absalom hanging in an oak tree!"

11 "You just saw him!" Joab exclaimed. "Why didn't you strike  him to the ground right there? I would have given you ten silver pieces

2 Samuel 18

12 The man replied to Joab, “Even if I had the weight of a thousand pieces of silver in my hand, I would not raise my hand against the king’s son. For we heard the king command you, Abishai, and Ittai, ‘Protect the young man Absalom for me.’”

13 If I had jeopardized my own life—and nothing is hidden from the king—you would have abandoned me.”



2 Samuel 18

14 Joab said, “I’m not going to waste time with you!” He then took three spears in his hand and thrust them into Absalom’s chest.

While Absalom was still alive in the oak tree, 15 ten young men who were Joab’s armor-bearers surrounded Absalom, struck him, and killed him.



2 Samuel 18

16 Joab blew the trumpet, and the troops broke off their pursuit of Israel because Joab restrained them. 17 They took Absalom, threw him into a large pit in the forest, and raised up a huge mound of stones over him. And all Israel fled, each to his tent.



2 Samuel 18

18 When he was alive, Absalom had taken a pillar and raised it up for himself in the King's Valley, since he thought, "I have no son to preserve the memory of my name." So he named the pillar after himself. It is still called Absalom's Monument today.





“Honor your father and your mother” (Deut. 5:16),

“anyone hung on a tree is under God’s curse” (Deut 21:23).

“the wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23).



“Discipline your child while there is hope;



2 Samuel 18

32 The king asked the Cushite, “Is the young man Absalom all right?” The Cushite replied, “I wish that the enemies of my lord the king, along with all who rise up against you with evil intent, would become like that young man.”

33 The king was deeply moved and went up to the chamber above the city gate and wept. As he walked, he cried, “My son



Absalom! My son, my son Absalom! If only I had died instead of



*We all have a spirit of rebellion, like Absalom, dwelling in our hearts. We must give this to the Lord.

*Christ gave himself for rebels like us,
he can heal and restore broken relationships



*We must never stop dedicating our children to the Lord.

