

Hatred In the Home

Sunday, June 21, 2020

Mike Miller

Straight Paths Bible Church

2 Samuel 13:21-22 But when king David heard of all these things, he was very wroth. And Absalom spake unto his brother Amnon neither good nor bad: for Absalom hated Amnon, because he had forced his sister Tamar.

- I. David was very wroth and Absalom hated his brother, but nothing was done about what had happened.
 - A. This was not an accusation, but an evident fact, what Amnon had done to his sister.
 - B. Amnon went on with his vile life without suffering any consequences, for the time being.
 - C. David, Absalom, and Tamar all had been wronged very badly, but nothing was done to make Amnon answer for what he had done.
 - D. All this was a direct result of David's own sin, because it rendered him weak in dealing with the sins of others, especially his own family.
 - E. How can he condemn Amnon knowing that Amnon knows all about his recent sins?
 - F. How can he punish Amnon for this sin when all the world knows about David's sin?
 - G. This is one of the effects of sin – it destroys your ability to speak with authority in anything, but it destroys your moral authority completely in the sight of others.
 - H. With David impotent to deal with the wickedness of Amnon, Absalom will do it himself.
 - I. Amnon had treated his sister as a harlot, so why would he not treat him as a slave, if he had the opportunity.
 1. It is likely that Amnon felt superior to Absalom and Tamar because their mother was the daughter of a heathen king.
 2. Now this wrong has been done to Tamar and there is no recourse or hope of the criminal being punished.
 - J. Absalom nursed this hatred toward his brother for two full years until it became a plan for murder.

2 Samuel 13:23-28 And it came to pass after two full years, that Absalom had sheepshearers in Baal-hazor, which is beside Ephraim: and Absalom invited all the king's sons. And Absalom came to the king, and said, Behold now, thy servant hath sheepshearers; let the king, I beseech thee, and his servants go with thy servant. And the king said to Absalom, Nay, my son, let us not all now go, lest we be chargeable unto thee. And he pressed him: howbeit he would not go, but blessed him. Then said Absalom, If not, I pray thee, let my brother Amnon go with us. And the king said unto him, Why should he go with thee? But Absalom pressed him, that he let Amnon and all the king's sons go with him. Now Absalom had commanded his servants, saying, Mark ye now when Amnon's heart is merry with wine, and when I say unto you, Smite Amnon; then kill him, fear not: have not I commanded you? be courageous, and be valiant.

- K. David thought it strange that Absalom wanted Amnon to come to his celebration.
“Why should he go with thee?”

1. He should have known that something bad was going to happen, but maybe he hoped that his children would forgive one another.
- L. Absalom said nothing to Amnon, so there was no communication about this matter and it went unresolved.
 1. No communication when there is an offense makes for a perfect environment for hatred to grow into murder.

Leviticus 19:17 Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thine heart: thou shalt in any wise rebuke thy neighbour, and not suffer sin upon him.

- M. David is about to feel the first sting of the sword that Nathan had told him would never depart from his house.

II. What a tragedy that David's family is brought down with hatred.

- A. Home should be a place of love and tender care, and forgiveness.
- B. When it becomes a place where hatred dwells it has ceased to be home and a family and is more akin to hell than to heaven.
- C. David's was not the first family to experience such things, and it certainly was not the last.
 1. Adam and Eve had two sons and one hated the other and killed him.
 2. Abraham's had a son who hated his other son.
 3. Issac had two sons and one of them hated the other and wanted to kill him.
 4. Jacob's sons hated their brother Joseph and wanted to kill him.
 5. It is not uncommon for Christian families now to have children that hate their siblings and their parents.
 6. In every case mentioned here it is preceded by sin in their parents and/or their siblings.
- D. This should be enough evidence to convince us to walk very carefully in this life, and especially when we have children under our care and watching us live our lives.
- E. To have children that will not forgive one another leads to a terrible ending.
- F. What Amnon had done was as bad as it gets, but there could have been forgiveness, if there had been repentance on his part.
 1. That is God's way, and what He died for to make possible for us.
 2. Amnon's sin was bad, but how can we really think our sins to be less awful than his?
 3. But as much as David knew about repentance and forgiveness his children evidently knew very little.
 4. Being raised by mothers who did not know God and had no idea about redemption and forgiveness of sins, they were hardened, godless, heathens who simply knew how to talk the language of David's religion, but had no real part in it.
 5. They lived just like the rest of the world, walking after their lusts, and hating others, and taking what they wanted when it was within their reach, used other people to get what they wanted, and destroyed other people if they were offended by them.

III. Absalom evidently did not fear what his father would do about his murdering his brother, or he did not care.

- A. He knew that David was unable to punish Amnon for what he done to his sister, who was David's daughter – why would he punish him for ridding the earth of such a person as Amnon, who was a disgrace to the whole family.
- B. Absalom obviously managed his affairs well and prospered, while Amnon was seemed to be a low-life person who spent his time drinking and being immoral.
 - 1. In Absalom's mind he surely thought himself to worthy of more mercy and consideration than his worthless brother.
- C. Amnon was heir to the throne, and Absalom had to feel that he was doing the kingdom a favor by removing him, while at the same time making himself one step away from being heir. (He was the third son, and some believe Chileab was dead already)
- D. There were plenty of reasons Absalom had to justify what he did, and this is the way people do it.
- E. But in the sight of God Amnon's sin did not make Absalom's sin justified.
- F. Absalom's sin was just a continuation of Amnon's sin, in the sight of God.
- G. God's will is for sin to be forgiven and put away and the bitterness cut off and stopped.
- H. David's sin was forgiven and it included both the sin of Amnon and the sin of Absalom – fornication and murder, as well as deceit and dishonor toward others.
- I. If the deal with Amnon would have been resolved without murdering him, there would not have been the sins of Absalom to deal with down the road.
- J. One sin breeds many more – a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.

IV. More grief for David, as he is told that all his sons are dead.

2 Samuel 13:30-31 And it came to pass, while they were in the way, that tidings came to David, saying, Absalom hath slain all the king's sons, and there is not one of them left. Then the king arose, and tare his garments, and lay on the earth; and all his servants stood by with their clothes rent.

- A. The first news David gets is that Absalom has killed all of his sons.
 - 1. News travels fast when it is about the affairs of a someone who is famous, especially if is about sin or uncleannes.
 - 2. It is always exaggerated and romanticized by those who relish the misfortunes of others.
- B. Instead of questioning the matter, David just immediately believed it and acted as if it were true without any verification.
 - 1. Of course, David is living in the anticipation of such news because of his sin, and the judgement pronounced by Nathan.

V. Beware of the Jonadab's in your life and in the lives of your children.

- A. He is a wicked chameleon and now he recreates himself as David's comforter.

2 Samuel 13:32-36 And Jonadab, the son of Shimeah David's brother, answered and said, Let not my lord suppose that they have slain all the young men the king's sons; for Amnon only is dead: for by the appointment of Absalom this hath been determined from the day that he forced his sister Tamar. Now therefore let not my lord the king take the thing to his heart, to think that all the king's sons are dead: for Amnon only is dead. But Absalom fled. And the young man that kept the watch lifted up his eyes, and looked, and, behold, there came much people by the way of the hill side behind him. And Jonadab said unto the king, Behold, the king's sons come: as thy servant said, so it is. And it came to pass, as soon as he had made an end of speaking, that, behold, the king's sons came, and lifted up their voice and wept: and the king also and all his servants wept very sore.

- B. Some things about Jonadab to remember and mark when you see it in others.
1. He was the one who hatched this entire evil thing in his wicked, vile heart.
 2. He was the one who gave Amnon the push to go ahead and do it, when he found it hard to do.
 3. He watched the whole thing play out and manipulated both sides to the destruction of Amnon, Absalom, Tamar, and now David.
 4. He was subtle and two-faced and filthy and vile himself.
 5. He must have enjoyed watching the hatred and division as it came forth out of his devious intervention.
 6. His attempt at comforting David is a ploy also to cover his own involvement in this matter – David would be much more apt to deal with him than with one of his own sons.
 7. He presents himself as being “in the know” about everything and everyone – why didn’t David question how he knew all this?
 8. He knew all this and did not do anything to prevent it from happening – he kept it to himself and watched it all unfold to this awful ending.
 9. “Amnon had a friend...” (v. 3) – if that was his friend, what were his enemies like?
- C. Better be aware if you have a friend like Jonadab, and if your wife or your children have a friend like him.
1. A friend that suggests sin proves he cares not for you.
 2. If he cares not for your ruin he will not care for your death.
 3. Beware of anyone who meddles in your affairs or the affairs of your family like this.
 4. David had plenty of these and the next chapter starts with Joab trying to manipulate David into bringing Absalom back from exile.
- D. We can see these same things in our own families – these are familiar stories to many of us.
1. It happens in the families of some of the best people.
 2. It doesn’t take great sins like David’s to bring forth the same results.

Ecclesiastes 10:1 Dead flies cause the ointment of the apothecary to send forth a stinking savour: so doth a little folly him that is in reputation for wisdom and honour.

3. Your children will watch and listen to the way you view and talk about others and they will take your bad attitudes to new levels that you did not go to.
4. Just a little malice, just a little hatred, just a little contempt and criticism will be like planting seeds in their minds and hearts, and there will be a harvest that is 100 fold.
5. David sowed – now he is reaping.
6. Let us not do the same kind of sowing – but let us sow to the Spirit and reap life everlasting instead.