

A Knife in the Dark
2 Samuel 3
January 31, 2021

I. The Wrong War (V. 1-5)

- A. The Battle of Gibeon (2 Samuel 2:12-32)

- B. Man's intervention in God's plan is doomed to produce _____ results.

II. The Wrong Sacrifice (V. 6-16)

- A. _____ did not need to die to fulfill God's plan.

III. The Wrong Time (V. 17-19)

- A. _____ did not need to die to fulfill God's plan.

IV. The Wrong Murder (V. 20-39)

- A. _____ did not need to die to fulfill God's plan.

- B. Man's Motivation for Intervening in God's Plan:
 - 1. Temptation to break God's _____.
 - 2. Temptation to speed God's _____.
 - 3. Temptation to steal God's _____.
 - 4. Temptation to doubt God's _____.

Group Discussion Questions

1. Read 2 Samuel 3
2. List the people you observe get hurt or killed as the story of David becoming king plays out.
3. Abner believed David was ordained by God to be king (3:9) and the elders of Israel clearly wanted it to happen (3:17), but they appointed Ish-Bosheth instead. What are some reasons people who know God's will decide to do something else instead?
4. Asahel, King Ish-Bosheth, and General Abner all die in chapters 2-4 of 2 Samuel. Since these men did not have to die for God to make David king, why were they killed?
5. Are Christians ever tempted to intervene in God's plan? Why?
6. Have you ever tried to intervene in God's plan? What tempted you? What was the result?
7. Pray for each other, that you would all trust God's plan for your lives and not seek to intervene on your own power. Consider attending this Sunday's Zoom Prayer Meeting at 8 pm!

Church Bible Reading Plan

Bible Reading Plan: Isaiah 14-17

February Memory Verses: Isaiah 12:1-2

1 Timothy 2:1-6

1 First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, 2 for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. 3 This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

BEFORE Sunday Night Prayer Meeting:

If you have not done so already, register from the www.apollobaptist.org home page by clicking the image for the Prayer Meeting. YOU DO NOT NEED TO REGISTER AGAIN until after Easter Sunday.

Register with your name and email address.

Click on the emailed Zoom link at time of the Prayer Meeting.

DURING Sunday Night Prayer Meeting:

PRAYING for all members absent for the previous six months and the church's efforts to lovingly bring them back.

Pray for Our Church Family Needs:

- Those struggling with fear, anxiety and employment issues because of COVID
 - Raymond C. (missionary who had to return home due to COVID, struggling with housing and food)
- Church members and/or their friends/families who have COVID
- Families who are grieving the recent loss of loved ones
 - Rebecca R. (brother), Ray and Sue J. (daughter-in-law, Lynette), Dan and Shirley S. (Dan's father), Nancy C. (father, Pete), April H. (husband, Gary), Ken R. (sister, Joan), Darlene R. (aunt Peggy and great-nephew Derek), Randie A. and Bonnie V. (mother), Tim, Alexa, and Erika P. (grandfather), Dick T. (aunt, Rosia), Family of Victoria A., Paul B. (daughter Paula)
 - Grief Share participants
- Those struggling with cancer issues:
 - Mary C. (breast cancer), Brenda R. (blood cancer and possible donors of bone marrow), Leroy D. (his brother), Chris and Beth L. (3 yr. old daughter with inoperable brain tumor), Jerry M. (friend of Dan S. has pancreatic cancer), 2 family members of Bob & Julia B.
- Those struggling with health issues:
 - Rezwana D. (migraines), Michelle L. (overwhelming stress), Mary R. (possibly starting dialysis, also has appt re: kidney transplant), Jimmy (grandson of Raul and Cindy O. has autism and migraines), Larry D. (brain bleed not completely healed), Don R. (sciatica pain), Wayne and Twyla D. (Wayne's Parkinson's, and he is now living in an assisted living facility and Twyla cannot be with him), Floyd W. (Pat's dementia), Gretchen E. (father regaining strength & Gretchen having severe head pain), Anna (April H., friend who has muscular dystrophy), Jose M. (sister miscarried), Cecelia S. (family members have Covid), Agnes (Bob B.'s mom, broken bone in neck), Floyd C. (in hospital for diabetic issues), Ann T. (grandson and son-in-law in ICU with Covid), Laura M. (therapy on right arm)
- Those awaiting surgery:
 - Brenda R. (bone marrow transplant)
- Those recovering from surgery:
 - Susan K.'s son-in-law (recipient of liver transplant), Pastor Jamal B. (liver transplant)
- Those struggling with family relational issues:
 - Julia B. (family), Ketty B. (friend), Marge D. (a son)
- Those needing employment:
 - Larry S., Billy H.
- Others that you are aware of