

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

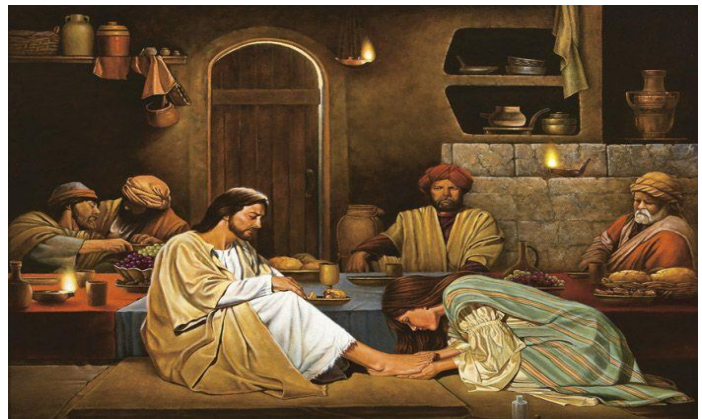
1) 03 Jun 2018	.....2Sam 1-2	..... Respected
2) 10 Jun	.....2Sam 3-4	..... Crowned
3) 17 Jun	.....2Sam 5-6	..... Celebrated
4) 24 Jun	.....2Sam 7-8	..... Established
5) 01 Jul	.....2Sam 9-10	..... Valued
6) 08 Jul	.....2Sam 11-12	..... Accountable
7) 15 Jul	.....2Sam 13-14	..... Grieved
8) 22 Jul	.....2Sam 15-17	..... Deposed
9) 29 Jul	.....2Sam 18-19	..... Restored
10) 05 Aug	.....2Sam 20	..... Averted
11) 12 Aug	.....2Sam 21	..... Resolved
12) 19 Aug	.....2Sam 22-23	..... Thankful
13) 26 Aug	.....2Sam 24	..... Disciplined

INTRODUCTION

- Sometimes it is hard to keep 1&2 Samuel, 1&2 Kings and 1&2 Chronicles straight. Here is a short synopsis of each:
 - 1Samuel – King Saul's reign
 - 2Samual – King David's reign
 - 1Kings – Judean Kings Solomon to Jehoshaphat & Elijah
 - 2Kings – Judean & Israelite Kings with Prophet Elisha
 - 1Chronicles – Recap of King David's reign
 - 2Chronicles – Recap of Judean Kings Solomon-Zedekiah
- Here in 2Samuel 1-2, David assumes the throne of Judah, and War, Murder, and Mayhem are the norm. How would you handle this?
 - Aggressively? Passively? Pray more? Kill More?

Passage	Comments
2Sam 1:1-16	<p>What is so Special about being Anointed?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v14-15. David dispatched an Amalekite for mercy-killing Saul, God's anointed King of Israel. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Did the Amalekite do a good deed by mercy-killing Saul? Should he have just left him to die at the hands of his enemy, or just watch him bleed out, or should he have tried to save his life? Did David do a good deed slaying the Amalekite? Or should he have thanked the Amalekite for mercifully putting Saul out of his misery? Recall even David refused to harm Saul, the Lord's anointed, on several occasions 1Sam 24:5; 26:11
The Anointing	<p>An Anointing Reflects an Appointing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The creation of anointing oil is depicted in Ex 30:22-33 [myrrh + cinnamon + cane (lemon grass) + cassia (similar to cinnamon) + olive oil]. The actual concoction seems lost to history, but it may be reconstituted during the Millennial. The first use of anointing oil was to anoint the Tabernacle and all of its furnishings and to anoint Aaron & his sons into a perpetual priesthood (Ex 40:9-15) Why was this oil and the anointing process taken so seriously, even to the point of "cutting someone off" if they made it for their personal use (Ex 30:32-33) – or killing them if they trivialized it? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lev 10:7: "You (Moses & Aaron & 2 sons) shall not go out from the doorway of the tent of meeting, or you will die; for the LORD'S anointing oil is upon you." <p>Should We Take Such Anointings or Appointings Serious Today?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The real question is, "Does God still take his anointings and appointings seriously today? And the answer is YES! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jesus appointed His 12 Apostles Mark 3:14 Jesus appointed 70 others Luke 10:1 God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers 1Cor 12:28 Paul was appointed a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher 2Tim 1:11 Elders appoint other elders to shepherd churches Act 14:23; Titus 1:5

Passage	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> God anoints each of us for service 1John 2:20,27 The sick were to be anointed with oil Jms 5:14-16 Apostles "laid hands" or commissioned or appointed special men for a unique service Acts 6:6 Paul laid hands on people (i.e. anointed people) for them to receive the Holy Spirit Act 19:6 Paul told Timothy not to lay hands or anoint or appoint people too hastily 1Tim 5:12 So, anointing / appointing is serious stuff, BUT is it still applicable for us TODAY? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe <p>How do we Trivialize God's Anointings/Appointings?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any time we trivialize God's word or His anointed / appointed leaders, i.e., church elders, we dis God. We may not die as some did in the OT, but we could reap consequences, such as settling for God's 2nd best, or worse, receiving "leanness to our soul" Ps 106:15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Example: Too many pastors are asked to leave for political reasons more than for scriptural reasons. IN FACT, there are no scriptural reasons for anointed elders to be asked to leave their appointed responsibilities – even for negative church growth or for unrepentant adultery! Say what? Consider the following. 1) Eli's 2 sons, Hophni & Phinehas, who were priests, were immorally wicked. God told Eli to fix the problem. Eli was to challenge his sons to straighten up, but he "honored his sons above God" 1Samuel 2. Remember, there was no provision to remove a priest from office, except by death, because they were under a perpetual covenant. 2) Some of the churches in Rev 2 & 3 were immoral, unloving, spiritually dead, or were teaching false doctrine, yet, Christ never gave an option to force out the leadership, but for the faithful to continue being faithful in their duties under less than ideal situations (Rev 2:24-29). 3) Recall how the widow with 2 mites faithfully gave to her local synagogue though it was managed by "vipers & hypocrites" as Christ called them. Christ never called for a change in leadership, only a change in heart; and 4) Paul told Timothy not to receive an accusation against an elder except on the basis of two or three witnesses, and those elders who continue in sin, were to be rebuked (by an elder) in the presence of all, so the rest will be fearful of sinning (1Tim 5:19-20). Notice there was no hint of removing even an unrepentant elder from his God-appointed service. Recall that Christ also told the people of His day not to overthrow their leaders but to do what their leaders told them to do, but not to follow their poor example (Mat 23:3).
Food for Thought	



Passage	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Consider this too. To make matters worse, when a Pastor vacates his position, churches often put together a pastor search committee composed of nice people but they are seldom, if ever, elder qualified. Remember, God's way is for Elders to call Elders. A search committee may find a "suitable" candidate, but he could be a wolf. This process also causes problems to cascade for multiple other churches as they too will be forced to search for another pastor since their pastor was, in essence, stolen. A big church who doesn't groom from within, but instead steals a small church's pastor to satisfy their need for a new elder could reap dire consequences for generations as David found out.....2Samuel 12 ♦ One more Consideration. Yet, w/ all the problems churches may have, God is still in control, the gates of Hell have not prevailed nor will prevail against His Church, His word is going forth, people are still getting saved, BUT oh how churches could reap God's desired blessings (including exponential growth as a mustard seed) if they would only do things His way. Let's not be like the Corinthians who got reprimanded by Clement of Rome (A.D. 96) for deposing their elders, men who were appointed on apostolic authority & by common consent, & they were not to be regarded as dispensable (Expositor's Bible Commentary, p589).
	<p>Well, How Do You Get Rid of a Bad Elder?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hopefully, bad elders are few and far between. • BUT, if an unrepentant sexual offender can be tossed out of church (1Cor 5:1-13), why can't an unrepentant Elder? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Again, it revolves around the anointing/appointing, which God takes very seriously 1Tim 5:19-20 ♦ As seen in 1Cor 5:1-13, the Church is responsible to break fellowship and remove unrepentant wickedness, but God removes wayward Elders. We can challenge, but we should not usurp God's authority 3John 1:10 • Other more pertinent questions to ask are: "How did a bad elder, a wolf, get into that position to begin with"? What biblical principles were violated in selecting him? Was he on the young/inexperience side [don't pick a novice (1Tim 3:6)], and a young ruler is death to a nation (Ecc 10:16)? Was he approved/selected by other elders or by a committee of nice people who wouldn't have the elder wisdom needed to know what to look for in a good elder besides the high-level criteria listed in Titus & Timothy? • Another consideration is that God removed the good shepherd(s) and allowed the bad ones to come in because of faithless behavior of His church people.. cf. Jer 3:14-15 • One of the pitfalls of congregational-ruled churches is the majority, who are not elder-qualified, are in the elder seat almost every time they vote, and the odds are against the church making the right elder-type decision because they lack elder wisdom. In such cases, mob rule rules the day. • So many variables, & we can only scratch the surface
2Samuel 1:17-27	<p>David Extols His Friendship with Jonathan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v26. Jonathan and David's love for each other was "more wonderful than the love of women" ♦ What in the world does this mean? ♦ This passage was penned by David as a song, so it exemplified and amplified their tight friendship ♦ They had each other's back as they protected each other from harm (Jonathan protected David from his dad, King Saul, & David would preserve Jonathan's memory after he assumed the throne) ♦ This passage has no allusion in the slightest to justifying homosexual behavior as liberals say.

Passage	Comments
2Samuel 2:1-7	<p>David's Anointing Finally Becomes Evident</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v1. David inquires of the Lord. This is the 6th of 9 recorded times David seeks the Lord's guidance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ How often do we make inquires for God's guidance? Where to work? Who to marry? Where to live? How to serve? Other inquiries we should make of God? ♦ David's 9 queries: 1Sam 23:1-3; 23:4-5; 23:10-11; 23:12-14; 30:8-9; 2Sam 2:1-2; 5:17-21; 5:22-25; 21:1 • v4, 11. 15-20 years after being anointed by Samuel to be the next King of Israel, David finally becomes King of Judah. It would be another 7 years before he is made King of Israel. Is that a long time to wait for an anointing to come about? Would you faithfully wait that long for fulfillment? • vv5-7. Principle of Comforting the Survivors. If we see someone or some people in despair let's be like the Jabesh-Gileadites and help out in some way, even if it is taking care of some funeral arrangements • vv12-32. Civil war between Judah and Israel continued for another 7 years. How do we bring healing to national, family or even Church splits?

CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS

- **One more thought on Anointings and Appointments.** If we don't have elders selecting elders, but a committee does that, then why have elders at all? Shall we have committees do the other elder responsibilities of shepherding, teaching, and preaching as well? God forbid. We need to let elders do what elders do best – lead in the efforts of teaching, discipling, preaching, shepherding, and YES, selecting their replacements or co-laborers in Christ.
- **Remember:** God brings His foremost blessings to those who do things His way. Else, the best we can expect is God's rain on the just, and worst case, leanness to our soul.

NEXT WEEK: 2Samuel 3-4. We ended this lesson with the question, "How do we bring healing to national, family, or Church splits?" Church splits are basically civil wars between brothers & sisters in the Lord. Next week we see David's rise to power comes at a steep price. Political intrigue continues with God sovereignly guiding every aspect. So, even healing church splits could come at a steep price, but it's a price worth paying to restore family unity so the family can continue being the advocate for the Gospel of Christ.

