

## 1 Kings Chapter 02 Commentary

1Ki 2:1 ¶ "Now the days of David drew nigh that he should die; and he charged Solomon his son, saying, 2 I go the way of all the earth: be thou strong therefore, and shew thyself a man; 3 And keep the charge of the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, to keep his statutes, and his commandments, and his judgments, and his testimonies, as it is written in the law of Moses, that thou mayest prosper in all that thou doest, and whithersoever thou turnest thyself: 4 That the LORD may continue his word which he spake concerning me, saying, If thy children take heed to their way, to walk before me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul, there shall not fail thee (said he) a man on the throne of Israel."

King David knows he is dying, and he gives Solomon directions of how to prosper as king over God's people, and how to handle several situations. David is not afraid to die. We understand this from the matter-of-fact way he says, "*I go the way of all the earth.*"

We are reminded of another time when one was told to be strong in an exchange of positions of leadership, seen in: *Jos 1:5-9; 5 There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. 6 Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I sware unto their fathers to give them. 7 Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest. 8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success. 9 Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.*" Look at both texts and see the many similarities in the commands and promises.

We see a prophetic mystery revealed in verse 1Ki 2:3 "*And keep the charge of the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, to keep his statutes, and his commandments, and his judgments, and his testimonies, as it is written in the law of Moses, that thou mayest prosper in all that thou doest, and whithersoever thou turnest thyself.*" We saw that King David failed in this. We shall see that King Solomon will fail in this. However, with gladness we tell you of one who did not fail and that is Jesus Christ. Through His total obedience: Jesus fulfilled the law and prophets, overcame the world, and brought to all of God's people eternal remission of sins, and Jesus gives them eternal life in the new birth.

Why did Kings David and Solomon fail? We believe it is because they did not follow the commandment of God found in: *De 17:18-20; 18 And it shall be, when he sitteth upon the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write him a copy of this law in a book out of that which is before the priests the Levites: 19 And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life: that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them: 20 That his heart be not lifted up above his brethren, and that he turn not aside from the commandment, to the right hand, or to the left: to the end that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he, and his children, in the midst of Israel.*" This command of God demanded two things in particular. The king was to go to the tabernacle where the priest kept a copy of the law for themselves to study. Wherefore, it required the king to come to the place of the worship of God. Next, the king was to write a copy of the law which God had given himself, remember the two tables of stone were written by the finger of God, and so is the bible. Notice, God said a copy, not what the king interpreted it to say, or would like to change to suit his own wishes. After writing his own copy, the king was to read therein every day of his life. Now, let's apply this to our own lives, since Christ has made us priest and kings unto God. God has already written his word of truth down for us in the King James bible. Wherefore, as kings unto God, we are to read therein every day. If we do this faithfully, we shall be enabled, by the holy Spirit power in us, to withstand all temptations and walk uprightly before God and the world.

The first things King David tells Solomon is to be strong and show that you are a man. David is telling Solomon to be a man after God's own heart, which you shall prove by keeping the charge of God, walking in his ways and not you own, by keeping the statutes and commandments of God. By judging in accordance with God's commandments, God's statutes, and the testimony of God, as recorded in the law that God gave to Moses.

David tells Solomon: if you do this, God will prosper your way as king in all that you do. David tells Solomon: this is necessary that the word of God spoken unto me might continue to be as God promised. We point out here that David includes the "*if*" in the promise of God. If David's children do as God has prescribed, walking in the way of the Lord and not doing that which is right in their own sight: the kingship of Israel shall continue in the lineage of King David, who was God's first chosen king to rule over Israel.

We shall see as we continue to study scripture that there is indeed a lapse in the lineage of King David to sit upon the throne over Israel. Because of disobedience to God, they were taken away captive into other nations, and there they had no king of the lineage of David. We do not see the "*if*" King David speaks of in: **2Sa 7:12-16**; **12 "And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He shall build an house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 14 I will be his father, and he shall be my son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men: 15 But my mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away before thee. 16 And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established forever."** God did fulfill this promise in King Solomon. Although Solomon's heart will turn to idolatry in the end of his days, God kept his promise to not withdraw his mercy from him as he did from Saul.

We understand, as King David understood; the promise of God to him for continual reign of his seed on an earthly throne, depended on obedience to God. We see this demonstrated in scripture as we move forward. After Solomon's failure of complete obedience to God and his reign is over, God will divide Israel and give to David's seed one tribe, that he may sustain his promise to David seen in: **1Ki 11:36 "And unto his son will I give one tribe, that David my servant may have a light alway before me in Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen me to put my name there."** Because of Israel's sins and the destruction of Jerusalem; there was no throne of David for one to sit upon in Jerusalem. This is why David's seed did not continue to reign on David's throne.

However, the promise God made to King David, which had no "*if*" in it, did not fail. The lineage of David was revived, and manifested, when Jesus was born into the world, as King of the Jews and the Gentiles. The "**forever**" throne of David's lineage is fulfilled in the birth of Jesus Christ, whose earthly mother was of the lineage of King David. The throne of David forever is the prophecy of the second coming of Christ, who presently is seated upon the eternal throne of God, and this throne is established forever.

**5 "Moreover thou knowest also what Joab the son of Zeruiah did to me, and what he did to the two captains of the hosts of Israel, unto Abner the son of Ner, and unto Amasa the son of Jether, whom he slew, and shed the blood of war in peace, and put the blood of war upon his girdle that was about his loins, and in his shoes that were on his feet. 6 Do therefore according to thy wisdom, and let not his hoar head go down to the grave in peace."**

Next David gives Solomon charge concerning Joab the son of Zeruiah, who has been captain of the host of Israel, most of King David's reign. Joab deserted King David and followed Adonijah in his insurrection. Joab murdered two men more righteous than himself, and by the law commandments he is to die. There is the further charge against Joab in directly disobeying King David and slaying Absalom, even though Absalom was guilty of the death penalty. David says, I didn't kill him because he has suffered with me through my afflictions. However, as you begin to reign over Israel, you need to take his life with the sword, to take away the shedding of innocent blood from the house of David.

**7 "But shew kindness unto the sons of Barzillai the Gileadite, and let them be of those that eat at thy table: for so they came to me when I fled because of Absalom thy brother."**

He further commands Solomon: continue to show kindness to the sons of Barzillai, who sustained me with food when I fled from Absalom, your brother. I made a vow to Barzillai, and you should continue to keep that vow in honor of what he did, and in accordance with my promise to him.

**8 "And, behold, thou hast with thee Shimei the son of Gera, a Benjamite of Bahurim, which cursed me with a grievous curse in the day when I went to Mahanaim: but he came down to meet me at Jordan, and I sware to him by the LORD, saying, I will not put thee to death with the sword. 9 Now therefore hold him not guiltless:**

**for thou art a wise man, and knowest what thou oughtest to do unto him; but his hoar head bring thou down to the grave with blood."**

Next, King David gives Solomon charge pertaining to Shimei, who cursed David as he fled from Absalom in his insurrection. King David says he came to me when we returned fully repentant for his wrongdoing. I told him I would not carry out the sentence of death that his actions warranted. However, that was my promise, and you are a new king, and you know what you need to do to bring his head to the grave in his own blood. Do not let him go free, for it is a sin to curse the Lord's anointed, for in so doing you are also cursing God. By slaying him for his sin, you will free the house of David, and Israel, from bearing the sin of this man.

**10 "So, David slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David."**

David dies and is buried. We point out, from henceforth, all kings shall be measured by the standard of the reign of King David. We point out also, every child of God is measured by the standard of King Jesus, which demonstrates to us; it is only by the kindness and mercy of our King that we are not slain for our sins.

There is also a great warning to all in leadership positions, in the church established by Jesus Christ, to follow the word of God in all that it teaches. An admonition to be the light of Christ on earth to all you are in contact with. It is a great warning and admonition, to all the children of God, to live the life of a true disciple of Christ to the fullest degree. Living Christian lives is preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ, and fulfills the two great commandments given by Christ in: **Mt 22:36-40; 36 "Master, which is the great commandment in the law? 37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."**

Peter tells us in scripture that David's tomb was still in existence after the ascension of Christ, seen in: **Ac 2:29 "Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulcher is with us unto this day."** Unlike King David, Jesus was buried in a tomb when he gave up his mortal life, however, the body of Jesus does not remain in the tomb as the body of King David. Jesus arose from the grave and ascended back to the immortal heaven, while the body of David sleeps, awaiting the resurrection of the dead in Christ.

**11 "And the days that David reigned over Israel were forty years: seven years reigned he in Hebron, and thirty and three years reigned he in Jerusalem. 12 ¶ Then sat Solomon upon the throne of David his father; and his kingdom was established greatly."**

David has reigned for a total of forty years as stated above. We point out that this text says that David reigned forty years over Israel, which is inclusive of all Israel. But you say: David only reigned over Judah the first seven years, which is true. However, when God sent Samuel to anoint David King, he was anointed king over all Israel, and after David was anointed, he was always king over all Israel. This is affirmed by the scripture as the truth in **1Ch 29:26-27; 26 "Thus David the son of Jesse reigned over all Israel. 27 And the time that he reigned over Israel was forty years; seven years reigned he in Hebron, and thirty and three years reigned he in Jerusalem."** God tells us plainly that David reigned over all Israel forty years, and I will accept His word as truth.

Now, Solomon his son sits on the throne of David, and God establishes his kingdom and blesses it greatly. Established means **to be erect or to be set up**. Greatly means **properly**. In other words: Solomon's kingdom was set up according to the will of God, which makes it to be set up properly, and tells us that it was God's will for Solomon to be king over all Israel. This reminds us that kings and kingdoms, and rulers over men, are established by God. God sets up the rulers he desires over them, to fulfill His will and purpose. This was revealed to King Nebuchadnezzar, who was a world ruler, twice: Once in, **Da 2:21; 20 "Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his: 21 And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings:**" where God revealed to Daniel, and then to King Nebuchadnezzar, the future for the kingdoms of the earth.

And again in, **Da 4:17 "This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men."** when King Nebuchadnezzar, who had forgotten that God was the one who set up the kingdom, proclaimed in **Da 4:30 "The king spake, and said, Is**

*not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty?"* Here, King Nebuchadnezzar, having forgotten that it was God that set up his kingdom, took the honor and glory to himself. Then God declared to him in, ***Da 4:31 "While the word was in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, saying, O king Nebuchadnezzar, to thee it is spoken; The kingdom is departed from thee. 32 And they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field: they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and seven times shall pass over thee, until thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will."*** After the seven years were fulfilled, God gave King Nebuchadnezzar his right mind and understanding back, and he proclaimed in ***Da 4:34-37; 34 ¶ "And at the end of the days I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High, and I praised and honoured him that liveth forever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation: 35 And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What dost thou? 36 At the same time my reason returned unto me; and for the glory of my kingdom, mine honour and brightness returned unto me; and my counsellors and my lords sought unto me; and I was established in my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added unto me. 37 Now I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honour the King of heaven, all whose works are truth, and his ways judgment: and those that walk in pride he is able to abase."***

Some will say that all this is Old Testament and does not apply to us. Why do you think that God said in ***Mal 3:6 "For I am the LORD, I change not;"*** Then God tells us in ***1Ti 6:14-16; 14 That thou keep this commandment without spot, unreukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ: 15 Which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords;*** Jesus is "***the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords***" Jesus is still God that doeth as He pleases in heaven and upon the earth.

Though several others aspired to disannul God's will for Solomon, we have seen that God abased them with the sentence of death, because they were ungodly men. We see that God had his way and established Solomon as king. This reminds us that Solomon is the only son of David, of which scripture tells us that God loved him. It is also a reminder to us that though we have godly parents, that does not give us a guarantee that we are children of God. God loves whom he will, and God saves whom He will, according to his own purpose.

***13 "And Adonijah the son of Haggith came to Bathsheba the mother of Solomon. And she said, Comest thou peaceably?" And he said, Peaceably. 14 He said moreover, I have somewhat to say unto thee. And she said, Say on. 15 And he said, Thou knowest that the kingdom was mine, and that all Israel set their faces on me, that I should reign: howbeit the kingdom is turned about, and is become my brother's: for it was his from the LORD."***

Did you notice that when Adonijah came to Bathsheba: she asked if he came peaceably? Why would she do this? Because she knows that Adonijah is confined to his own house, and he has ventured out of his place of confinement. Bathsheba asks, because she doesn't know if he has come in peace, to kill, or what he is up to.

Adonijah, who does not accept that it is God's will for Solomon to be king over Israel, begins another ploy to be king of Israel, even though he knows that God has chosen Solomon to reign. This demonstrates the depravity of Adonijah, and all who are not saved by God's grace, for they are not content to serve under the God given king. Adonijah is a picture of the one who wants to be king, Satan, in the position of our God given king, Jesus Christ. Thus, his continual warfare to overthrow God and God's will. This is why we weigh our actions, before we do them, to see if they are for our glory, or if our intent is to glorify God.

***16 "And now I ask one petition of thee, deny me not. And she said unto him, Say on. 17 And he said, Speak, I pray thee, unto Solomon the king, (for he will not say thee nay,) that he give me Abishag the Shunammite to wife."***

In this request: we see the ploy of Adonijah revealed. If he can marry Abishag, who was the last wife King David had, because he is older than Solomon, this puts him in the position to begin to usurp the kingdom to himself. This shows us that Satan always works with an unacceptable scheme as demonstrated here. Adonijah knows that he cannot go to King Solomon and make this request, because of Solomon's charge for him to dwell

at his own house, and if he leaves and goes to see Solomon he will be put to death. Wherefore, he asks Solomon's mother to make the request for him, because he believes that Solomon will not say no to his mother, just as Adam did not say no to Eve when she gave him the forbidden fruit.

**18 "And Bathsheba said, Well; I will speak for thee unto the king. 19 Bathsheba therefore went unto king Solomon, to speak unto him for Adonijah. And the king rose up to meet her, and bowed himself unto her, and sat down on his throne, and caused a seat to be set for the king's mother; and she sat on his right hand. 20 Then she said, I desire one small petition of thee; I pray thee, say me not nay. And the king said unto her, Ask on, my mother: for I will not say thee nay. 21 And she said, Let Abishag the Shunammite be given to Adonijah thy brother to wife. 22 And king Solomon answered and said unto his mother, And why dost thou ask Abishag the Shunammite for Adonijah? ask for him the kingdom also; for he is mine elder brother; even for him, and for Abiathar the priest, and for Joab the son of Zeruiah."**

We do not know the reason that Bathsheba agrees to do this, other than the providence of God to completely establish the throne to Solomon. However, we do know that this will lead to the prophetic fulfillment of David giving his own sentence, when Nathan the prophet told him the story that exposed his adultery and murder, and King David, in his anger at the man in the story, gave sentence that that man would pay fourfold. Adonijah has set in motion the forth son of King David to be killed because of King David's sins, and in the fulfilling of his own fourfold judgment.

We notice that both Adonijah, and Solomon, say that Solomon will not say thee nay. We understand the "**will not say thee nay**" is based upon any reasonable request and does not include an invitation of insurrection. We also point out: King Solomon does not say nay to his mother, but he says nay to the author of the request, who is Adonijah. When Bathsheba asks King Solomon Adonijah's question; immediately Solomon sees and understands the implications, and that Adonijah is trying to usurp the throne again. He even tells his mother: why don't you ask that I step down from the throne and let Adonijah reign. Solomon understands: this ploy is the plan of not only Adonijah, but also includes Joab and Abiathar, who were all guilty in Adonijah's first insurrection.

**23 "Then king Solomon sware by the LORD, saying, God do so to me, and more also, if Adonijah have not spoken this word against his own life. 24 Now therefore, as the LORD liveth, which hath established me, and set me on the throne of David my father, and who hath made me an house, as he promised, Adonijah shall be put to death this day. 25 And king Solomon sent by the hand of Benaiah the son of Jehoiada; and he fell upon him that he died."** King Solomon knows that God has put him on the throne, and he is not about to yield it to his elder brother, who has already pronounced himself king once. Bathsheba, making this request to Solomon, tells Solomon that Adonijah has broken his curfew and left his home. Wherefore, before the plot thickens, Solomon has Adonijah slain for leaving his house, for being an insurrectionist, for being unfaith to the throne, and for committing treason. Remember, Solomon told Adonijah in **1Ki 1:52 "And Solomon said, If he will shew himself a worthy man, there shall not an hair of him fall to the earth: but if wickedness shall be found in him, he shall die."** Wickedness is found in Adonijah now, and Solomon keeps his word to put him to death.

**26 ¶ "And unto Abiathar the priest said the king, Get thee to Anathoth, unto thine own fields; for thou art worthy of death: but I will not at this time put thee to death, because thou barest the ark of the Lord GOD before David my father, and because thou hast been afflicted in all wherein my father was afflicted. 27 So Solomon thrust out Abiathar from being priest unto the LORD; that he might fulfil the word of the LORD, which he spake concerning the house of Eli in Shiloh."**

Adonijah being slain, next, Solomon deals with the other two treasonist. He bans Abiathar from serving in the priesthood, and commands him to go to his own fields to work out his own living. Solomon does not slay him because Abiathar was one of the priests who had borne the ark of God, and in all that King David was afflicted, Abiathar was also afflicted.

**"that he might fulfil the word of the LORD, which he spake concerning the house of Eli in Shiloh."** This is fulfilling a prophecy of scripture seen in: **1Sa 2:27-36; 27 ¶ And there came a man of God unto Eli, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Did I plainly appear unto the house of thy father, when they were in Egypt in**

*Pharaoh's house? 28 And did I choose him out of all the tribes of Israel to be my priest, to offer upon mine altar, to burn incense, to wear an ephod before me? and did I give unto the house of thy father all the offerings made by fire of the children of Israel? 29 Wherefore kick ye at my sacrifice and at mine offering, which I have commanded in my habitation; and honourest thy sons above me, to make yourselves fat with the chiefest of all the offerings of Israel my people? 30 Wherefore the LORD God of Israel saith, I said indeed that thy house, and the house of thy father, should walk before me forever: but now the LORD saith, Be it far from me; for them that honour me I will honour, and they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed. 31 Behold, the days come, that I will cut off thine arm, and the arm of thy father's house, that there shall not be an old man in thine house. 32 And thou shalt see an enemy in my habitation, in all the wealth which God shall give Israel: and there shall not be an old man in thine house forever. 33 And the man of thine, whom I shall not cut off from mine altar, shall be to consume thine eyes, and to grieve thine heart: and all the increase of thine house shall die in the flower of their age. 34 And this shall be a sign unto thee, that shall come upon thy two sons, on Hophni and Phinehas; in one day they shall die both of them. 35 And I will raise me up a faithful priest, that shall do according to that which is in mine heart and in my mind: and I will build him a sure house; and he shall walk before mine anointed forever. 36 And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left in thine house shall come and crouch to him for a piece of silver and a morsel of bread, and shall say, Put me, I pray thee, into one of the priests' offices, that I may eat a piece of bread."*

As we study this text: we see that Solomon was familiar with the Old Testament scriptures. He did not kill Abiathar, for he would then have lifted his hand against the anointed of the Lord, as all the priests were anointed with oil when they began to serve in tabernacle worship, and to slay an anointed one is sin. However, he did put Abiathar out of the office of high priest, which he has held since he came to David with the ephod, when Saul slew all the priest in Nob. This action also fulfilled the former prophesy of God to Eli.

*Adam Clarke's commentary: God had told Eli that the priesthood should depart from his house; Abiathar was the last of the descendants of Ithamar, of which family was Eli the high priest. Zadok, who was made priest in the stead of Abiathar, was of the family of Eliezer; and by this change the priesthood reverted to its ancient channel.*

We have lineage to Eliezer in *Ex 6:23 And Aaron took him Elisheba, daughter of Amminadab, sister of Naashon, to wife; and she bare him Nadab, and Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.*" Nadab and Abihu died in offering strange fire, which only left Eleazar, Ithamar, and their descendants to serve in the office of high priest. All of whom descended from Levi the son of Jacob/Israel.

May God help us to be faithful servants to our God given King, Jesus Christ.

**28 "Then tidings came to Joab: for Joab had turned after Adonijah, though he turned not after Absalom. And Joab fled unto the tabernacle of the LORD and caught hold on the horns of the altar. 29 And it was told king Solomon that Joab was fled unto the tabernacle of the LORD; and behold, he is by the altar. Then Solomon sent Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, saying, Go, fall upon him. 30 And Benaiah came to the tabernacle of the LORD, and said unto him, Thus saith the king, Come forth. And he said, Nay; but I will die here. And Benaiah brought the king word again, saying, Thus said Joab, and thus he answered me. 31 And the king said unto him, Do as he hath said, and fall upon him, and bury him; that thou mayest take away the innocent blood, which Joab shed, from me, and from the house of my father. 32 And the LORD shall return his blood upon his own head, who fell upon two men more righteous and better than he, and slew them with the sword, my father David not knowing thereof, to wit, Abner the son of Ner, captain of the host of Israel, and Amasa the son of Jether, captain of the host of Judah. 33 Their blood shall therefore return upon the head of Joab, and upon the head of his seed forever: but upon David, and upon his seed, and upon his house, and upon his throne, shall there be peace forever from the LORD. 34 So Benaiah, the son of Jehoiada went up, and fell upon him, and slew him: and he was buried in his own house in the wilderness."**

Joab hearing of the death of Adonijah and the banishment of Abiathar from the office of high priest, realizes that his time is up. He flees to the altar of God for refuge. Solomon must have known the law very well, for he fulfills the command of God in: *Ex 21:14 "But if a man come presumptuously upon his neighbour, to slay him with guile; thou shalt take him from mine altar, that he may die."* Joab was a murderer, and he must be killed in accordance with the law commandments, even if he was holding the horns of the altar.

With the deaths of Adonijah and Joab, and the banishment of Abiathar from the high priest office to his own house: we see the three insurrectionists put totally out of the business; of usurping the throne of Israel, from the God given king, King Solomon.

Thus, we see the prophetic picture of our own God given King, Jesus the Christ, who shall in the wisdom of God put down all insurrection at his second return. In the resurrection of the dead in Christ, all of God's saved family will arise to be with Christ their King forever. All the insurrectionists, who have stood in defiance of God, and Christ, but have clung to the leader of all insurrection against God, the devil, shall be banished to the eternal lake of fire, and they shall never again arise to defy the kingdom of God. Praise the Lord for our God given King, and willing hearts to love, honor, and serve him, all the days of our lives.

There is a great warning here for every child of God. We should search our hearts and minds daily, and purge out any thoughts, or actions, of insurrection against our King, Christ Jesus, making prayer for forgiveness of even having such foolish thoughts.

**35 ¶ "And the king put Benaiah the son of Jehoiada in his room over the host: and Zadok the priest did the king put in the room of Abiathar."**

With Joab's death the position of captain over the host of Israel is now empty. Solomon wisely puts a faithful man, who fears God, in that position, Benaiah, and he puts Zadok in the position of high priest. These two men have proven their faithfulness to the kingdom, to David his father, to Solomon, and to God.

**36 "And the king sent and called for Shimei, and said unto him, Build thee an house in Jerusalem, and dwell there, and go not forth thence any whither. 37 For it shall be, that on the day thou goest out, and passest over the brook Kidron, thou shalt know for certain that thou shalt surely die: thy blood shall be upon thine own head. 38 And Shimei said unto the king, The saying is good: as my lord the king hath said, so will thy servant do. And Shimei dwelt in Jerusalem many days. 39 And it came to pass at the end of three years, that two of the servants of Shimei ran away unto Achish son of Maachah king of Gath. And they told Shimei, saying, Behold, thy servants be in Gath. 40 And Shimei arose, and saddled his ass, and went to Gath to Achish to seek his servants: and Shimei went, and brought his servants from Gath. 41 And it was told Solomon that Shimei had gone from Jerusalem to Gath, and was come again. 42 And the king sent and called for Shimei, and said unto him, Did I not make thee to swear by the LORD, and protested unto thee, saying, Know for a certain, on the day thou goest out, and walkest abroad any whither, that thou shalt surely die? and thou saidst unto me, The word that I have heard is good. 43 Why then hast thou not kept the oath of the LORD, and the commandment that I have charged thee with? 44 The king said moreover to Shimei, Thou knowest all the wickedness which thine heart is privy to, that thou didst to David my father: therefore, the LORD shall return thy wickedness upon thine own head; 45 And king Solomon shall be blessed, and the throne of David shall be established before the LORD forever. 46 So the king commanded Benaiah the son of Jehoiada; which went out, and fell upon him, that he died. And the kingdom was established in the hand of Solomon."**

We come now to the last of the commandments of King David to his son Solomon. Shimei is called before King Solomon and given instructions to which he agrees. If he obeys the instructions, he will live. However, Shimei has an evil heart, and obviously a covetous one also. Covetous because he ignored the instructions of the king and went to get his slaves back from Gath. Obviously, Shimei did not count the cost before he yielded to his covetousness.

King Solomon hears that Shimei has broken his vow to him. He calls him before him and questions him. He reminds him of his promise. He reminds him of the evil he did in cursing the Lord's anointed. Notice, Solomon does not limit Shimei's sin to cursing the Lord's anointed but also includes the insurrection he planned when King David fled before Absalom, and Shimei falsely claims that David was guilty of the blood King Saul had shed. King Solomon tells Shimei that he will remove the evil of Shimei's deeds from Israel, from the house of David, and the house of Solomon. These are the causes for Solomon having Shimei slain.

These commandments of King David to King Solomon are completed, the kingdom is now established securely in the hand of King Solomon. Some will say that this seems cruel to kill these men, however, we remind you that it was necessary to remove sin from the camp. How do we know this? Remember when Joahua and Israel went to take the city Ai and failed? Why did they fail? because of the sin of one man, seen in **Jos 7:1 ¶**

**"But the children of Israel committed a trespass in the accursed thing: for Achan, the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took of the accursed thing: and the anger of the LORD was kindled against the children of Israel."** Because of the sin of this one man, God withdrew his assistance from Israel, seen in **Jos 7:10 ¶ "And the LORD said unto Joshua, Get thee up; wherefore liest thou thus upon thy face? 11 Israel hath sinned, and they have also transgressed my covenant which I commanded them: for they have even taken of the accursed thing, and have also stolen, and dissembled also, and they have put it even among their own stuff. 12 Therefore the children of Israel could not stand before their enemies, but turned their backs before their enemies, because they were accursed: neither will I be with you any more, except ye destroy the accursed from among you."** Thus, we understand that even in our organized churches today, the church cannot let one person knowingly live a sinful life and remain in the camp in fellowship, without suffering the judicial judgment of God. This is what King Solomon is doing; he is purging the nation Israel of known sins.

King Solomon's beginning as king is a good example to us. How? It demonstrates we are to purge ourselves, and our lives, from all appearance of sin and guilt before God, seen in: **2Ti 2:20-21; 20 "But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. 21 If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work."** It is shown to us how this is accomplished in: **Heb 9:13-14; 13 For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: 14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"** Thus, we see that all purging is by the finished work of Jesus Christ, and the effectual use of the word of God.

Praise the Lord for the perfect example of obedience to God the Father set by our King Jesus. May God bless us, each day, to faithfully purge our hearts of sinfulness, and to live out lives of godliness, to the glory, the honor, and the praise of our God, we ask in the name of Jesus, Amen!