

Bible Readings Book by Book week 98 – w/c 17/9/23

Week 98

Monday: 2 Samuel 16:1-23 In verses 9-14 David receives adversity with humility. He allows Shimei to speak because David was willing to hear what God had to say through this cursing critic. David saw God's hand in every circumstance. He knew that Absalom was the problem, not Shimei, and this put the problem into perspective. How do you respond to adversity and criticism?

Tuesday: 2 Samuel 17:1-29. Ahithophel realised that in rejecting his advice, Absalom's rebellion would fail. He probably regretted his involvement and saw his own future as doomed. His internal spiritual and mental struggles led him to suicide. It all started with a bad decision. Pray for wisdom in your decisions today.

Wednesday: 2 Samuel 18:1-33 David was more concerned about the welfare of his traitor son than the welfare of Israel. He knew that if Absalom was out of the way there would be a chance of peace in the land but he is a father and he loves his son. This is how God treats us as his children, even though we fall short of his glory. Thank God for his unfailing love for his children.

Thursday: 2 Samuel 19:1-43. Joab would have been a much harsher ruler than David, because he was always wanting to do things his way. David tried to do what he felt was right, yet he won over the hearts of all the men (v14). What can you learn from Joab and David's different approaches?

Friday: 2 Samuel 20:1-26 Siege warfare was a terrible ordeal for the citizens of the city, and this wise woman was smart enough to seek a speedy end to the struggle. This is similar to our spiritual lives. The quicker we get rid of the "traitor" sin the better. Spend time in prayer asking for help to overcome any specific sins you are struggling with.

Weekend: 2 Samuel 21:1-22. There was a wrong that needed to be righted before God would answer prayer for the land (see verse 14). In what way can past sins affect present blessings? The cross brings forgiveness but some consequences of past sin may remain and require ministry or matters may need to be put right.