



## SERMON NOTES

December 6, 2020

2 Samuel 16:15—17:23

*O Come, Thou Wisdom from on High*

Why do I need to hear this passage of Scripture?

What's the big idea of this passage?

What are the main takeaways walking through this passage?

What must I do with what I've heard?

*The mission of Carney Evangelical Free Church  
is to make fervent and obedient disciples for Jesus Christ.*

# LIVING OUT THE WORD

December 6, 2020

2 Samuel 16:15—17:23

*O Come, Thou Wisdom from on High*



**CULTIVATE:** The rulers of this world assemble cabinets of advisors around them, just like Absalom did (16:20; 17:1, 5). Should we not strive to be wise? Not in our own eyes (Pro. 3:7), nor with a wisdom of this world (1 Cor. 1:20ff), but with wisdom from God? Who do you see that is wise towards God? How will you work at becoming like them?

**CULTURE:** Absalom builds his kingdom on shrewd yet Godless counsel. Ahithophel's counsel was like the word of God, but it was fundamentally against God's righteousness and purity! (16:20-23) Likewise, a church built on worldly, godless wisdom must expect a huge fall. How does Christian wisdom in leadership differ from the world's wisdom?

**COMMUNICATE:** Hushai had two roles in communication: one to confound those working against God and His Anointed king (17:5-14), and another to get word speedily to the endangered king (17:15-17). Both roles were urgent; both required utmost care. How urgently and carefully do we share God's life-saving gospel message with others?

**CARE:** Look at this odd mix of people risking their own lives for the king! (17:15-20) Without them, David and his people could have been wiped out. Not all of us will counsel kings, but God has purposes for all of us to carry His message for His kingdom. What person in 17:15-20 do you connect with? How do you serve Jesus like them?

**CELEBRATE:** Not only did Hushai's counsel succeed in countering Ahithophel's to save many lives (17:14), but Hushai's message to the king and his people arrived in time to get them to safety across the river—just in case (17:21-22). Even in hardship, God works to turn evil aside and to save lives. What hard spots has God delivered you from?

**AIM:** In 16:23, Ahithophel's words are "as if one consulted the word of God." By 17:23, when his counsel isn't followed, Ahithophel "set house in order and hanged himself." See the futility of worldly wisdom disconnected from God! How vain to be full of wisdom yet empty of God's Spirit! Is your life-goal to be smart, or to have the Spirit?