

Lesson: Absalom's Rebellion (2 Samuel 15:1-37)

Sunday, July 6, 2025

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Setting the Stage: Playing Politics

David's son, Absalom, decides it's time for him to be king and starts building a conspiracy against David. These events occur after Joab convinces David to allow Absalom to return to Jerusalem (see 2 Samuel 14).

1. What events led up to Absalom's revolution? What part did David's sin play in setting the stage?
2. What tactics did Absalom use to gain power? How does the world use these same tactics today to lead people away from God?
3. Why does God command His people to humble themselves? How is this contrary to the world's teachings? How did Jesus demonstrate humility?
4. In practical terms, how does the world try to seduce people away from God Today? How can a Christian guard against those seductions?
5. Are you trusting the sovereignty of God in your present circumstances, or are you struggling to take control? What Scripture passages might encourage you in this area?

Both Psalm 3 and Psalm 63 were born out of one of the most painful chapters in David's life—his own son's betrayal. And yet, what flows from David's heart

in those psalms is not bitterness, but trust, longing, and worship. Here's how we can draw from them today:

Psalm 3 – Faith Under Fire

David is surrounded by enemies, slandered, and on the run. Yet he declares:

“But You, O Lord, are a shield around me, my glory, and the lifter of my head.”
(Psalm 3:3)

How we can apply it:

When we are overwhelmed or wrongly accused

When sleep escapes us due to fear or stress

When we feel outnumbered

Psalm 63 – Longing in the Wilderness

Likely written in the Judean desert, David is physically and spiritually parched. He writes:

“O God, You are my God; earnestly I seek You; my soul thirsts for You... in a dry and weary land.” (Psalm 63:1)

How we can apply it:

In seasons of spiritual dryness

When we're far from the familiar or feel isolated

When we're tempted to look for comfort in worldly things