

Rebellion

Scripture: Consequently, he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves.

~ **Romans 13:2**

(Read II Samuel 15:1-13)

In the story you read, Absalom, David's son, rebels against his father. He wanted to become famous. Being King was his ultimate plan. Absalom, one of David's sons did not follow God. The man of God prophesied this to David when David sinned against the Lord. David himself had rebelled a time or two, so the proverbial "the apple didn't fall far from the tree" certainly applied. Absalom gathered some of his friends and loyal followers around him by pretending to care for their well being and by helping them with their problems. Absalom wanted the followers to help him take over the throne of his father David. Eventually the number of Absalom's rebellious followers grew until they had become strong enough to fight David's army. They eventually ran David out of the city and hide for his life in caves in the mountain region. Absalom went as far as to have relations with his father's wives & servants in a public display of rebellion, accomplishment, and ultimate disrespect for his father. Rebellion is planned. The Bible says it's as the sin of witchcraft. That means when we disobey or do something opposite of what our superiors tell us, we are making a deliberate choice to do it. So, how does a rebellion start?

A person who rebels is one who goes against the rules and also the leaders that enforce them. Rules aren't always fun, but they are necessary. Authority figures are people who make up the rules and see to it that people keep them. A country has laws to protect its people and make it possible for them to live in peace (1 Timothy 2:2). Your job has rules that keep everyone safe, focused, and successful. A home has certain rules to keep the peace between all that live there. A rebel is one who disobeys the law and disrespects those in authority, whether it is a boss, a teacher, leader in country, pastor, or even God Himself. Before God created man, an angel in heaven decided to rebel against God. God threw him out of heaven down to earth (Isaiah 14:11-12). His name is Satan. A rebellion starts when Satan puts bad thoughts in the mind of a person. If the person's heart is filled with anger, jealousy or pride then those feelings feed the rebellious thoughts. Bad thoughts lead to bad actions and those actions influence others, and so the rebellion spreads.

Prayer: Lord, please forgive for the times I rebel against your Word, leaders, and you. Help me to follow directions and listen to those over me. In Jesus name, Amen!

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