

## *The Establishment of Divine Law*

2 Sam 18:19 -19:8

### Intro

- v. 19 Ahimaaz longs to carry the message of victory  
He has brought bad news, now good news.

But this message will be a mixed message – Victory, but at the price of his son. It must be artfully put

- God has done something
- He has vindicated the King and Justice
- and exposed the enemy.

- v. 20 But Joab remembers how David receives word of executions . . .  
So . . . “not today”

- v. 21 So he sends an Ethiopian . . . his attendant . . . a Jewish proselyte
- the Jew would not carry the message because of its offense and stumbling block of death and judgment.
  - But the Gentile will (Acts 8!)
  - So is the case today with the church

- v. 22 But Ahimaaz longs to prepare David because he loves him.  
He knows he can outrun the Cushite and arrive first – “let me run.” A classic Joab response – “what will you gain?”

- v. 23 “Whatever I will run”      He will be faithful no matter what  
He is a priest. So must he be true.  
So must we.

He passed the Cushite. *Love will always exceed law.*

- v. 24 David waits hoping not to see men in retreat  
But here is just one man – one sent forth – as an “apostle.”

- v. 25 Good news of victory. David wants victory but not at the expense of his son.

- v. 26 Two men arrive as there will be two sides to the message  
One the *Jew* will like – *victory*  
But the other the *Gentiles* will deliver – *death on the tree.*

- v. 27 Here comes a good man. There must be good news.  
– Character must reflect a message –

- v. 28 “Peace”
- Victory has come
  - God has done something
  - Rebellion is put down . . . but he didn’t say how

- v. 29 “Absalom” He says “I only saw a great tumult” . . .  
he didn’t say who

“Victory” is an easy message  
Death of the leader? Not so easy.

- v. 30 The whole story will come from the Gentile

- v. 31 “God has acted!” “Absalom?” or “did victory cost me my son?”

- v. 32
- “Absalom was an enemy”
  - “and Absalom received divine justice” -----  
Divine Justice was achieved

- 
- v. 33 “David wept”      He wept at the supreme price of victory  
– Slow death and the curse on the tree

Ch. 19

v. 1 -3 David created confusion!

“We were loyal. Victory was achieved. Yet we are unloved.”

It still confuses when the child of God feels unloved.

They feel that David would have *them* dead and *Absalom* live.

v. 4 There is grief and pain

vv.5-6 Joab says “that’s it!!” You have reversed Divine law

v.7 “Right now right this issue or these people will despise you.”

“He who justifies the wicked and condemns the righteous, both are an abomination.”

v.8 David takes the reproof “Come unto me”

“in the gate” - Justice is established.

Conclusion:

1. Sin had to be punished
2. The head must die
3. Our substitute also was the King’s son
4. That message is bitter sweet
5. And scary to deliver
6. The Jew first then the Gentile
7. Our redemption also was painful
8. Unlike David, our King delighted in Divine Law
9. And received us gladly
10. And we also rejoice in the gate.