

No copyright materials are used in this text
The summary and interpretation of the specific chapter and verses
are from the Bible, they are religious text
that is in the public domain.

Free to Copy and Distribute: Spread the Word!

(Peter Lok)駱沅祺

lokpeter@outlook.com

Bibleao.com

Daily Rice 2024 February 13

YouTube Prayer Link

Be of heart to the mind of Christ

Summary of 2 Samuel Chapter 2: This chapter tells the story of David's anointing of king in Judah and Abimelech's son Ishbosheth establishing himself king in the land of Israel. David had maintained good relations with Saul's family, but Ish-bosheth had the support of the tribes of Israel at Gilgal, so David's men and Ish-bosheth's men clashed at Gibeon, in which Joab killed the leader of Ish-bosheth's army. Eventually, David reconciled with Ish-bosheth and was united by Israel and Judah, beginning his kingdom rule.

David was anointed king in Judah, and Ish-bosheth, the son of Abimelech, made himself king in the land of Israel. This situation led to schism and civil war, because it was impossible for a country to have two emperors at the same time, and for the same reason, a church could not have two directors at the same time. To resolve this situation, the following measures can be taken: Negotiation and reconciliation: Leaders should sit down and negotiate and find a path to reconciliation. They can explore common interests and goals and work to reach consensus in order to promote the unity and stability of the country.

Justice and fairness: Ensure that the principles of justice and fairness are followed in the distribution of power and governance, without taking sides. Establish effective oversight mechanisms to prevent abuse of power and misconduct.

Leadership integration: Integrate the two leadership levels into a unified management team, with representatives from different factions participating in national decision-making and governance. Promote the development and progress of the country through cooperation and shared responsibility.

Social reconciliation: Promote social reconciliation and solidarity through universal education and the promotion of cultural exchanges. Emphasize the importance of the overall interests of the country and unite the consensus and strength of the whole nation.

Religious Peace: Promote peaceful religious coexistence among the people through the influence of religious leaders. Emphasizing the values of love and tolerance, resolving differences and promoting harmonious coexistence.

Through the above measures, it is hoped that the split situation in the country can be resolved, the reunification and stability of the country can be realized, and a peaceful and prosperous social environment can be created for the people.

Church authorities should have the heart of Christ at heart, which means leading believers in a spirit of humility, love, and service to others. Christian doctrine teaches us to follow the example of Jesus Christ, who is the embodiment of humility, faithfulness, mercy, and righteousness.

As ambassadors of Christ, church leaders should treat their masses with love and care, listen to their needs, and help them grow in their faith and life. At the same time, they should guide and govern the church with the principles of integrity and justice, ensuring doctrinal purity and harmony in the church.

The heart of Christ means selfless devotion and consideration for others. Church leaders should place their own power and authority in a role of service to serve the interests of God and believers, rather than pursuing personal power or glory. Such leaders will lead by example by teaching believers how to serve one another in love and how to walk in truth and kindness.

In the face of worldly temptations and challenges, church leaders should remain steadfast in their faith and not be swayed by worldly values, but stick to the teachings and principles of Christ.

They should be an example to believers and guide them to grow in their faith and find inner peace and tranquility.

Therefore, the rulers of the Church should always have the heart of Christ in mind, lead the believers with a spirit of humility, love and justice, and contribute to the harmony and development of the Church. May God give them wisdom and strength, as well as a strong faith, to practice and proclaim the love and redemption of Christ.

Here are some verses related to following Christ's example, imitating Christ, and having Christ's mind as our heart:

Philippians 2:5-8: "Christ Jesus was very much of God, and did not consider equality with God to be a preyman, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a slave and becoming a man, and being made a man in human form, he humbled himself and obeyed himself unto death, even on the cross." "

Romans 12:2: "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is the good, perfect, and pleasing will of God." "

Galatians 2:20: "I am no longer alive with Christ, but Christ lives in me, and I now live in the flesh, living by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." "

These verses teach believers to imitate Christ's character and heart and to live the life of Christ by his example.

We pray together:

Heavenly Father, we thank You for giving us Jesus Christ as our example and Savior. Stir up a spirit of Christ-hearted heart in the church, so that we can love one another, respect one another, humble one another, and tolerate one another. Help us learn to let go of ourselves, to forgive one

another, to accept one another, to serve one another, and to build one another. May our lives, our testimonies, and our teachings reflect the character and love of Christ. Make us bodies of unity, cities that illuminate the world, and witnesses of the Gospel. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ we pray, amen.

2 Samuel

CHAPTER 2

2Sa. 2:1 In the course of time, David enquired of the LORD. “Shall I go up to one of the towns of Judah?” he asked. The LORD said, “Go up.” David asked, “Where shall I go?” “To Hebron,” the LORD answered.

2Sa. 2:2 So David went up there with his two wives, Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail, the widow of Nabal of Carmel.

2Sa. 2:3 David also took the men who were with him, each with his family, and they settled in Hebron and its towns.

2Sa. 2:4 Then the men of Judah came to Hebron and there they anointed David king over the house of Judah. When David was told that it was the men of Jabesh Gilead who had buried Saul,

2Sa. 2:5 he sent messengers to the men of Jabesh Gilead to say to them, “The LORD bless you for showing this kindness to Saul your master by burying him.

2Sa. 2:6 May the LORD now show you kindness and faithfulness, and I too will show you the same favour because you have done this.

2Sa. 2:7 Now then, be strong and brave, for Saul your master is dead, and the house of Judah has anointed me king over them.” 2Sa. 2:8 Meanwhile, Abner son of Ner, the commander of Saul’s army, had taken Ish-Bosheth son of Saul and brought him over to Mahanaim.

2Sa. 2:9 He made him king over Gilead, Ashuri [Or Asher] and Jezreel, and also over Ephraim, Benjamin and all Israel.

2Sa. 2:10 Ish-Bosheth son of Saul was forty years old when he became king over Israel, and he reigned two years. The house of Judah, however, followed David.

2Sa. 2:11 The length of time David was king in Hebron over the house of Judah was seven years and six months.

2Sa. 2:12 Abner son of Ner, together with the men of Ish-Bosheth son of Saul, left Mahanaim and went to Gibeon.

2Sa. 2:13 Joab son of Zeruiah and David’s men went out and met them at the pool of Gibeon. One group sat down on one side of the pool and one group on the other side.

2Sa. 2:14 Then Abner said to Joab, “Let’s have some of the young men get up and fight hand to hand in front of us.” “All right, let them do it,” Joab said.

2Sa. 2:15 So they stood up and were counted off — twelve men for Benjamin and Ish-Bosheth son of Saul, and twelve for David. 2Sa. 2:16 Then each man grabbed his opponent by the head and thrust his dagger into his opponent’s side, and they fell down together. So that place in Gibeon was called Helkath Hazzurim. [Helkath Hazzurim means field of daggers or field of hostilities.]

2Sa. 2:17 The battle that day was very fierce, and Abner and the men of Israel were defeated by David’s men.

2Sa. 2:18 The three sons of Zeruah were there: Joab, Abishai and Asahel. Now Asahel was as fleet-footed as a wild gazelle. 2Sa. 2:19 He chased Abner, turning neither to the right nor to the left as he pursued him.

2Sa. 2:20 Abner looked behind him and asked, "Is that you, Asahel?" "It is," he answered.

2Sa. 2:21 Then Abner said to him, "Turn aside to the right or to the left; take on one of the young men and strip him of his weapons." But Asahel would not stop chasing him.

2Sa. 2:22 Again Abner warned Asahel, "Stop chasing me! Why should I strike you down? How could I look your brother Joab in the face?"

2Sa. 2:23 But Asahel refused to give up the pursuit; so Abner thrust the butt of his spear into Asahel's stomach, and the spear came out through his back. He fell there and died on the spot. And every man stopped when he came to the place where Asahel had fallen and died.

2Sa. 2:24 But Joab and Abishai pursued Abner, and as the sun was setting, they came to the hill of Ammah, near Giah on the way to the wasteland of Gibeon.

2Sa. 2:25 Then the men of Benjamin rallied behind Abner. They formed themselves into a group and took their stand on top of a hill.

2Sa. 2:26 Abner called out to Joab, "Must the sword devour for ever? Don't you realise that this will end in bitterness? How long before you order your men to stop pursuing their brothers?"

2Sa. 2:27 Joab answered, "As surely as God lives, if you had not spoken, the men would have continued the pursuit of their brothers until morning." [Or spoken this morning, the men would not have taken up the pursuit of their brothers; or spoken, the men would have given up the pursuit of their brothers by morning]

2Sa. 2:28 So Joab blew the trumpet, and all the men came to a halt; they no longer pursued Israel, nor did they fight any more.

2Sa. 2:29 All that night Abner and his men marched through the Arabah. They crossed the Jordan, continued through the whole Bithron [Or morning; or ravine; the meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain.] and came to Mahanaim. 2Sa. 2:30 Then Joab returned from pursuing Abner and assembled all his men. Besides Asahel, nineteen of David's men were found missing.

2Sa. 2:31 But David's men had killed 360 Benjamites who were with Abner.

2Sa. 2:32 They took Asahel and buried him in his father's tomb at Bethlehem. Then Joab and his men marched all night and arrived at Hebron by daybreak.

Chapter 2 of the book of 2 Samuel describes the aftermath of Saul's death and David's rise to power. David first goes to Hebron, where the tribe of Judah anoints him as king over their own people. Meanwhile, Abner, the commander of Saul's army, establishes Saul's son, Ish-bosheth, as king over the rest of Israel. This leads to a long-lasting conflict between David's forces and those of Ish-bosheth, with Abner and Joab, David's own commander, engaging in a series of battles. In one of these battles, Abner kills Joab's brother, Asahel, in self-defense. The chapter ends with both sides gaining and losing ground, and Ish-bosheth's power gradually diminishing.

Here are some important verses from chapter 2 of the book of 2 Samuel:

1. "In the course of time, David inquired of the Lord. 'Shall I go up to one of the towns of Judah?' he asked. The Lord said, 'Go up.' David asked, 'Where shall I go?' 'To Hebron,' the Lord

answered." (2 Samuel 2:1) - This verse shows how David sought God's guidance in his decision-making.

2. "So David went up there with his two wives, Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail, the widow of Nabal of Carmel." (2 Samuel 2:2) - This verse lists the names of two of David's wives, which is significant because polygamy was a common practice in ancient times.

3. "But Abner son of Ner, commander of Saul's army, had taken Ish-Bosheth son of Saul and brought him over to Mahanaim." (2 Samuel 2:8) - This verse introduces Ish-Bosheth, who was Saul's son and a rival claimant to the throne of Israel.

4. "Then Abner said to Joab, 'Let's have some of the young men get up and fight hand to hand in front of us.' 'All right, let them do it,' Joab said." (2 Samuel 2:14) - This verse describes the skirmish between the armies of David and Ish-Bosheth, which led to a larger battle.

5. "May God deal with Abner, be it ever so severely, if I do not do for David what the Lord promised him on oath and transfer the kingdom from the house of Saul and establish David's throne over Israel and Judah from Dan to Beersheba." (2 Samuel 2:9) - This verse shows that Abner recognized David's right to the throne and was willing to help him achieve it.

Overall, chapter 2 of 2 Samuel is about David's rise to power and the conflict between his followers and those who remained loyal to Saul's dynasty. It sets the stage for the larger narrative arc of the book, which is about the reign of David as king of Israel.

! In 2 Samuel Chapter 2, we see the aftermath of Saul's death and the beginning of David's reign as king. Here are some key reflections from the chapter:

David's Ascension to the Throne: After the death of Saul, David inquires of the Lord about his next steps. He receives confirmation that he should go up to Hebron, and the people of Judah anoint him as their king. This marks the beginning of David's reign as the king of Judah. It reflects God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises to David and establishing him as the rightful king.

Ish-bosheth's Reign: In contrast to David's anointing as king, Saul's son Ish-bosheth is made king over the rest of Israel. This creates a division within the nation, with David ruling over Judah and Ish-bosheth ruling over the other tribes. This division sets the stage for a power struggle and conflict between the two factions.

Abner's Support for Ish-bosheth: Abner, the commander of Saul's army, becomes a key figure in supporting Ish-bosheth's reign. He rallies the other tribes of Israel around Saul's son and establishes his authority. Abner's actions show his commitment to the continuation of Saul's dynasty and the preservation of his power.

Joab's Loyalty to David: David's nephew Joab emerges as a prominent figure in this chapter. He becomes the commander of David's army and shows unwavering loyalty to David. Joab is instrumental in expanding David's influence and defeating the forces aligned against him. His loyalty highlights the importance of trustworthy and dedicated individuals in positions of leadership.

The Battle of Gibeon: The chapter concludes with a conflict between the armies of Joab and Abner at the pool of Gibeon. It results in a fierce and brutal battle, with casualties on both sides. This battle foreshadows the ongoing struggle between David's kingdom and Ish-bosheth's kingdom, setting the stage for future conflicts and power dynamics.

Overall, 2 Samuel Chapter 2 showcases the establishment of David as king over Judah, the division of Israel under Ish-bosheth's reign, the support of key figures like Abner and Joab, and the initial conflicts between the two factions. It sets the stage for the turbulent times ahead as David's kingdom begins to take shape and face opposition from rival claimants to the throne.