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(Peter Lok) 駱沅祺

[lokpeter@outlook.com](mailto:lokpeter@outlook.com)

[Bibleao.com](http://Bibleao.com)

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YouTube Prayer Link

Give help when it's time, don't add insult to injury:

Second Samuel chapter 16 continues the story of Absalom's rebellion against David. When David and his followers fled Jerusalem, they met Saul's servant Zeba, who brought them food and a donkey for David to ride on. Later, however, Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, David's faithful servant, revealed that Zeba had lied and betrayed him. As they continued their journey, a man named Shimei cursed David and threw stones at him, claiming that David had suffered because of his past sins. One of David's soldiers offered to kill Shimei, but David stopped him, saying that maybe the curse was justified. The chapter ends with Absalom entering Jerusalem and taking possession of the palace and harem that David left behind. This chapter focuses on the political and personal upheavals David faced, as well as the consequences of his past sins. It also shows how Absalom's rebellion gained momentum and how David lost control of the situation. Emotions can also be easily stirred up when the body and spirit are weak, so those who are wise in heaven should "listen quickly, speak slowly, and be slow to anger" (James 1:19) and not jump to conclusions based on flesh.

In the journey of life, we often encounter frustration and frustration, and at this time, the reactions of the people around us can often be divided into two completely different attitudes: sending charcoal in the snow and falling into the well.

The people who send charcoal in the snow are like a ray of warm sun penetrating the cold winter day, giving us warmth and hope. They lend a helping hand, give us support and care, and make us feel the warmth of life and the kindness of the world. Their acts of kindness can not only soothe our suffering, but also inspire us to pick ourselves up again and face difficulties and challenges bravely.

However, the opposite is the person who falls into the well. They choose to stand aside and watch us coldly when we are in trouble, and even ridicule and mock us, which makes our hearts even heavier. Their words and deeds make us feel hopeless and lonely, and make the already difficult road even more tortuous and difficult.

In the course of life, we will all encounter these two different attitudes to a greater or lesser extent. However, in the face of frustration and setbacks, we should learn to be grateful to those who send charcoal in the snow, and at the same time, we must also learn to resist the wind and rain that fall into the well. Because it is these experiences that make us stronger, cherish the warmth and support around us more, and know how to find hope and strength in the face of adversity.

When frustration strikes, some people choose to use the double-edged sword of sarcasm to fight, like looking for a glimmer of clues in the dark, but they do not hesitate to use harsh language to challenge themselves and others.

These people may turn their pain into sarcasm and ridicule, and transfer their anger and helplessness onto others. They may treat people and things around them in a cynical tone, trying to hide their vulnerability and insecurity through sarcasm. However, this kind of irony is often more of a sign of avoidance and self-preservation, and they may not want to face their inner pain, so they choose to use irony to hide their weakness.

However, true courage is not shown through irony, but by courageously facing the pain and challenges of the heart. Resisting frustration is not about attacking others to heal the soul, but by accepting one's own vulnerability and imperfections, and finding inner peace and strength. Only when we bravely face our hearts and accept our fragility and imperfections can we truly get out of the shadow of frustration and welcome new hopes and possibilities.

Therefore, in moments of frustration, resisting sarcasm is not a healthy choice. On the contrary, we should learn to be tolerant and understanding, face ourselves and others with a tolerant attitude, and warm each other's hearts with love and care. Only in this way can we truly resist the haze brought about by frustration and welcome a new dawn.

There are many passages in the Bible that can help us overcome sarcastic words, and here are some of them:

Proverbs 15:1, "A kind answer makes anger subside, but a violent word stirs the heart." This passage reminds us to defuse conflict with gentle responses, not with violent words.

Proverbs 12:18, "He that speaketh rashly is like a sword, but the tongue of a wise man is healed." This passage warns us of the power of words, that inappropriate words can hurt others, and that words of wisdom can bring healing and comfort.

Ephesians 4:29, "Let not a filthy word come out of your mouth, but speak good things for edification in your own deeds, for the good of them that hear." This passage teaches us to use constructive words to encourage and edify others, not to hurt them with filthy and sarcastic words.

Matthew 5:44, "But I say unto you, Love your enemies, and pray for them that persecute you. This passage reminds us to respond to those who are unkind to us with love, not with sarcasm or hatred.

I Peter 3:9, "Do not return evil for evil, or reproach for reproach, but bless, for to this you have been called, that you may receive blessings." This passage teaches us to respond with blessings to those who treat us unkindly, not with evil for evil or with insults for insults.

These verses emphasize the importance of love, gentleness, wisdom, and constructive words in overcoming irony. By following these biblical teachings, we can better handle the ridicule and provocation of others, resolve conflicts with love and wisdom, and maintain inner peace and joy.

We pray

Lord, thank You for Your grace and love in our lives. Today, we gather before You and pray to You with a humble heart.

Give us the strength and wisdom to refrain from using words to be sarcastic in the face of challenges and dilemmas. Teach us how to respond to others with love and gentleness, not to repay evil for evil, but to treat everyone with blessings. Give us patience and patience so that we can endure the sarcasm and provocation that others may bring, without wavering in our own beliefs and positions.

Lord, sow the seeds of love and kindness in our hearts so that our words and actions reflect Your love and forgiveness. Help us understand that sarcasm and provocation only bring short-term pleasure, and that true happiness and fulfillment come from treating others with love and tolerance.

Guard our tongues and tongues so that our words glorify your name and build up the hearts of others. May our words and deeds be a blessing and encouragement to others, and make the world a better place because of our existence.

Thank You for hearing our prayers and trusting You to manifest Your wonderful works in our lives. In the name of Jesus Christ I pray, amen.

## 2Samuel chapter 16

16 :1And David had just passed over the top of the mountain, and saw Zebai, the servant of Mephibosheth, coming to meet him, with two hundred loaves of bread, and a hundred cakes of raisins, and a hundred cakes of summer fruit, and a skin of wine. 2 And the king said unto Zebai, What is the meaning of thou that thou hast brought these? And Zebai said, The donkey is for the king's household, and the bread of bread and the bread of summer fruit for the young men to eat, and the wine for the weary in the wilderness. 3 When the king asked, "Where is your master's son?" Zebai answered the king, "He is still in Jerusalem, because he said, 'The children of Israel

will return to me this day the kingdom of my father." 4 Then the king said to Zeba, "All that belongs to Mephibosheth is yours. Ziba said, "I bow down to my lord the king, and may I find favor in your sight."

David tolerated Shimei

5 And when king David came to Bahurim, he saw a man come out, the son of Gerath of Saul, whose name was Shimei. As he went, he cursed, 6 and stoned King David and his servants. All the people and the mighty men were at the king's right hand. 7 And Shimei cursed, and said: Go, thou wicked man who shed blood, go, go! 8 You shed the blood of all the house of Saul, and reigned after him. The LORD has laid this sin upon you, and has given it to Absalom your son. Now you are bringing disaster upon yourself, for you are the one who sheds blood!"

9 And Abishai the son of Zeruiah said unto the king: Shall this dead dog curse my lord the king: let me pass by, and cut off his head. 10 And the king said unto him, What have I to do with you, son of Zeruiah? Because the LORD hath commanded him, Because thou shalt curse David. So who dares to say why you have done this? 11 Then David said to Abishai and to all his servants: How much more is this Benjames, who is my own son, who seeks my life, for the Lord has commanded him. 12 Or the LORD will be gracious to me when he sees my trouble, and because I am cursed by this man this day. 13 So David and his men went on. And Shimei walked on the hillside opposite David, and cursed as he walked, and cut him with stones, and lifted him with dirt. 14 And the king and all the people that were with him came to a place wearily and wearily, and rested there.

Household sifting and deception returned to the salon

15 Absalom and all Israel came to Jerusalem, and Ahithophel came with him. 16 And Hushai the Arkite of David, went to Absalom, and said unto him: Live the king! 17 And Absalom said unto Hushai: Is this your kindness to your friend, and why do you not go with thy friend? 18 And Hushai said unto Absalom: Rather, I will submit to the LORD, and to this people, and to all Israel, whom I have chosen, and with him, and with him. 19 Again, whom shall I serve, am I not the son of the former king, and so shall I serve thy father? 」

20 And Absalom said unto Ahithophel: Counsel ye what shall we do. 21 Then Ahithophel said to Absalom, "Make near to the concubines that your father left to guard the palace. When all Israel heard that thy father hated thee, the hand of all those who came unto thee was strengthened. 22 So Absalom pitched a tent on the flat roof of the palace. Absalom was near to his father's concubine in the eyes of all Israel. 23 Then Ahithophel came up with an idea like a man asking the word of God. This is what he gave to David in the past, and to Absalom today.

Second Samuel chapter 16 continues the story of Absalom's rebellion against David. When David and his followers fled Jerusalem, they met Saul's servant Zeba, who brought them food and a donkey for David to ride on. Later, however, Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, David's faithful servant, revealed that Zeba had lied and betrayed him. As they continue their journey, a man named Shimei curses David and throws stones at him, claiming that David suffered because of his past sins. One of David's soldiers offered to kill Shi Mei, but David stopped him, saying that maybe the curse was justified. The chapter ends with Absalom entering Jerusalem and taking possession of the palace and harem that David left behind. This chapter focuses on the political and personal upheavals David faced, as well as the consequences of his past sins. It also shows how Absalom's rebellion gained momentum and how David lost control of the situation.

Second Samuel chapter 16 continues the story of Absalom's rebellion against David. Here are some important verses from this chapter:

One. "When King David came to Bahulim, a man came out of the house of Saul, whose name was Shemei, the son of Kira, and when he came, he cursed without ceasing. (2 Samuel 16:5) - This verse introduces Shemei, who cursed David and stoned him while fleeing Jerusalem. This highlights the hostility and opposition David is facing from some of his own people.

Two. "Spare him and let him curse, for the Lord has commanded him to do so." (2 Samuel 16:11) - This verse shows David's reaction to the curse of Shemei as he recognized that God might be using the situation to humble him and test his faith.

Three. So Absalom went to his father's concubine in the presence of all Israel. (2 Samuel 16:22) - This verse shows the depth of Absalom's rebellion as he publicly humiliated his father by taking his concubines for himself. This action would be seen as Absalom's symbolic assertion of the throne's claim.

Overall, 2 Samuel 16 portrays David as a humble and submissive figure, willing to accept the enemy's curses and mistreatment of him. At the same time, it highlights the violent and ruthless nature of Absalom's rebellion as he seeks to undermine and destroy his own father's authority.

In 2 Samuel 16, we witness David encountering several men while fleeing Absalom's rebellion. Here are some of the key thoughts from this chapter:

The Deception of Zeba: When David and his faithful followers left Jerusalem, Mephibosheth's servant Sheba offered food to David and claimed that Mephibosheth had betrayed him. This deception prompted David to transfer Mephibosheth's land and property to Ziba. It is a reminder of people's deception and the need for discernment when assessing the motivations of others.

Hime's curse: As David and his team continue their journey, Hime, a member of the Saul family, curses and throws stones at David. He blamed David for Saul's downfall and claimed that David was accepting the consequences of his actions. David's response to Sheme's curse shows that he was humble and acknowledged God's sovereignty in allowing such events to occur. It is a reminder of the need for humility in the face of criticism, and the importance of trusting in God's plan.

Absalom's Public Display: When David tried to navigate difficult circumstances, Absalom took advantage of his absence and openly slept with David's concubines, further cementing his rebellion and asserting his authority. This move symbolizes Absalom's attempt to seize David's throne and the extent to which he was willing to humiliate his father. It highlights the divisions and conflicts within David's own family.

David's Response: In the midst of these challenges, David remained focused on seeking God's guidance and trust in His plan. He prevents his followers from taking revenge on Shimei because he recognizes that God may have allowed Shimei's curse for some purpose. David's response shows his faith in and dependence on God's justice and timing.

Lesson on Humility and Trust: Chapter 16 provides insight into the topic of humility and trust in God's sovereignty. David's encounter with Ziba and Ishimi reminds us of the importance of discernment when dealing with deceitful people and humbly responding to criticism. It also emphasizes the need to trust in God's ultimate control over events, even in difficult circumstances.

Overall, Samuel notes that chapter 16 reflects on the deception of Sheba, the curse of Shemei, Absalom's public display, David's response, and the themes of humility and trust in God's sovereignty. It reminds David of the challenges he faced during his exile and the importance of maintaining faith and humility in the face of adversity.