

## Lies Never Pay

Scripture Text: 2 Samuel 1

Who wrote 2 Samuel (2S)? Possibly Nathan and Gad, 1 Chronicles 29:29, possibly around 950BC during the reign of Solomon. 1S and 2S were originally one long book; divided to make study easier, divided c250BC in LXX. Events in 1S and 2S occurred c1050-961BC.

Key term: David – over 200x.

### Two ways of diving the book:

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|--------------------------------|---|
| 1. God Establishes – Chs. 1-10 | 1. David's National Victories – Chs. 1-10 |
| 2. God Chastens – Chs. 11-20   | 2. David's Personal Defeats – Chs. 11-24  |
| 3. God Preserves – Chs. 21-24  |   |

### **1. A False Report – v. 1-10**

- Some skeptics claim an inconsistency in this chapter and the end of 1S.
- Amalekite's story is a deliberate lie. "A lie always contradicts the truth." Coffman
- 1: came to pass: reminds us this was one big book
- 2: out of the camp: probably only truth told is that Saul is dead.
- 6: evidence of a lie: spear is too long to lean on (8 ft)
- Every army followed by vagabonds
- 10: crown, bracelet: insignia of royalty, 2K 11:12
- Amalekite liar is simply bringing back what God would've wanted brought back.
- 4 examples of suicide in the Bible:
  1. Saul
  2. Ahithophel. 2S 17:23
  3. Zimri, 1K 16:18
  4. Judas Iscariot, Mt. 27:5

### **2. A Liar's Execution – v. 11-16**

- 11: people frequently rent their clothes in Scripture in anger
  1. Reuben (1<sup>st</sup>) – Gen. 37:29-30
  2. Jacob – Gen. 37:34-35
  3. Joshua & Caleb – Num. 14:6
  4. Joshua – Joshua 7:6
  5. Jephthah – Judges 11:29-35
  6. David – 2S 11:1-11
  7. Tamar – 2S 13:19
  8. Ahab – 1K 21:20-28
  9. Elisha – 2K 2:12
  10. King of Syrian Army – 2K 5:7
  11. Eliakim – 2K 18:37
  12. Ezra – Ezra 9:1-4

- 13. Mordecai – Esther 4:1
- 14. High Priest, Caiaphas – Mt. 26:65/Mk. 14:63
- 15. Paul & Barnabas – Ac. 14:14
- 12: great sorrow experienced at the loss of a father-in-law and close friend
- 13: background on messenger
- 14: cf. 1S 26:9
- 16: if he killed Saul, he deserved death; if not, he deserved death by false testimony.
- 3 good reasons for David's actions:
  1. Tale of killing Saul was a lie on the face of it.
  2. If Amalekite's claim of being a "son of a sojourner" was true, he would have known it was a great sin to kill the Lord's anointed." He did not know = falsehood of claim.
  3. "This just punishment of the Amalekite once and for all precluded any untrue accusation of David's enemies that he might have had a part, directly or indirectly in the death of Saul." Young
- Not sure how much time has passed between telling of story and execution; David may have received the truth by this time.

### **3. A Friend's Lament – v. 17-27**

- 17: Funeral dirge or a mournful elegy – Barnes. Eulogy made no reference to Saul's sins or faults.
- 18: Book of Jasher – not preserved for us today, historical anthology of poems of ancient Israel. Cf. Joshua 10.
- 19: Mighty brought low in death! Frequently used in the funerals of great men.
- 20: Philistine women would go out rejoicing over Saul's death – David quells rejoicing, 1S 18:16
- 21: curse pronounced at scene of death, land still naked and sterile today.
- 22: David praises the fallen warriors, Deut. 32:42
- 24: women commanded to grieve; scarlet, gold – great advances in prosperity in Saul's reign.
- 26: a truly great friendship; Prov. 18:24
- 27: weapons of war parallelism to Saul and Jonathan themselves.

#### Lessons:

1. Lying is always a sin. Oftentimes, we must lie to cover up another lie and that turns in to a vicious cycle quickly. We are better off to always tell the truth, John 8:32.
2. Suicide is not the answer to get out of a situation. Yes, we must pay for our actions but there is always a way out where we don't have to take our lives.
3. Moses said it best in Numbers 23:23: "Be sure your sin will find you out." God knows all and we never fool God with our sins.

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