

David's Treatment of Shimei

“A Picture of the Salvation of a Sinner”

2 Sam 16:5-13; 19:15-23

Introduction:

1. Everyone will have a Shimei in life
2. They are the aggravators who delight to make life miserable for us
3. But they give us lots of opportunities to grow in faith and patience
4. Here is David's Shimei
5. Here we see a tremendous picture of God saving sinners

I. How Shimei Treated David – 2Sam 16

A. Time of the Attack – vs 5-6

5 And when king David came to Bahurim, behold, thence came out a man of the family of the house of Saul, whose name was Shimei, the son of Gera: he came forth, and cursed still as he came. **6** And he cast stones at David, and at all the servants of king David: and all the people and all the mighty men were on his right hand and on his left.

1. The attack occurred when David was fleeing his son Absalom
2. It was a very dark time in David's life
3. This attack could not have come at a worse time for David
4. He was already discouraged and down; and now this attack only makes matters worse
5. During these times that we need to focus on God as David did in vs12

B. Types of the Attack – vs 7, 8

7 And thus said Shimei when he cursed, Come out, come out, thou bloody man, and thou man of Belial: **8** The LORD hath returned upon thee all the blood of the house of Saul, in whose stead thou hast reigned; and the LORD hath delivered the kingdom into the hand of Absalom thy son: and, behold, thou art taken in thy mischief, because thou art a bloody man.

1. Shimei began his attack with words
 - a) *Our enemies normally begin their attacks with vile words*
 - b) *Often slanderous and mocking words*
 - c) *When the cruel, mocking words come - just consider the source and be patient like David was and do not be like Shimei*
 - d) *Shimei had a grudge against David ever since King Saul's death*
 - e) *He blamed David for King Saul's death*
 - f) *David was getting what he deserved and Shimei would rub in it*
2. Later the words changed into actions – vs 6

C. Tenacity of the Attack – vs 13

13 And as David and his men went by the way, Shimei went along on the hill's side over against him, and cursed as he went, and threw stones at him, and cast dust.

1. David had never done a thing to Shimei, but he continued cursing
2. He would do all that he could to embarrass and belittle David
3. Shimei did not do it just once and then quit - he kept it up
4. That only makes the attack more difficult to bear
5. It does provide opportunities to grow in patience and to trust God for victory as David did
6. Shimei will have his day, but Scripture shows that he came to an ignominious end

D. The Call for Shimei's Punishment – vs 9

9 Then said Abishai the son of Zeruiah unto the king, Why should this dead dog curse my lord the king? let me go over, I pray thee, and take off his head.

E. David's Patience with Shimei – vs 10-12

10 And the king said, What have I to do with you, ye sons of Zeruiah? so let him curse, because the LORD hath said unto him, Curse David. Who shall then say, Wherefore hast thou done so? **11** And David said to Abishai, and to all his servants, Behold, my son, which came forth of my bowels, seeketh my life: how much more now *may this* Benjamite *do it?* let him alone, and let him curse; for the LORD hath bidden him. **12** It may be that the LORD will look on mine affliction, and that the LORD will requite me good for his cursing this day.

1. David had been stripped of his security, betrayed by his son, rejected by his people and he was no longer a young man capable of handling life on the run – this was the lowest time of his life
2. Do not let these attacks defeat you
3. Commit them to God as David did - allow them to strengthen you
4. A preacher preached on spiritual gifts. After the sermon a woman came up from the congregation and said, “That was a great sermon... but I believe that I only have one talent.” The preacher smiled and asked “What’s your talent?” The woman replied, “I have the gift of criticism.” The preacher then said, “The Bible says that the guy who had one talent went out and buried it. Maybe that’s what you ought to do with yours.”
5. David had committed a grave sin earlier.
 - a) *He slept with his best friend's wife + Got her pregnant*
 - b) *Then arranged to have his friend killed on the battlefield*
 - c) *God forgave David, but things in his family would never be the same – things would get hard for him*

II. How David Treated Shimei – 2Sam 19

A. Shimei Quickly Approached the King – vs 15-16

15 So the king returned, and came to Jordan. And Judah came to Gilgal, to go to meet the king, to conduct the king over Jordan. 16 And Shimei the son of Gera, a Benjamite, which was of Bahurim, hasted and came down with the men of Judah to meet king David.

1. See the fear of Shimei
2. He hurried to meet David
3. No doubt many others were fearing for their lives

B. Shimei Humbled Himself Before the King – vs 18

18 And there went over a ferry boat to carry over the king's household, and to do what he thought good. And Shimei the son of Gera fell down before the king, as he was come over Jordan;

1. He fell to his knees before David and the thousands who had come to welcome him back home

C. Shimei Confessed His Sin to the King

19 And said unto the king, Let not my lord impute iniquity unto me, neither do thou remember that which thy servant did perversely the day that my lord the king went out of Jerusalem, that the king should take it to his heart.

1. He saw his sin as the King had seen it
2. He confessed his guilt and wrong doing to the king

D. Shimei Asked the King for Forgiveness – vs 19-20

19 And said unto the king, Let not my lord impute iniquity unto me, neither do thou remember that which thy servant did perversely the day that my lord the king went out of Jerusalem, that the king should take it to his heart. 20 For thy servant doth know that I have sinned: therefore, behold, I am come the first this day of all the house of Joseph to go down to meet my lord the king.

1. He deserved punishment
2. Don't impute iniquity to me

E. Another Call for Shimei's Punishment

21 But Abishai the son of Zeruiah answered and said, Shall not Shimei be put to death for this, because he cursed the LORD'S anointed?

1. Ex 22:28 Thou shalt not revile the gods, nor curse the ruler of thy people.
2. Certainly Shimei deserved punishment

F. Mercy Shown to Shimei

22 And David said, What have I to do with you, ye sons of Zeruiah, that ye should this day be adversaries unto me? shall there any man be put to death this day in Israel? for do not I know that I am this day king over Israel?

1. But now his reason for sparing Shimei was because it was a day of rejoicing, not a day of revenge.
2. But even more, by pardoning Shimei, King David was offering a general amnesty to all who had supported Absalom during the rebellion.
3. When people offend us or do wrong against us, we are to show mercy and to forgive them.
 - a) *As difficult as it is, we must control the reactions of our flesh and show mercy.*
 - b) *A spirit of forgiveness must fill and dominate our hearts.*
 - c) *One fact is sure: we must not harbor bitterness, anger, hostility, wrath, or hatred against the person who wrongs us.*
 - d) *Indulging these feelings makes us just as guilty of wrongdoing as the person who mistreats us.*

G. Forgiveness Shown to Shimei

23 Therefore the king said unto Shimei, Thou shalt not die. And the king sware unto him.

III. The Picture of the Sinner Coming to Christ

A. You Have Sinned Against the King

Ro 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

1. We have all “missed the mark”
2. We all “come short”

B. There is a Call for Your Punishment

Ro 6:23 For the wages of sin *is* death...

C. The King Has Had Patience with You

1Pe 3:20 Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.

1. God was patient in the days of Noah for 120 yrs.
2. Demonstrated by the fact that you are still alive

D. You Need to Quickly Approach the King

2Co 6:2 (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now *is* the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)

1. His patience will not last forever
2. Now is all you have.

E. You Will Need to Humble Yourself Before the King

Heb 3:15 While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation.

F. You Need to Confess Sin to the King and Ask for Forgiveness

Ps 32:5 I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah.

G. God Will Extend Mercy and Forgiveness Through His Grace

Rom 6:23...but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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On September 22, 1998, Daniel Crocker confessed to a murder he committed nineteen years prior. Nobody had tracked him down, it just came from the conviction God had placed on his heart. At the age of thirty-eight, with a wife and two young children, Crocker practiced what he had read in Proverbs 28:13, “He who conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will find compassion.” Nineteen years earlier, Crocker had been on a three-day LSD high when he killed nineteen-year-old Tracy Fresquez after meeting her briefly at a convenience store. Few clues were left behind, and detectives admitted the case would have never been solved had Crocker not made his confession. Not long after that murder on October 6, 1979, Crocker realized he had to make serious changes in his life. He quit using drugs and returned to the teachings of his Christian parents. He got involved in a church and started studying God’s Word. By 1986, he married a woman from his church and they started a family. During the summer of 1998, Crocker and his wife came to a consensus agreement

that he needed to confess his crime. He said good-bye to his two children and wife, then boarded a flight from his home in Virginia and flew to Kansas City. A prearranged meeting with prosecutors took place shortly thereafter and now Crocker is serving time in prison. He will not be eligible for parole until 2008. His lawyer, Tom Bath, is amazed at Crocker's confession. He said, "I have never seen anybody willing to risk so much to take responsibility for what he's done." District Attorney Paul Morrison admitted, "I've never seen anything like this." Crocker simply says, "It is hard for me and my wife and our children, but it is the right thing to do." Daniel Crocker understands that the Truth himself uses the truth itself to set us free, even if it means suffering the consequences of our deeds. (John 8:32).