

## SOLOMON IS ENTHRONED AND ADONIJAH'S PARTY ENDS

PASTOR MARC D. WILSON, ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, LAS CRUCES, NM

### 1 Kings 1:28-53 (2 Samuel 7:1-17)

Well, its football season. I love the Fall, not so much cause of football, but because I love the season. But, I do enjoy football on occasion. I know that for many, football really motivates them and brings them joy. It enlivens them! Even I can feel the energy and get excited while watching a game that I really have no vested interest in. I may start of sitting down with the rest of the family while a game is on. I am subdued; not really paying attention. I don't know what's going on or who's even playing. Next thing I know, I'm listening to the conversation, critiques and arguing between Salina and Thomas. I begin to watch the game for myself to see what's going on. Someone's excitement escalates as the game progresses. Next thing you know, the whole room is yelling, screaming, shouting, and I am right there with it all!

I kinda wonder if that's what David was like in our opening verse today in 1 Kings 1:28. Remember, David is in his chambers pretty much bed ridden. He's old, frail and unaware. King David is even clueless about the culminating coup in his kingdom. David, near death it would seem, receives a report from Bathsheba and then Nathan, that his son Adonijah is already celebrating his ascension to the throne despite a prior oath David made that Solomon, Bathsheba's son, would be king. After hearing this news, King David comes to his senses. A fire grows in his belly, and he musters up the energy required of a king. Next thing we learn, based on the reports he has received and out of a concern for the kingdom, King David gives a command! "Call in Bathsheba!"

## SOLOMON IS ENTHRONED AND ADONIJAH'S PARTY ENDS

PASTOR MARC D. WILSON, ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, LAS CRUCES, NM

Now, here we are. All the king's closest allies, his inner circle, those uninvited to Adonijah's anti-christ self-coronation feast because of their faithfulness to God's anointed king, are all gathered just outside David's chambers. I picture David like Ebenezer Scrooge on Christmas morning - still in his long nightshirt sitting up with increased vigor in his bed, realizing the magnitude of his situation. David is motivated to act! As a result of David's actions Solomon is enthroned, and Adonijah's party ends.

### 1. Solomon is Enthroned (Verses 28-40)

#### a. David's Reiterated Oath **READ verses 29-30**

- i. Note David swears before the Living God Who is the One who delivered David out of every trouble.
- ii. This oath before the Lord leads to...

#### b. More Kingly Commands **READ verses 32-35**

- i. I think it is useful to note three important offices in this passage that King Jesus fulfills in their totality: the priest, the prophet, and the king.
  1. Samuel, who was priest, prophet and even judge/ruler, anointed David as king at Yahweh's command. Now, David is giving the command based on Yahweh's prior word of promise to him from 2 Samuel 7 that we read this morning.
- ii. The lord's servants here are the Kerethites and the Pelethites under the command of Benaiah who is David's chief royal guard. We don't know much about them other than they were part of David's mercenary forces and protected David in the rebellions of Absalom and Sheba recorded in 2 Samuel.
- iii. David commands Solomon's anointing to be held down at Gihon, which was a spring north of En Rogel where Adonijah is gathered with his guests going rogue with his own coronation. David does this to ensure everyone,

## SOLOMON IS ENTHRONED AND ADONIJAH'S PARTY ENDS

PASTOR MARC D. WILSON, ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, LAS CRUCES, NM

especially Adonijah and company, knows that Solomon has been appointed king. And, Adonijah gets the message...**READ verses 41-43.**

1. What happens next?

### **2. Adonijah's Party Ends (Verses 41-53)**

a. **READ verse 49**

b. And, Adonijah is rightly afraid. **READ verses 50-51.**

i. And, for now, Solomon shows mercy **READ verse 52**

1. With such mercy granted, will Adonijah prove to be worthy? How many between Christ's first coming and His Return, will prove to be worthy of the mercy we have been given? Repent for the kingdom of God is at hand.

ii. **READ verse 53**

1. Adonijah rightly submits God's king and is allowed to exist, at home, within the kingdom, unless evil is found in him. Then he will die.

a. How many exist in Christ's kingdom feigning submission but are really evil within? It won't last.

I realized this narrative is mostly about people's activities. There is no supernatural act of God speaking to a king, priest or prophet. God does not miraculously strike Adonijah and his guests with a plague for their rebellion. It's all about human reactions to God's king and his kingdom. There are those who trust and believe in God's promises to David of a king who will sit on his throne, and they respond by acting to serve God and His King. Why? Because, the assurance of God's promises calls forth a response and motivates actions.

## SOLOMON IS ENTHRONED AND ADONIJAH'S PARTY ENDS

PASTOR MARC D. WILSON, ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, LAS CRUCES, NM

For example, God's promise to David, in a stupor and near death, enlivened him to action and resulted in him praising God (**READ verses 46-48**).

Imagine this. Solomon on the throne and David, back in his bedroom now energized and still standing on top of his bed shouting out commands in his night shirt and night cap, realizes God has fulfilled His promise. In response, David bows down on his bed and worships God with praise. It is almost as if David had been resurrected by God's word of promise about the security of God's kingdom with which he had been entrusted. Are you filled with such praise for God for His promises being fulfilled for you in King Jesus? Are you giddy with gratitude like David, or like Scrooge was on Christmas morning?

What motivates you? What animates you? Is it God's Word and Spirit, or is it, maybe, worldly wealth and superficial security? What promise do we have, as Christians, from our King Jesus that motivates us to serve Him and His Kingdom?

One promise our King Jesus gave us is specifically related to our service in and for His kingdom, and that is the promise that He, the God-man made flesh who died for our sins so we could become righteous citizens of His Kingdom, is among us by His Spirit. **READ Matthew 28:18-20**. Do you believe this? If so, how does it motivate you to serve and secure His expanding Kingdom; the Church? Having King Jesus with us as our God and we His People is the fullness of all biblical promises! What more do we need if, in Jesus, we have God with us; Immanuel? This Good news frees us to serve Him unhindered; that is, unless we bind ourselves to this world's temporary trinkets that are never promised by God or guaranteed.

## SOLOMON IS ENTHRONED AND ADONIJAH'S PARTY ENDS

PASTOR MARC D. WILSON, ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, LAS CRUCES, NM

Here are examples of what our King does NOT promise us? Jesus does NOT promise us: a winning football season, popularity, the ideal job, a beautiful home, a clean bill of health, that we will always get our way, freedom from pain and suffering, a restful retirement, nor that our children will grow up safe and be Christians. If none of these things are promised to us by our sovereign King who is willing and able to fulfill the promises He does give, why would we allow such things to motivate our lives? Because, they're idols that have won our loyalty over King Jesus.

Like Adonijah today, it is right to submit to God's King, and one day, we can be assured that everyone will submit to King Jesus. The question is: will that submission be a willing submission that began in this life? And, lest we think we can fake submission through external religious practices without truly loving God and our neighbor, that too will be revealed when King Jesus Returns as Judge. Then, the real eternal party begins! The marriage feast of the Lamb! That is the party you want to be invited to. That's the party that will never end! AMEN.