

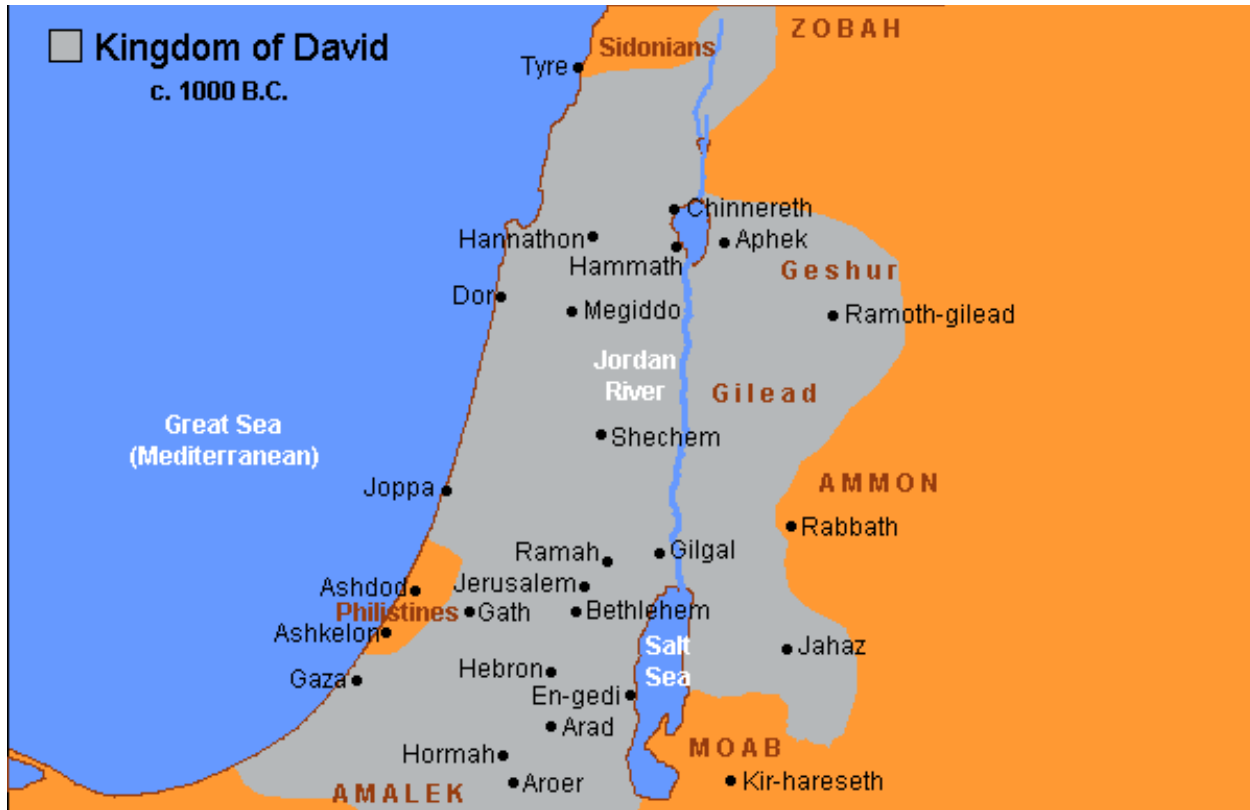
1. Tonight we will continue our study of the Book of Colossians at verse 13 of chapter 3. Last week I taught a case study to demonstrate the horrific results of what can happen when people refuse to make application of God's Word.
2. Before we continue that analysis you may want to take advantage of God's protocol for fellowship by silently naming your sins to God as we pray.
3. We are now ready to resume our study, but first let's take a look at an expanded translation of Col 3:12-13.

#### **Expanded translation**

**Col 3:12 Therefore in view of what we have just learned, you must clothe and invest yourselves like the elected ones of God, set-apart and loved by each member of the Trinity, manifesting an emotional stability and control consistent with your holy and beloved status; full of virtue love and kindness, modesty and humility of mind; always displaying stability even under pressure;**

**Col 3:13 you must endure and tolerate without complaint your fellow believers while also being gracious and forgiving to all others. And if any of you has a complaint against another person be he believer or unbeliever, you should forgive just as Christ forgave you.**

4. I want to review some of that learned last week and then pick up with new material at point 3.1 on page 3.
5. Now let's return to our case study.
6. David is king of Israel and Judah.
7. David won a civil war with a northern coalition led by Saul's titular head, Ishbosheth and his military Chief of Staff, Abner.
8. Saul and his son Jonathan were killed in battle by the Philistine army on Mount Gilboa. Ishbosheth, secularly speaking, is the rightful heir to the throne by right of primogeniture.
9. Ishbosheth and Abner have a falling out over a woman belonging to the harem of Saul.
10. As a result Abner sues for peace with David. The two agree the kingdoms should be merged. As part of the deal David makes Abner his Chief of Staff.
11. The Kingdom of David in c. 1000 B.C. looks something like this.



12. David's nephew Joab is passed over for promotion even though he had loyally and very effectively and successfully pursued the battle against the forces of Abner.

13. In one such battle Abner had reluctantly killed Asahel the baby brother of Joab thus there was already bad blood between Abner and Joab, only to be exacerbated by Abner being made Chief of Staff.

13.1 Joab, Abishai and Asahel were sons of Zeruiah David's half sister. Each of her sons became famous as warriors. Asahel was known for his speed afoot and both Joab and Abishai were decorated on numerous occasions for valor.

13.2 Joab will not forgive David for his being passed over. Joab will also refuse David's authority by murdering Abner. Joab is a good friend of Absalom and for reasons of self-preservation he wants Absalom to take over the kingdom at David's death. At this point I want to review the Doctrine of Joab.

#### Doctrine of Joab

1. Joab was one of three sons of Zeruiah, who was a half sister of David. They had the same mother but different fathers. According to 2Sa 17:25 she was the sister of Abigail who is said to be the daughter of Nahash. These loyal nephews of David are consistently identified as sons of Zeruiah rather than sons of their father.

1.1 David's sisters' names were Abigail and Zeruiah. According to 2Sa 17:25, these girls

were daughters of Nahash. Apparently David's mother had the two daughters by a previous marriage. The name of David's mother is unknown.

2. The three sons raised by Zeruah were: Joab, Abishai and Asahel. 2Sa 2:18

2.1 Zeruah is mentioned often in Scriptures due to the prominence of her sons.

3. The name of Zeruah's husband is not known. We do know the father of Zeruah is Nahash, king of Ammon.

3.1 Nahash was an Ammonite king who besieged Jabesh-gilead after Saul had been anointed king by Samuel (1Sa 11:1-2; 12:12). Nahash's term of surrender included his gouging out the right eye of every man of Jabesh in order to incapacitate him for further warfare.

1Sa 11:1 Then Nahash the Ammonite came up, and encamped against Jabeshgilead: and all the men of Jabesh said unto Nahash, Make a covenant with us, and we will serve thee.

1Sa 11:2 And Nahash the Ammonite answered them, On this condition will I make a covenant with you, that I may thrust out all your right eyes, and lay it for a reproach upon all Israel.

3.2 Nahash miscalculated the size of the army that Israel could send. Saul's stunning victory paved the way for his acceptance as king by the Israelites.

1Sa 11:6-15

1Sa 11:6 And the Spirit of God came upon Saul when he heard those tidings, and his anger was kindled greatly.

1Sa 11:7 And he took a yoke of oxen, and hewed them in pieces, and sent them throughout all the coasts of Israel by the hands of messengers, saying, Whosoever cometh not forth after Saul and after Samuel, so shall it be done unto his oxen. And the fear of the LORD fell on the people, and they came out with one consent.

1Sa 11:8 And when he numbered them in Bezek, the children of Israel were three hundred thousand, and the men of Judah thirty thousand.

1Sa 11:9 And they said unto the messengers that came, Thus shall ye say unto the men of Jabesh-gilead, Tomorrow, by that time the sun be hot, ye shall have help. And the messengers came and shewed it to the men of Jabesh; and they were glad.

1Sa 11:10 Therefore the men of Jabesh said, To morrow we will come out unto you, and ye shall do with us all that seemeth good unto you.

1Sa 11:11 And it was so on the morrow, that Saul put the people in three companies; and they came into the midst of the host in the morning watch, and slew the Ammonites until the heat of the day: and it came to pass, that they which remained were scattered, so that two of them were not left together.

Saul Confirmed as King

1Sa 11:12 And the people said unto Samuel, Who is he that said, Shall Saul reign over us? bring the men, that we may put them to death.

1Sa 11:13 And Saul said, There shall not a man be put to death this day: for to day the

LORD hath wrought salvation in Israel.

1Sa 11:14 Then said Samuel to the people, Come, and let us go to Gilgal, and renew the kingdom there.

1Sa 11:15 And all the people went to Gilgal; and there they made Saul king before the LORD in Gilgal; and there they sacrificed sacrifices of peace offerings before the LORD; and there Saul and all the men of Israel rejoiced greatly.

3.3 Probably this is the Nahash who was kind to Saul's enemy David (1Ch 19:1-2), and whose son Shobi brought supplies to David at Mahanaim. 2Sa 17:27-29

1Ch 19:1 Now it came to pass after this, that Nahash the king of the children of Ammon died, and his son reigned in his stead.

1Ch 19:2 And David said, I will shew kindness unto Hanun the son of Nahash, because his father shewed kindness to me. And David sent messengers to comfort him concerning his father. So the servants of David came into the land of the children of Ammon to Hanun, to comfort him.

2Sa 17:27 And it came to pass, when David was come to Mahanaim, that Shobi the son of Nahash of Rabbah of the children of Ammon, and Machir the son of Ammiel of Lodebar, and Barzillai the Gileadite of Rogelim,

2Sa 17:28 Brought beds, and basons, and earthen vessels, and wheat, and barley, and flour, and parched corn, and beans, and lentiles, and parched pulse,

2Sa 17:29 And honey, and butter, and sheep, and cheese of kine, for David, and for the people that were with him, to eat: for they said, The people is hungry, and weary, and thirsty, in the wilderness.

3.4 Nahash was the father of Abigail, and apparently of Zeruijah her sister. 2Sa 17:25

2Sa 17:25 And Absalom made Amasa captain of the host instead of Joab: which Amasa was a man's son, whose name was Ithra an Israelite, that went in to Abigail the daughter of Nahash, sister to Zeruijah Joab's mother.

3.5 Since Abigail and Zeruijah are said in 1Ch 2:13-16 to be the sisters of David and his brothers, it is possible that they were the stepdaughters of Jesse; their sons were about the same age as David.

1Ch 2:13 And Jesse begat his firstborn Eliab, and Abinadab the second, and Shimma the third,

1Ch 2:14 Nethaneel the fourth, Raddai the fifth,

1Ch 2:15 Ozem the sixth, David the seventh:

1Ch 2:16 Whose sisters were Zeruijah, and Abigail. And the sons of Zeruijah; Abishai, and Joab, and Asahel, three.

3.6 Nahash conceivably was the Ammonite king who besieged Jabesh-Gilead when Saul was king; David's friendship with that ruler then would have been based on a close family relationship.

4. The three nephews of David were military leaders in David's army. Joab and Abishai being the foremost.

5. The first mention of Joab's military service is at the battle of Gibeon.

5.1 Here is where David's men led by Joab battled and defeated Ishbosheth's forces under the command of Abner; the battle took place near the pool of Gibeon.

5.2 It is also where Abner reluctantly slew Joab's younger brother Asahel. 2Sa 2:32

5.3 A blood revenge developed between the two leaders that led to the death of Abner. 2Sa 3:26-28

5.4 This act of Joab will later result in Joab's execution by Benaiah on the order of Solomon. Solomon's command was in conformity with an earlier death bed wish uttered by David. The killing of Joab by Benaiah was "doubly heinous" since Hebron was a city of refuge.

5.4.1 David lamented Abner's death. 2Sa 3:28-32

6. Joab's revenge of Asahel's death was also in part motivated by David's act of negotiating an end to his 7 year civil war with Ishbosheth, the *de facto* head of the northern Kingdom, though the *de jure* leader was Abner.

6.1 David's act of placing Abner in charge of the new kingdom's military force was but another "burr under Joab's sensitive blanket." 2Sa 3:17-25

7. David is not happy with this act of Joab but because he fears the sons of Zeruiah he does nothing.

7.1 David's feelings about these events are expressed in 2Sa 3:39.

7.2 The act of Joab in killing Abner did result in the surrender of Ishbosheth's forces. 2Sa 4:1

7.2.1 He was murdered by two of his military captains, his head cut-off and taken to David where the two were surprised at David's reaction. 2Sa 4:5-12

8. Later in the battle for Jerusalem Joab is made head of the army. 1Ch 11:5-6 and 2Sa 5:6-10

9. Joab led the forces of David in their conquest of Rabbah, capital of Ammon in a "dicey" battle which certainly could have gone either way. 2Sa 10:1-19

David Defeats the Ammonites

2Sa 10:1 And it came to pass after this, that the king of the children of Ammon died, and Hanun his son reigned in his stead.

2Sa 10:2 Then said David, I will shew kindness unto Hanun the son of Nahash, as his father shewed kindness unto me. And David sent to comfort him by the hand of his servants for his father. And David's servants came into the land of the children of Ammon.

2Sa 10:3 And the princes of the children of Ammon said unto Hanun their lord, Thinkest thou that David doth honour thy father, that he hath sent comforters unto thee? hath not David rather sent his servants unto thee, to search the city, and to spy it out, and to overthrow it?

2Sa 10:4 Wherefore Hanun took David's servants, and shaved off the one half of their beards, and cut off their garments in the middle, even to their buttocks, and sent them away.

2Sa 10:5 When they told it unto David, he sent to meet them, because the men were greatly ashamed: and the king said, Tarry at Jericho until your beards be grown, and then return.

2Sa 10:6 And when the children of Ammon saw that they stank before David, the children of Ammon sent and hired the Syrians of Bethrehab and the Syrians of Zoba, twenty thousand footmen, and of king Maacah a thousand men, and of Ishtob twelve thousand men.

2Sa 10:7 And when David heard of it, he sent Joab, and all the host of the mighty men.

2Sa 10:8 And the children of Ammon came out, and put the battle in array at the entering in of the gate: and the Syrians of Zoba, and of Rehob, and Ishtob, and Maacah, were by themselves in the field.

2Sa 10:9 When Joab saw that the front of the battle was against him before and behind, he chose of all the choice men of Israel, and put them in array against the Syrians:

2Sa 10:10 And the rest of the people he delivered into the hand of Abishai his brother, that he might put them in array against the children of Ammon.

2Sa 10:11 And he said, If the Syrians be too strong for me, then thou shalt help me: but if the children of Ammon be too strong for thee, then I will come and help thee.

2Sa 10:12 Be of good courage, and let us play the men for our people, and for the cities of our God: and the LORD do that which seemeth him good.

2Sa 10:13 And Joab drew nigh, and the people that were with him, unto the battle against the Syrians: and they fled before him.

2Sa 10:14 And when the children of Ammon saw that the Syrians were fled, then fled they also before Abishai, and entered into the city. So Joab returned from the children of Ammon, and came to Jerusalem.

2Sa 10:15 And when the Syrians saw that they were smitten before Israel, they gathered themselves together.

2Sa 10:16 And Hadarezer sent, and brought out the Syrians that were beyond the river: and they came to Helam; and Shobach the captain of the host of Hadarezer went before them.

2Sa 10:17 And when it was told David, he gathered all Israel together, and passed over Jordan, and came to Helam. And the Syrians set themselves in array against David, and fought with him.

2Sa 10:18 And the Syrians fled before Israel; and David slew the men of seven hundred chariots of the Syrians, and forty thousand horsemen, and smote Shobach the captain of their host, who died there.

2Sa 10:19 And when all the kings that were servants to Hadarezer saw that they were

smitten before Israel, they made peace with Israel, and served them. So the Syrians feared to help the children of Ammon any more.

9.1 It was at the battle of Rabbah that both David and Joab participated in a conspiracy to murder Uriah the Hittite, Bathsheba's husband.

2Sa 11:14 In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it with Uriah.

2Sa 11:15 In it he wrote, "Put Uriah in the front line where the fighting is fiercest. Then withdraw from him so he will be struck down and die."

2Sa 11:16 So while Joab had the city under siege, he put Uriah at a place where he knew the strongest defenders were.

2Sa 11:17 When the men of the city came out and fought against Joab, some of the men in David's army fell; moreover, Uriah the Hittite died.

2Sa 11:18 Joab sent David a full account of the battle.

2Sa 11:19 He instructed the messenger: "When you have finished giving the king this account of the battle,

2Sa 11:20 the king's anger may flare up, and he may ask you, 'Why did you get so close to the city to fight? Didn't you know they would shoot arrows from the wall?

2Sa 11:21 Who killed Abimelech son of Jerubbesheth? Didn't a woman throw an upper millstone on him from the wall, so that he died in Thebez? Why did you get so close to the wall?' If he asks you this, then say to him, 'Also, your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead.'"

2Sa 11:22 The messenger set out, and when he arrived he told David everything Joab had sent him to say.

2Sa 11:23 The messenger said to David, "The men overpowered us and came out against us in the open, but we drove them back to the entrance to the city gate.

2Sa 11:24 Then the archers shot arrows at your servants from the wall, and some of the king's men died. Moreover, your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead."

2Sa 11:25 David told the messenger, "Say this to Joab: 'Don't let this upset you; the sword devours one as well as another. Press the attack against the city and destroy it.' Say this to encourage Joab."

2Sa 11:26 When Uriah's wife heard that her husband was dead, she mourned for him.

9.2 At this battle Joab displayed loyalty to his King by asking David to come and take the city.

2Sa 12:27 Joab then sent messengers to David, saying, "I have fought against Rabbah and taken its water supply.

2Sa 12:28 Now muster the rest of the troops and besiege the city and capture it. Otherwise I will take the city, and it will be named after me."

2Sa 12:29 So David mustered the entire army and went to Rabbah, and attacked and captured it.

10. Joab defeated the Edomites.

1Ki 11:14 Then the LORD raised up against Israel during the reign of Solomon an adversary, Hadad the Edomite, from the royal line of Edom.

1Ki 11:15 Earlier when David was fighting with Edom, Joab the commander of the army, who had gone up to bury the dead, had struck down all the men in Edom.

1Ki 11:16 Joab and all the Israelites stayed there for six months, until they had destroyed all the men in Edom.

1Ch 18:12 Moreover Abishai the son of Zeruiah slew of the Edomites in the valley of salt eighteen thousand.

1Ch 18:13 And he put garrisons in Edom; and all the Edomites became David's servants. Thus the LORD preserved David whithersoever he went.

1Ch 18:14 So David reigned over all Israel, and executed judgment and justice among all his people.

End Lesson Taught 12-30-09