THE ABSALOM SPIRIT
The Spirit of Rebellion/Lawlessness
Student Notes

ABSALOM - Scripture References II Samuel 13-19

See this spirit loosed in the world. Rebellion against appointed authority.
> Causes individuals to resist the laws of the land
> Causes individuals to defy government, teachers, parents, spiritual leaders.
> Causes man to do things his way instead of God’s way.
> Doesn’t want anyone in a position to tell them what to do.
> Leads to DEATH!

“If there is anything the nonconformist hates worse than a conformist it’s another nonconformist who doesn’t conform to the prevailing standards of non-conformity.”

1) Has it’s roots in Lucifer’s fall - wanted to exalt himself - every spirit has the nature of Satan at its root
2) Has it’s roots on earth in ancient Babylon - birthplace of idolatry /representative of kingdoms of this world
> the people tried to exalt themselves to build a tower up to heaven.
> founded by a man named Nimrod (means “he rebelled”)
> first established kingdom of man - Genesis 10:10
> The Jewish encyclopedia says that Nimrod was “he who made all the people rebellious against God.”

**READ II SAM 13:20 -29 Then vs. 37-39
Absalom= “my father is peace”/ killer of the firstborn (double portion, inheritance, birthright)
> Joab petitions David to let Absalom come home
> David agrees but says he is not to see his face READ 14:24 - 28
> Bitterness grows in Absalom’s heart/home for two years
> David is reconciled - but Absalom’s bitter seed grows 14:33
> Absalom raises rebellion by undermining David’s leadership 15:1-6
> Absalom has himself declared king - David flees
> Great battle ensues - Absalom slain by Joab - David mourns READ 18:6-10,14,15,33
Absalom was David’s 3rd son. Amnon, then a child that died, then Absalom -
> Second in line to the throne
> Mother’s name was Maacah - meaning depression
> Born of royalty on both sides
> Absalom was beautiful - no one as handsome as he in the whole kingdom

Absalom ended up taking the kingdom from David for a short time and ultimately died in his rebellion. David was so grieved at his loss that he cried out Absalom, my son, I wish I could have died in your place!!

HOW DID THIS SPIRIT DESTROY THIS FAVORED SON OF THE KING??
> THE SAME WAY IT DESTROYED KORAH - A PRINCE IN ISRAEL
> THE SAME WAY IT WILL TRY TO DERAIL US FROM OUR DESTINY

Must Recognize that there may be the spirit of Absalom in each of us.

OPEN DOORS TO THE ABSALOM SPIRIT

1) AMBITION = eagerness to attain success - wanting to succeed is good - but not at the cost of doing it God’s way
   A) Ambition breed impatience
      Absalom was second in line for the throne

   B) Ambition often motivated by Insecurity - breeds dog eat dog mentality

2) OFFENSE - being hurt or wounded by someone - or taking up another’s offense
   ** easier to deal with people who are offended than those offended for others.

      > Absalom had a legitimate reason to be offended for Tamar
      > Legitimate or not - unforgiveness will ultimately lead to death.

John Mason says “A Life lived with unforgiveness is like driving with the parking brake on. It causes you to slow down and loose your momentum. Forgiveness is a characteristic of the strong.”
David knew what Amnon had done. If Absalom would have trusted his father and the processes of time - Amnon could very well have been bypassed and the throne passed to Absalom. But because Absalom couldn’t get past offense he was destroyed.

3) VENGEANCE - *only belongs to the Lord.*
   - Absalom was upset because David didn’t do more to avenge Tamar
   - Took matters into his own hands
   - When we partner with vengeance we are saying -“God, I must destroy this person because they have wounded me so - I can’t trust you to do right by me and make them hurt the way they made me hurt!

   - Must release it to God - sometimes to others in authority.

4) WOUNDED SPIRIT - David rejects Absalom
   - David suffered much worse from the hand of Saul - tried to kill David for years

5) VICTIM MENTALITY - *clouds the way you see everything*
   - Should have been glad David didn’t have him killed
   - Should have been thankful David received him back
   - But an evil seed had taken root - this spirit of rebellion was driving him

   Apostle Tom’s teaching on this says
   1) Victims can’t trust God or godly authority - will always lead to rebel
   2) Victims are ruled by fear
   3) Victims never take personal responsibility
   4) Victims never appreciate what they already have.

6) CRITICAL SPIRIT - *fault finding attitude*
   - Didn’t agree with how he handled the Tamar situation
   - Didn’t agree with how David was running the kingdom

Quotes by John Mason:
Great people will always attract criticism - some deserved some not - no one’s perfect
1000 times easier to criticize than create - Critics are never problem solvers
The Critic is convinced that the purpose for sunshine is to cast shadows!!
The Optimist Creed “Give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others”
> This is where it really began to get dangerous

7) SEDUCTION - leading people astray by telling them what they want to hear
> preys on the discontented and disloyal in heart
> manipulates with pity and false - compassion
> He stole the hearts of the men of Israel
This spirit steals hearts away from appointed authority.

8) PRIDE/VANITY - had himself declared king

> thought himself above the law - took David’s concubines/wives and slept with them - defying David’s authority
> Pride goes before destruction

9) REVOLT/REBELLION - He didn’t just personally disagree but led people against him.

This spirit hates unity - loves divisiveness, strife and discord.

Those who come into power through rebellion will rule as a tyrant to keep power.

Hurt-resentment-bitterness-hatred-rebellion-as the sin of witchcraft = DEATH!!

10) DEATH - The wages of sin is death - these are the principles of the kingdom

WHAT IS THE ANSWER TO DEALING WITH THIS SPIRIT??

1) Walking in forgiveness to those whom we have been hurt or offended by
2) Walking in humility before God - God gives grace to the humble
3) Don’t become critical and don’t rise up against those who criticize
4) WALK IN THE SPIRIT OF DAVID - trusted God with the kingdom
***Gene Edwards made this comment regarding why David did nothing: “Any young rebel who raises his hand against one whom he believes to be a Saul; any old king who raises his hand against one whom he believes to be an Absalom, may - in truth- be raising his hand against the will of God”

***He also made this statement: “There is no real difference between a man who discovers he has a Saul in his life and the man who finds he has an Absalom in his. In either situation the corrupt heart will find its ‘justification’. The Sauls of this world can never see a David; they can only see Absalom. The Absaloms of this world can never see a David, they can only see a Saul.”