



Stuff They Didn't Teach Me In Sunday School



Episode 072 - David's Dying Wish 1 Kings 1-2

David is aware he will soon die. Now he wants to set his house in order, determine his successor to the throne and give him final counsel before he dies.

- What wisdom do you want to pass along to your children before you die?
- What attitudes, words and actions of yours help reinforce that wisdom?
- Which ones detract from it?

Solomon was a young man. David knew he was wise (1 Kings 2:6, 9), but he was also aware Solomon was inexperienced at the same time.

- Do you think David was giving him a hit list, or can you think of a better construction we could put on his actions?
- It's not right for an ordinary citizen to take vengeance, but since Israel's king was the supreme judge over the nation (under God, of course), could it have been within David and Solomon's responsibility as king to carry out this justice against a murderer (Joab) and a man who had attacked and insulted the king (Shimei)? Please explain your answer.

David was committed to his God, but he was not perfect in his life. David revealed his commitment, especially in the great risks he took to honor God and serve God's people (fighting Goliath, sparing Saul's life twice). David is highly esteemed in the Old Testament, and all his descendants were compared to him and his commitment to the Lord. Only two of his descendants ended up being viewed in a comparable fashion: Hezekiah (2 Kings 18:3) and Josiah (2 Kings 22:2). The rest were less committed to one degree or another.

- Why is faith an important part of commitment?
- Why is obedience an important part?
- How did Jesus' commitment to God compare to David's?
- Where did it outshine David's commitment?