

SOLOMON BECOMES KING

1 Kings 1, 2

Lesson Memory Verse: Numbers 32:23 "Behold, ye have sinned against the LORD: and **be sure your sin will find you out.**" (Children in grades 1-2 need to memorize only the bold part of the verse.)

Lesson Aim: We may sin, cover it and forget about it, but some day it will be remembered and punished.

Lesson Plan: Use the KEY – HE – SEE – WE – Be plan (explained in the Introductory Notes).

KEY (for Attention): Andrew was in school sitting at his desk when the girl in the next desk dropped her new pen on the floor. Andrew picked it up and was going to give it to her, but she did not notice that she had dropped her new pen on the floor. Andrew did not have a nice pen and decided to keep it. When the girl noticed that her pen was missing, she looked for it on the floor and Andrew helped to look for it, but it could not be found, because it was in Andrew's pocket. He kept the pen, but he did not dare to use it in school, because the girl would see that he had her pen. After a little while he lost the pen and tried to forget about it. When he saw the girl, he felt a little guilty, but he did not have the pen any longer, so he could not give it back to her.

In a couple of years, he moved from that city to a nearby city with his family. Whenever Andrew thought about the pen that he had stolen, he shrugged it off. He did not live near the girl any longer, so what could he do. He forgot about it.

One day after Andrew had become a man, he became troubled about the pen that he had stolen as a young boy. Now he was a Christian and he felt that he should try to find this girl and pay her for the pen. He knew where she had lived, so he drove to that house. She no longer lived at that house, but he was told to go to a neighbor that had lived there for a long time; maybe the neighbor would know where she had gone. When Andrew went to the neighbor, he was told exactly where she lived. Andrew found the girl, who was now a young lady and told her he had come to pay her for the pen that he had stolen from her when he was in the fourth grade with her. All was forgiven and Andrew had peace with the Lord.

HE (for Authority): Our memory verse tells us that our sins will find us out. That means that our sins that we tried to cover up and forget will come back to our minds. If we do not confess our sins to the Lord and make things right with people that we hurt, those sins will hurt us someday. The Lord will cause someone to punish us.

SEE (for Apperception) and WE (for Application): PLEASE do not read these comments until you have read the Scriptures for this lesson. First let the Holy Spirit teach you directly from His Word. This lesson will tell us about three men that sinned in a serious way, but did not deal with their sin in a serious way. We will learn what happened to these three men in this lesson.

I. Adonijah's Sin (1 Kings 1:5-10, 41-49; 2:12-25)

King David was growing old and very weak. He had promised that Solomon, his son by Bathsheba, would become king after he had died. Adonijah (the fourth son of David) was the next in line to become king. The three older sons of David, Ammon, Absalom, and Chiliah were dead. So, while David was on his deathbed, and before Solomon was formally anointed king, Adonijah planned to become king (1:5-10). But this plan was stopped by Nathan the prophet (1:6-40). Solomon was officially made king before David died and Adonijah was afraid that Solomon would kill him. Solomon was kind to him and said nothing would happen to him as long as he did not sin against him (1:41-53). But Adonijah made a plan to remove Solomon from the throne so he could be made the king of Israel. When Solomon learned of his plan, he had Adonijah put to death for trying to steal his throne (2:12-25).

WE: We may want something so much that we will try to steal it. Even if we did not steal it, God puts it down in His record that we are a thief, because it was in our heart to steal. We must be sorry for all our sins and ask Jesus to save us from the penalty of them, or He will judge us and send us to Hell.

II. Joab's Sin (1:7; 2:1-6, 28-34)

Joab was King David's nephew and was a successful commander of all the armies of Judah. However, he had been responsible for killing two innocent captains in the time of peace: Abner and Amasa (2 Sam

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e-mail: rnjp3t3rson@gmail.com

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3:27; 20:3-13). He also disobeyed King David's command not to hurt Absalom; but he killed him by plunging three darts into his heart while he was hanging in a tree by his hair (2 Sam 18:9-17). Joab also tried to help Adonijah steal the throne from Solomon. So Joab was guilty of many serious sins. Even though he had helped David win many wars on the battlefield, he still needed to be judged for his sins. His good works could not take away his bad works. So Solomon ordered Benaiah, the chief of his body guard, to put Joab to death for these serious sins.

WE: We sin when we hate someone and would like to kill him. God says this is murder (cf. 1 John 3:14-15). We sin when we will disobey someone. This is rebellion. We sin when we try to take something from another person. This is stealing. These are serious sins to us, but all sins are serious to God and they will separate us from Him. How can we have our sins removed from the book where God keeps a record of all that we have done? Jesus' death on the cross is the answer. He died to pay the death penalty for us. He died for us so we will not have to go to Hell and be separated from God forever. If we confess our sins (name as many as we can remember) and receive Jesus as our Savior from these sins, He will save us so we can be in God's family forever. If you believe that, you will be free from the penalty of your sins.

III. Shimei's Sin (2:8, 9, 36, 46)

Shimei was a member of Saul's family and he was bitter against David when he became King of Israel; he was not a member of Saul's family. Shimei was no long a member of the royal family. He showed his bitterness against David when he was being defeated by Absalom. He cursed King David and threw rocks at him (2 Sam 16:5-14). When David's army defeated Absalom, Shimei said he was sorry for his sin, so David did not put him to death for his rebellion. But Shimei was not really sorry for his sin. He simply said he was sorry, so he would not die. When Solomon became king, David warned him about Shimei's rebellion for which he should die (2:8, 9). Solomon had to prove that Shimei was still a rebellious man, so he ordered Shimei to live in Jerusalem and never leave the city or he would be put to death. Shimei agreed to Solomon's order. However, after three years, Shimei left Jerusalem to recover two runaway slaves. Shimei thought that he could disobey the king and not be punished, but he was wrong. When he disobeyed Solomon, it showed he was still a rebellious man and really had not turned away from his sin. He really wasn't sorry for his rebellion against David. He had no respect for David or for his son, Solomon. So Solomon ordered that Shimei be put to death for his rebellion.

WE: We are to respect all who have the rule over us and obey them (Rom 13:1-5). We must not forget that this is a command of God. We must respect our fathers and mothers (Ephesians 6:1-3) and anyone else that God has appointed to rule over us. We are not commanded to respect their sins against God, but we are to respect the authority that God has given to them. We are to obey them to be right with God.

BE (for Action): Adonijah, Joab, and Shimei all had sinned and each one was executed because of his sins. How did Adonijah sin? (He tried to steal Solomon's throne.) How did Joab sin? (He killed two innocent men; disobeyed David by killing his son; tried to help Adonijah steal Solomon's throne.) How did Shimei sin? (He was rebellious against the king's authority.) All sin is a serious offense against God. You must learn to hate sin and confess it to God whenever you realized that you have sinned (this means you will name your sin to God). Then you must ask for His forgiveness. He will forgive you if you are truly sorry for your sin. You are truly sorry for your sin when you do not want to do it anymore. If you learn to hate sins in your life and turn from them, God will bless you. Is there any sin in your life that is troubling you now? Do you want to get rid of that sin and be right with God? If so, stay after class and we will get it settled today.