

“The Counsel of Ahithophel”
II Samuel 16:23

Introduction: Who was Ahithophel?

1. David’s Counselor II Samuel 15:12, I Chronicles 27:33
2. David’s Conspirator II Samuel 15:31
 - a. In the Reproach II Samuel 16:20-22 (Remember v. 23)
 - b. In the Rebellion II Samuel 17:1-4

Body: Why did Ahithophel conspire against David? Let us turn the clock back 30 years.

- I. Remember the Sin of David with Bathsheba II Samuel 11
 - A. David Lingered v. 1
 - B. David Looked v. 2
 - C. David Lusted v. 3
 - D. David Laid v. 4
- II. Notice who Bathsheba Was II Samuel 11:3
 - A. Who was Eliam? II Samuel 23:34 (Eliam was one of David’s mighty men. Eliam was the father of Bathsheba. Also, he was the son of Ahithophel. Therefore, Bathsheba was the granddaughter of Ahithophel.)
 - B. Uriah was one of David’s mighty men. II Samuel 23:39
 1. David’s sin with Bathsheba was not momentary weakness. He, on purpose, stayed home when kings go forth to war. II Samuel 11:1
 2. Uriah was no stranger to David. He was one of the 37 mighty men. He sat around the campfire with David. He attended David’s banquets. When the enemies of David opposed him, Uriah was there to protect him.
 3. Because of Uriah’s loyalty to David, he gave him a house close to the king’s palace. II Samuel 11:2
- III. Notice what 30 Years of Musing on what David did to Ahithophel’s granddaughter did.
 - A. Imagine the anger of Ahithophel toward David. Having Uriah killed. The great cover up of his sin. The child with Bathsheba. Etc.
 - B. Arab Phrase: “That man who seeks his revenge before 40 years has moved in haste.”
 - C. Ahithophel’s chance to get back at David was through David’s rebellious son.
 - D. Ahithophel’s advice to Absalom was what David did in private, you do in public. II Samuel 16:20-22

Conclusion: How did this one sin of David affect the lives of others?

1. It affected David’s life:
 - a. His infant son died II Samuel 12:18
 - b. David’s son Amnon raped David’s daughter Tamar II Samuel 13:14

- c. Absalom, Amnon's half brother, killed Amnon out of anger and revenge II Samuel 13:29
 - d. Absalom rebelled against David and tried to ascend his throne II Samuel 15-18
 - e. The horrible death of Absalom II Samuel 18:9-17
 - f. David had a desire for a new home with Bathsheba, but it did not turn out like he thought. II Samuel 23:1-5
2. It affected the life of Shimei II Samuel 16:5-10
 3. It affected the life of Ahithophel II Samuel 17:23
- Some people feel like they can confess their sin and expect no repercussions.
 - God will not stop the effects of sin in our lives.
 - Illustration: It is like throwing a pebble into a pond. We may feel sorry that we threw the pebble, but the ripples will reach out.
 - Galatians 6:7- "*Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.*"