

Not Fair!

2 Samuel 19:8-40

8 December 2013

I. A campaign to bring back the King? (verses 8-15)

- A. After Absalom's defeat, his forces have returned to their own homes.
- B. A nationwide "discussion" ensues.
- C. David responds to the noise by campaigning in Judah.

II. Shimei: oops! (verses 16-23)

- A. Shimei races to apologize.
- B. Suspended judgment? (see 1 Kings 2:8-9)

III. Mephibosheth and Ziba (verses 24-30)

- A. Who are these guys?
- B. At the rebellion
- C. Ziba exposed
- D. An opportunity left hanging

IV. Barzillai (verses 31-40)

- A. Crossing the Jordan.
- B. This beautiful moment. (1 Peter 2:14)
- C. Barzillai's objection: Thanks, but I'm too old! (1 Kings 2:7; Ezra 2:61; Nehemiah 7:63)

V. The limitations of earthly authority and judgment

- A. David is trying to do what kings do: he is trying to judge, and judge justly.
- B. Earthly authority is limited by the consent of the governed.
- C. Earthly authority is limited by its knowledge. (see Proverbs 18:17)
- D. Earthly authority is limited by its many commitments.
- E. Earthly authority is limited by time.

VI. Who will show us some good?

- A. Do not expect perfect justice in this world
- B. We have a rich tradition of being outraged when our government lets us down.
- C. Authority *cannot* be as just as we long for it to be. (see Acts 4:19-20; 12:5)
- D. Look to the judgment of God for perfect justice. (see Psalms 4:6; 9:7; 96:10-13; Amos 5:24)
- E. The Resurrection: God's verdict. (Luke 23:46-47) or "Truly this man was the Son of God!" (Mark 15:39)