

A Person After God's Own Heart

11) A Celebrity and a Shepherd

***'But Absalom fled and went to
Talmai the son of Ammihud, king of
Geshur. And David mourned for his
son every day... And King David
longed to go to Absalom. For he had
been comforted concerning Amnon,
because he was dead'***

(2 Sam.13:37,39)

'Now in all Israel there was no one who was praised as much as Absalom for his good looks. From the sole of his foot to the crown of his head there was no blemish in him. And when he cut the hair of his head—at the end of every year he cut it because it was heavy on him—when he cut it, he weighed the hair of his head at two hundred shekels according to the king's standard'

(2 Sam.14:25-26)

A celebrity joins people to himself

**A shepherd connects people
to Jesus**

***'After this it happened that
Absalom provided himself with
chariots and horses, and fifty men
to run before him'***

(2 Sam.15:1)

A celebrity big-notes himself

A shepherd exalts the Lord

'Now Absalom would rise early and stand beside the way to the gate. So it was, whenever anyone who had a lawsuit came to the king for a decision, that Absalom would call to him and say, "What city are you from?" And he would say, "Your servant is from such and such a tribe of Israel." Then Absalom would say to him, "Look, your case is good and right; but there is no deputy of the king to hear you" ...

'... Moreover Absalom would say, "Oh, that I were made judge in the land, and everyone who has any suit or cause would come to me; then I would give him justice." And so it was, whenever anyone came near to bow down to him, that he would put out his hand and take him and kiss him'

(2 Sam.15:2-5)

**A celebrity *steals* the hearts
of the people**

**A shepherd *wins* the hearts
of the people**

***'In this manner Absalom acted
toward all Israel who came to the
king for judgment. So Absalom
stole the hearts of the men of
Israel'***

(2 Sam.15:6)

'Now it came to pass after forty years that Absalom said to the king, "Please, let me go to Hebron and pay the vow which I made to the LORD. For your servant took a vow while I dwelt at Geshur in Syria, saying, 'If the LORD indeed brings me back to Jerusalem, then I will serve the LORD.'" And the king said to him, "Go in peace." So he arose and went to Hebron'

(2 Sam.15:7-9)

'Then Absalom sent spies throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, "As soon as you hear the sound of the trumpet, then you shall say, 'Absalom reigns in Hebron!'" And with Absalom went two hundred men invited from Jerusalem, and they went along innocently and did not know anything ...

***'..Then Absalom sent for Ahithophel the Gilonite, David's counselor, from his city—from Giloh—while he offered sacrifices. And the conspiracy grew strong, for the people with Absalom continually increased in number'
(2 Sam.15:10-12)***

***'Now a messenger came to David,
saying, "The hearts of the men of
Israel are with Absalom"'***

(2 Sam.15:13)

'And all the country wept with a loud voice, and all the people crossed over. The king himself also crossed over the Brook Kidron, and all the people crossed over toward the way of the wilderness'

(2 Sam.15:23)

***'When Jesus had spoken these words, He
went out with His disciples over the
Brook Kidron, where there was a garden,
which He and His disciples entered'***

(John 18:1)

What does a shepherd do?

**1) He rests in the sovereignty
of God**

'Then the king said to Zadok, "Carry the ark of God back into the city. If I find favor in the eyes of the LORD, He will bring me back and show me both it and His dwelling place. But if He says thus: 'I have no delight in you,' here I am, let Him do to me as seems good to Him"'

(2 Sam.15:25-26)

'So David went up by the Ascent of the Mount of Olives, and wept as he went up; and he had his head covered and went barefoot. And all the people who were with him covered their heads and went up, weeping as they went up'

(2 Sam.15:30)

***'And a great multitude of the people
followed Him, and women who also
mourned and lamented Him'***

(Lk.23:27)

2) He prays

***'Then someone told David, saying,
"Ahithophel is among the
conspirators with Absalom." And
David said, "O LORD, I pray, turn the
counsel of Ahithophel into
foolishness!"'***

(2 Sam.15:31)

***'Even my own familiar friend in whom I
trusted, who ate my bread,
has lifted up his heel against me'
(Psa.41:9)***

'I do not speak concerning all of you. I know whom I have chosen; but that the Scripture may be fulfilled, "He who eats bread with Me has lifted up his heel against Me"'

(John 13:18)

'For it is not an enemy who reproaches me; then I could bear it. Nor is it one who hates me who has exalted himself against me; then I could hide from him. But it was you, a man my equal, my companion and my acquaintance. We took sweet counsel together, and walked to the house of God in the throng'

(Psa.55:12-14)

***'In return for my love they are my
accusers, but I give myself to prayer'***
(Psa.109:4)

'LORD, how they have increased who trouble me! Many are they who rise up against me. Many are they who say of me, "There is no help for him in God." Selah. But You, O LORD, are a shield for me, my glory and the One who lifts up my head. I cried to the LORD with my voice, and He heard me from His holy hill...

'...I lay down and slept; I awoke, for the LORD sustained me. I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people who have set themselves against me all around. Arise, O LORD; save me, O my God! For You have struck all my enemies on the cheekbone; You have broken the teeth of the ungodly. Salvation belongs to the LORD. Your blessing is upon Your people. Selah'

(Psalm 3)

'Now it happened when David had come to the top of the mountain, where he worshiped God—there was Hushai the Archite coming to meet him with his robe torn and dust on his head'

(2 Sam.15:32)

**3) He refuses to lash out
at his enemies**

*'...who, when He was reviled, did not
revile in return; when He suffered, He did
not threaten, but committed Himself to
Him who judges righteously'*

(1 Peter 2:23)

***'Moreover Ahithophel said to Absalom,
"Now let me choose twelve thousand
men, and I will arise and pursue David
tonight. I will come upon him while he is
weary and weak, and make him afraid.
And all the people who are with him will
flee, and I will strike only the king. Then
I will bring back all the people to you.
When all return except the man whom
you seek, all the people will be at peace."
And the saying pleased Absalom and all
the elders of Israel'***

(2 Sam.17:1-4)

'So David and all the people who were with him arose and crossed over the Jordan. By morning light not one of them was left who had not gone over the Jordan'

(2 Sam.17:22)

***'So Absalom and all the men of Israel said, "The advice of Hushai the Archite is better than the advice of Ahithophel."
For the LORD had purposed to defeat the good advice of Ahithophel, to the intent that the LORD might bring disaster on Absalom'***

(2 Sam.17:14)

***'The king's heart is in the hand of the
LORD, like the rivers of water; He
turns it wherever He wishes'
(Prov.21:1)***

***'The LORD brings the counsel of the
nations to nothing;
He makes the plans of the peoples of
no effect. The counsel of the LORD
stands forever,
the plans of His heart to all
generations'
(Psa.33:10-11)***

'Now when Ahithophel saw that his advice was not followed, he saddled a donkey, and arose and went home to his house, to his city. Then he put his household in order, and hanged himself, and died; and he was buried in his father's tomb'
(2 Sam.17:23)

***'The people of Israel were
overthrown there before the servants
of David, and a great slaughter of
twenty thousand took place there
that day. For the battle there was
scattered over the face of the whole
countryside, and the woods devoured
more people that day than the sword
devoured'***

(2 Sam.18:7-8)

***'The memory of the righteous is
blessed, but the name of the wicked
will rot'
(Prov.10:7)***

'For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us...'

***'... Much more then, having now
been justified by His blood, we
shall be saved from wrath
through Him. For if when we
were enemies we were
reconciled to God through the
death of His Son, much more,
having been reconciled, we shall
be saved by His life'***

(Rom.5:7-10)