“David, God’s Choice, People’s Choice!”

I. INTRO:
A. News Item: Somali Pirates Kill 2 American couples. [What's your thoughts?]
   1. Scott & Jean Adam (Vessel/Quest) St. Monica’s Church in Santa Monica.
   2. Scott was a master of divinity graduate from Fuller Theological Seminary & received his master of theology last year.
   3. With their bible distribution they said, part of their travels include “friendship evangelism” which he defined as “finding homes for thousands of bibles”.
   4. Craig Detweiler, a prof at Pepperdine, who went to school w/Scott said, “They acknowledged that they were navigating a global hot spot, but it was not like them to shy away.”
   5. My question: Wouldn’t you rather die doing what you love & feel called to, then live a life wondering if?
      a) Great stories go to those who don’t give in to fear.
      b) Yes fear can guide us in keeping us safe; but it also can manipulate us into living a boring life!
      c) What’s the most repeated commandment in the bible, “do not fear” (over 200 x’s).
      d) I’m obviously not advocating recklessness, but everyone that knew them, knew they weren’t reckless individuals. I don’t think they were choosing to die, but they did choose how they’d live, even if it involved risk!
   6. I say, way to go Scott & Jean Adam, & Phyllis Macay & Bob Riggle. Way to live out a great story! [combining retirement, a hobby, faith, missions]
      a) May you rest in peace & shine in glory!

II. ISHBOSHETH’s Coup de Grâce! (Ch.4)
A. Coup de grâce = a final blow or shot given to kill a wounded person or animal.
   1. This was Ishbosheth’s coup de grâce for his ailing kingdom.

B. THE ACCIDENT! (1-4)
C. There is a short digression in our assassination plot, regarding Mephibosheth, Jonathan’s son, who becomes crippled when he is accidentally dropped by his nurse as she flees from the Philistines.
   1. We’ll meet Mephibosheth again in ch.9.
D. **THE ASSASSINATION!** (5-7)

E. Simply cold blooded murder.

F. **THE AVENGING!** (8-12)

G. The 2 brothers bring the severed head of Ishbosheth to David, hoping to be **rewarded**, or I guess you can say they were **just trying to get ahead!** :) 

H. What terrible things people do in the name of the Lord, thinking to please Him.

   1. God’s people do not **do evil that good may come** (Rom.3:8); Rather, we are to **overcome evil with good** (Rom.12:21).

I. I wonder if I ever seek to be rewarded for doing the wrong thing? Sure I do.

   1. Anytime I gossip to one friend about another, I’m hoping to **win** their deeper friendship (i.e. “Look what I would share with you, about him/her”)

III. **DAVID THE ANOINTED KING!** (Ch.5)

A. **DAVID’S CROWNING!** (1-5)

B. Unity came to Israel **not because** they had a common **enemy**, but because they **obeyed** a common **King!**

   1. **Read** Ps.78:70-72.

C. They find **3 grounds** by which they acknowledge David’s right to kingship:¹

   1. Racial Kinship - we are you bone & flesh(1b). His Israelite pedigree.

   2. Proven Merit - you were the one who led Israel out & brought them in(2a). You **captained** us in battle; & always to **victory** & never to **defeat**.

   3. Divine Warrant - the **Lord** said to you, you shall shepherd My people Israel & be ruler over Israel(2b) David was anointed by Jehovah Himself & they knew it

D. Saints, this is the **3-fold grounds** the Lord Jesus has to kingship over our **lives**: If in fact we have found **pardon** for our past; **peace** w/God; & a **promise** of good things to come. And, to have crowned Jesus King over the **entire territory** of our personality.

   1. Jesus’ Human Kinship - In His **incarnation**, He became linked by blood-relationship to each of us. (Heb.2:17) **Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren.** In Him the love of heaven comes to us through a human heart-beat.

   2. Jesus’ Proven Merit - He is the Savior-champion who married our cause & fought our foe, & brought our deliverance from sin.

   3. Jesus’ Divine Warrant - It was said of Him, **The government shall be upon His shoulders.** Rightly He wears the crown & wields the scepter.

¹ J.Sidlow Baxter, Awake My Heart, pg.215.
E. **DAVID'S CITY!** (6-12)

F. Jerusalem - a neutral site for a new capital city, as it was situated on the border between Judah & the northern tribes.
   1. It also helped Israel fulfill God’s command to conquer the Promise Land.
   2. And next week, when the ark of the covenant finds its home there. God then causes His name to rest there also!

G. **DAVID'S CHILDREN!** (13-16)

H. So why is this placed in here? Well, just take Nathan & Solomon…
   1. From the line of Nathan came Mary the mother of Jesus. (Lk.3)
   2. From the line of Solomon came Joseph, Mary's husband. (Mt.1)
      a) Jesus got his blood line & the legal title to the throne of David through these 2.

I. **DAVID'S CONQUESTS!** (17-25)

J. (20) Baal Perazim - Master of breakthroughs.
   1. The Lord has broken through...like a breakthrough of water.
      a) Seems to imply that God broke the Philistine army in 2, like flooded water breaking an embankment, preventing them from uniting & rallying, & sending them in 2 detachments into flight & confusion.
      b) Like Lk.6:49 But the one who hears and does not do them is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the stream broke against it, immediately it fell, and the ruin of that house was great.
   2. David could not have done it if God had not gone before him.
      a) God opened the breach like the breach of waters in a dam, which when once opened grows wider and wider.
      b) The principal part of the work was God’s doing; NO, He did all!
      c) What David did was not worth speaking of; and therefore we say like the Psalmist, not unto us oh Lord, not unto us, but to Your Name give glory.

K. Lessons from Baal Perazim:
   1. God gets the credit for Breakthroughs! - The Lord has broken...
   2. God leads Breakthroughs! - ...before me
   3. God is the Master of Breakthroughs! - Baal Perazim.
   4. God leaves little gods in the dust! - They left their images (1 Chron14:12 burnt them)
   5. God uses different Breakthroughs! - (23-25)
      a) Yesterday’s breakthrough is no assurance of today’s victory.
6. He did it! - Ps.98:1 Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand & his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

7. We must acknowledge it! - Ps.50:15 Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.

8. A record should be made for the next generation! - Ps.78:4 We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.

9. The place should be distinguished so it will be long remembered! - Is.28:21 For the Lord will rise up as on Mount Perazim. [This event 300 yrs later!]

L. I will surely assemble all of you, O Jacob; I will gather the remnant of Israel; I will set them together like sheep in a fold, like a flock in its pasture, a noisy multitude of men. He who opens the breach goes up before them; they break through and pass the gate, going out by it. Their king passes on before them, the Lord at their head. - Micah 2:12,13

1. Inasmuch as Jesus has gone before us, things remain not as they would have been had he never passed that way.

2. He has conquered every foe that obstructed the way.

3. Cheer up now you faint-hearted warrior. Not only has Christ traveled the road, but he has slain your enemies. (From Spurgeon, Morn & Eve, Micah 2:13, Aug.24)
   
a) Do you dread sin? He has nailed it to his cross.

b) Do you fear death? He has been the death of Death.

c) Art you afraid of hell? He has barred it against the entrance of any of his children; they shall never see the gulf of perdition.

d) Whatever foes may be before the Christian, they are all overcome!

   (1) There are lions, but their teeth are broken; There are serpents, but their fangs are extracted; There are rivers, but they are bridged & passable; There are flames, but we wear that matchless garment which renders us invulnerable to fire.

   (2) The sword that has been forged against us is already blunted; The instruments of war which the enemy is preparing have already lost their point.

4. Saints, God will go before you. God will make the breach. God will continue to be the Master of Breakthroughs!
M. Where do you need God to be *Baal Perazim* in your life this week?

1. Do you need Him to do a breakthrough on your *marriage*? A breakthrough on one of your *children*? One of your *Grandchildren*? A breakthrough at *work*? A breakthrough at *school*? A breakthrough on a *nasty habit*? A breakthrough on developing a *good habit*? A breakthrough on a *sexual sin*? A breakthrough on *kicking some drug*? A breakthrough on a *hidden sin*? A breakthrough on some *spiritual attack*? A breakthrough with your *neighbor*? A breakthrough on *your own heart*?

N. Where has He *already* broken though this last week?

1. I had a wonderful breakthrough with an old friend. *Can you thank Him* for that?