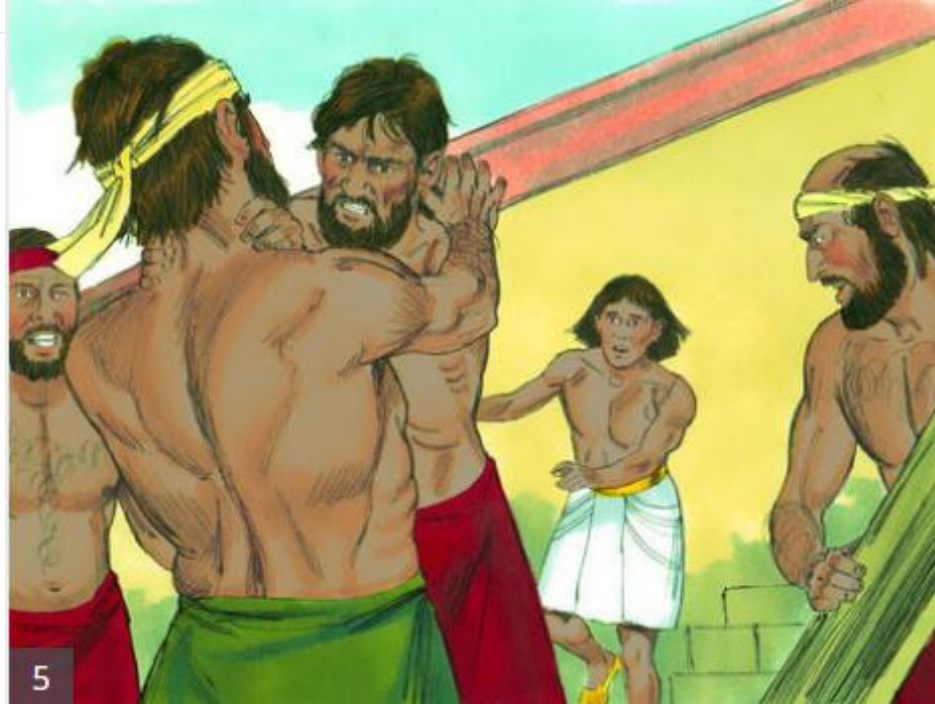


# Division



Sunday June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024

# Divided hearts

- **Philippians 4:1-2 (NKJV) Different opinions**

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, my beloved and longed-for brethren, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, beloved.

<sup>2</sup> I implore Euodia and I implore Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord.

- **Acts 15:36-40 (NKJV) disagreement**

<sup>36</sup> Then after some days Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us now go back and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, *and see* how they are doing."

<sup>37</sup> Now Barnabas was determined to take with them John called Mark.

<sup>38</sup> But Paul insisted that they should not take with them the one who had departed from them in Pamphylia, and had not gone with them to the work.

<sup>39</sup> Then the contention became so sharp that they parted from one another. And so Barnabas took Mark and sailed to Cyprus;

<sup>40</sup> but Paul chose Silas and departed, being commended by the brethren to the grace of God.

- **Genesis 3:1-6 (NKJV) deception**

<sup>1</sup> Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?"

<sup>2</sup> And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden;

<sup>3</sup> but of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.' "

<sup>4</sup> Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die.

<sup>5</sup> For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

<sup>6</sup> So when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make *one* wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.

- **Genesis 4:2-8 (NKJV) hatred**

<sup>2</sup> Then she bore again, this time his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.

<sup>3</sup> And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the LORD.

<sup>4</sup> Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering,

<sup>5</sup> but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell.

<sup>6</sup> So the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen?"

<sup>7</sup> If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire *is* for you, but you should rule over it."

<sup>8</sup> Now Cain talked with Abel his brother; and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him.

- **1 Samuel 8:4-5 (NKJV) Desiring a leader other than the Lord**

<sup>4</sup> Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah,

<sup>5</sup> and said to him, "Look, you are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now make us a king to judge us like all the nations."

- **1 Samuel 18:6-9 (NKJV) Jealousy**

- <sup>6</sup> Now it had happened as they were coming *home*, when David was returning from the slaughter of the Philistine, that the women had come out of all the cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet King Saul, with tambourines, with joy, and with musical instruments.

<sup>7</sup> So the women sang as they danced, and said: "Saul has slain his thousands, And David his ten thousands."

<sup>8</sup> Then Saul was very angry, and the saying displeased him; and he said, "They have ascribed to David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed *only* thousands. Now *what* more can he have but the kingdom?"

<sup>9</sup> So Saul eyed David from that day forward.

# Purpose of Scripture

- **2 Timothy 3:14-17 (NKJV)**

<sup>14</sup> But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned *them*,

<sup>15</sup> and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

<sup>16</sup> All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

<sup>17</sup> that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

- Our past lesson saw David being received back as King and escorted across the Jordan river on the way back home. We saw his request to be “at his table” for some.
- In this lesson we will see a division that occurred between Judah and Israel over David. The lessons in the Old testament are profitable for us also.

## 2 Samuel 19:40-43

- **2 Samuel 19:40-43 (NKJV)**

<sup>40</sup> Now the king went on to Gilgal, and Chimham went on with him. And all the people of Judah escorted the king, and also half the people of Israel.

<sup>41</sup> Just then all the men of Israel came to the king, and said to the king, "Why have our brethren, the men of Judah, stolen you away and brought the king, his household, and all David's men with him across the Jordan?"

<sup>42</sup> So all the men of Judah answered the men of Israel, "Because the king *is* a close relative of ours. Why then are you angry over this matter? Have we ever eaten at the king's *expense*? Or has he given us any gift?"

<sup>43</sup> And the men of Israel answered the men of Judah, and said, "We have ten shares in the king; therefore we also have more *right* to David than you. Why then do you despise us--were we not the first to advise bringing back our king?" Yet the words of the men of Judah were fiercer than the words of the men of Israel.

- Looking back David had questioned why he was not called to return as king.
- **2 Samuel 19:9-12 (NKJV)**
  - <sup>9</sup> Now all the people were in a dispute throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, "The king saved us from the hand of our enemies, he delivered us from the hand of the Philistines, and now he has fled from the land because of Absalom.
  - <sup>10</sup> But Absalom, whom we anointed over us, has died in battle. Now therefore, why do you say nothing about bringing back the king?"
  - <sup>11</sup> So King David sent to Zadok and Abiathar the priests, saying, "Speak to the elders of Judah, saying, 'Why are you the last to bring the king back to his house, since the words of all Israel have come to the king, to his *very* house?"
  - <sup>12</sup> You *are* my brethren, you *are* my bone and my flesh. Why then are you the last to bring back the king?'



- Judah was slow to request David return as King. He had fled from Absalom rather than defending his position as King. But once Judah decided to bring David back as king it was whole hearted by all the tribe of Judah. Israel had began the request but didn't follow through totally. Now they become upset with Judah as though Judah had taken claim to David and left them out. "Why have our brethren, the men of Judah, stolen you away and brought the king, his household, and all David's men with him across the Jordan?"
- The good intentions of Judah stirred up a jealous spirit in Israel.
- This spirit began a division among them.
- Judah responds, "Because the king *is* a close relative of ours. "
- David had earlier reminded them "You *are* my brethren, you *are* my bone and my flesh." David was from the tribe of Judah.
- Judah continues, "Why then are you angry over this matter? Have we ever eaten at the king's *expense*? Or has he given us any gift?"

- Israel responded, "We have ten shares in the king; therefore we also have more *right* to David than you. Why then do you despise us--were we not the first to advise bringing back our king?"
- Yet the words of the men of Judah were fiercer than the words of the men of Israel.
- Was the feud resolved? Was there a good resolution to the matter? Were the nations once again reunited?
- Internal strife broke out because **Judah** had taken such a prominent place in the restoration of the king (i.e., bringing him **across the Jordan**) without inviting the ten tribes to participate. **Judah** explained that David was their **close relative** and that they had not profited in any way above the others by taking the lead. The ten tribes argued that they had **ten** times as much right to participate as Judah. The fierceness of Judah's **words** was an indication of the serious *trouble* that lay ahead. Believer's Bible Commentary

# Unity

- **Psalm 133:1-3 (NKJV)**

<sup>1</sup> Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is* For brethren to dwell together in unity!

<sup>2</sup> *It is* like the precious oil upon the head, Running down on the beard, The beard of Aaron, Running down on the edge of his garments.

<sup>3</sup> *It is* like the dew of Hermon, Descending upon the mountains of Zion; For there the LORD commanded the blessing-- Life forevermore.

- **Philippians 2:1-16 (NKJV)**

<sup>1</sup> Therefore if *there is* any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy,

<sup>2</sup> fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind.

<sup>3</sup> *Let nothing be done* through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.

<sup>4</sup> Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.

- <sup>5</sup> Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,  
<sup>6</sup> who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God,  
<sup>7</sup> but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the likeness of men.  
<sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to *the point of* death, even the death of the cross.  
<sup>9</sup> Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name,  
<sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,  
<sup>11</sup> and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.  
<sup>12</sup> Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;  
<sup>13</sup> for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for *His* good pleasure.

- <sup>14</sup> Do all things without complaining and disputing,  
<sup>15</sup> that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,  
<sup>16</sup> holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.
- **1 Corinthians 12:24-26 (NASB)**  
<sup>24</sup> whereas our more presentable members have no need *of it*. But God has *so* composed the body, giving more abundant honor to that *member* which lacked,  
<sup>25</sup> so that there may be no division in the body, but *that the members may have the same care for one another.*  
<sup>26</sup> And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if *one* member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.

# Necessary division

- **2 Corinthians 6:14-18 (NKJV)**

<sup>14</sup> Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?

<sup>15</sup> And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever?

<sup>16</sup> And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: *"I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people."*

<sup>17</sup> Therefore *"Come out from among them And be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you."*

<sup>18</sup> *"I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the LORD Almighty."*