



**How To Avoid Implosion In Life
King David (Part 7) - Mistakes
Sunday Sermon, October 18, 2026**

2 Samuel 11-24, 1 Chronicles 17-21

MISTAKES

Overview of this phase of David's life (about a 10-year period):

- David and Bathsheba: David committed adultery with Bathsheba and arranged the death of her husband, Uriah, bringing God's judgment upon his house (2 Samuel 11).
- Nathan's rebuke and David's repentance: The prophet Nathan confronted David, leading him to repent of his sins. Sin has its consequences. The child dies. (2 Samuel 12:1-15, Psalm 51).
- The mercy of God: Solomon is born. Rabah is captured (2 Samuel 12:24-31, 1 Chronicles 20).
- David ignores problems within his own family: Amnon, Tamar, Absalom (2 Samuel 13-14).
- Troubles with Absalom: David's son Absalom rebelled against him, leading to civil war and Absalom's eventual death (2 Samuel 15-18).
- David forgives his enemies (2 Samuel 19).
- The rebellion of Sheba (2 Samuel 20).
- Atonement for the land (2 Samuel 21).
- David's song of deliverance (2 Samuel 22).
- David's mighty men (2 Samuel 23, 1 Chronicles 11-12).
- David's census (2 Samuel 24, 1 Chronicles 21).

Key lessons on: How To Avoid Implosion in Life

STAY IN THE BATTLE. STAY IN YOUR PLACE OF ASSIGNMENT.

2 Samuel 11:1-2

1 It happened in the spring of the year, **at the time when kings go out to battle**, that David sent Joab and his servants with him, and all Israel; and they destroyed the people of Ammon and besieged Rabbah. **But David remained at Jerusalem.**

2 **Then it happened one evening** that David arose from his bed and walked on the roof of the king's house. And from the roof he saw a woman bathing, and the woman was very beautiful to behold.



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David was a military king. Till this point he had led Israel in military conquest. For some unknown reason, David chose not to go out into battle but remained at Jerusalem. While the reasons are not given the text almost implies that this was a time when kings should have been at battle – David stayed at home, and this was in undoing.

A lesson for us: we must stay in battle. Stay in our place of assignment. Stepping out of our place of assignment makes us vulnerable and an easy target for the enemy. Keep doing what God has assigned you to do.

DON'T' IGNORE YOUR CORE. WHEN THE CORE WEAKENS, THE WHOLE COLLAPSES.

2 Samuel 13:21-23

21 But when King David heard of all these things, he was very angry.

22 And Absalom spoke to his brother Amnon neither good nor bad. For Absalom hated Amnon, because he had forced his sister Tamar.

23 And it came to pass, after two full years, that Absalom had sheepshearers in Baal Hazor, which is near Ephraim; so Absalom invited all the king's sons.

While David was an amazing king, a man who loved God, a great worshipper, again for some unknown reason he neglected his own family.

In 2 Samuel 13, there was trouble brewing in his own home between his own children: Absalom, Tamar, Amon. Amon had violated his half-sister Tamar, who was Absalom's own sister. David heard about the problems. But the Scripture just records that he became angry – but he did nothing. Absalom was very upset and this turned to hatred. Absalom waited two full years and David did nothing about the problems in his own family.

This teaches us such an important lesson. Don't ignore your core. When the core weakens, the whole collapses.

By core we mean the center of who we are and our lives. This is our personal self, our family, our core team in the ministry, our core values, our core disciplines, etc.

The tree with a rotten trunk - A tree may have beautiful leaves, strong-looking branches, and abundant fruit. But if its trunk is rotting from within, the entire tree is in danger of falling.



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The building with a weak foundation - A building can have beautiful architecture, expensive interiors, and impressive height. But if its foundation is compromised, the entire structure is at risk.

What holds everything together is often hidden from view, but when it weakens, everything built upon it is in danger.

Never sacrifice your walk with God to maintain the appearance of success.

RESOLVE ISSUES AT THE FIRST INSTANT. DELAYS COULD MEAN DISASTER.

Now the problems within the family went up to another level. Because David did not do anything about the situation, Absalom took matters into his own hands and murdered his half-brother Amnon, taking revenge for what Amnon had done to his sister Tamar.

Once again, and this is almost unbelievable – David did nothing for five years!

2 Samuel 13:32,38,39

32 Then Jonadab the son of Shimeah, David's brother, answered and said, "Let not my lord suppose they have killed all the young men, the king's sons, for only Amnon is dead. For by the command of Absalom this has been determined from the day that he forced his sister Tamar.

38 So Absalom fled and went to Geshur, and **was there three years.**

39 And **King David longed to go to Absalom.** For he had been comforted concerning Amnon, because he was dead.

2 Samuel 14:23,24,28,29

23 So Joab arose and went to Geshur, and brought Absalom to Jerusalem.

24 And the king said, "Let him return to his own house, but do not let him see my face." So Absalom returned to his own house, but did not see the king's face.

28 And **Absalom dwelt two full years in Jerusalem, but did not see the king's face.**

29 Therefore Absalom sent for Joab, to send him to the king, but he would not come to him. And when he sent again the second time, he would not come.

2 Samuel 14:33

So Joab went to the king and told him. And when he had called for Absalom, he came to the king and bowed himself on his face to the ground before the king. **Then the king kissed Absalom.**



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Sermon Notes, Sermon Outline and Small Group Study Guide

While the Scripture states that “king David longed to go to Absalom” – he just didn’t do it. **Good intention that does not translation to action is useless.**

Absalom was in hiding for 3 years and then comes back Jerusalem and stays there for 2 more years and David never meets with his own son! Absalom asked many times to want to meet with his father David – and David did not.

Finally, after 5 years David calls for Absalom, greets him and kisses him – but this was too little too late! Absalom was already lost – out of David’s reach.

Eventually Absalom rebelled. He led a massive kingdom wide rebellion against David. What he experienced – neglect, abandonment – he transferred to people all over the kingdom. David had to flee for his own life from Jerusalem.

Psalm 3

A Psalm of David When He Fled from Absalom His Son.

We can apply this lesson in many contexts: in our relationships in the home/family, in the workplace, or church or Christian ministry – resolve issues at the first instant. Delays could mean disaster.

Delayed action is inaction when it matters most.

Watch over your people. Know their hearts. Prevent rebellion.

Proverbs 27:23-27

**23 Be diligent to know the state of your flocks, And attend to your herds;
24 For riches are not forever, Nor does a crown endure to all generations.
25 When the hay is removed, and the tender grass shows itself, And the herbs of the mountains are gathered in,
26 The lambs will provide your clothing, And the goats the price of a field;
27 You shall have enough goats' milk for your food, For the food of your household, And the nourishment of your maidservants.**

Finally, Absalom is killed, and the rebellion is put down. David is back in Jerusalem. And at this time, he makes yet another mistake that affects the entire nation.

GUARD YOUR VULNERABILITIES IN THE HIGHS AND LOWS.

1 Chronicles 21:1



Now Satan stood up against Israel, and moved David to number Israel.

In 2 Samuel 22:1, David celebrates how the Lord delivered him from all his enemies. Yet in 1 Chronicles 21:1, Satan incites David to take a census of Israel. His successes had not eliminated his vulnerabilities. Satan did not need to defeat David through another army. Satan exploited an internal vulnerability a moment of pride or a moment of self-reliance.

We observe: Satan's activity. David's responsibility. God's sovereignty.

Satan instigated David.

David was responsible for his decision.

God was sovereign, brought judgement, and extended mercy.

God never tempts anyone to do wrong (James 1:13-14).

Counting people was not inherently sinful. God Himself commanded censuses in passages such as Numbers 1:1-3. The issue was not simply that David counted Israel, but that he undertook this particular census in a way that displeased God. God was looking at David's heart. David commanded Joab to count the people, particularly those able to bear arms (2 Samuel 24:2,9). While the text does not explicitly state this, it is possible that David was moving to a place of pride, self-reliance, dependance on military strength, etc. Joab recognized that something was wrong and questioned David's decision (2 Samuel 24:3). But David insisted.

This wrong decision by David brought great pain on the nation. God had to judge David.

Only later, David was accountable for his decision and realized his mistake (2 Samuel 24:10).

The danger is we are vulnerable not only when we are weak, discouraged, or defeated. We can also become vulnerable when we are strong, successful, celebrated, and at the height of our achievements.

The greatest danger may come after the greatest victory. You still needed to guard your heart against pride, a desire for recognition, self-reliance, complacency or unguarded appetites/desires, etc.

In the lows despair, bitterness, compromise, unbelief, tiredness, etc. can become points of vulnerability. In the highs pride, self-reliance, presumption, complacency, desire for recognition, unguarded appetites, etc. can become points of vulnerability.



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The end of the battle does not mean the end of every danger.

Past victories cannot be a substitute for present obedience.

Yesterday's victories do not eliminate today's need for vigilance.

Complacency when everything seems to be going well, can be dangerous.

The moment we begin to think we no longer need counsel is the moment we need it most.

The applause of friends can become more dangerous than the criticism of your enemies.

Proverbs 4:23 teaches us to guard our hearts. 1 Corinthians 10:12 teaches us to be careful when we think we stand lest we fall. 1 Peter 5:8 teaches us to always be sober and vigilant, knowing we have an adversary.

Guard your heart, in every season when you are winning, when you are weeping or when you are just waiting.

The higher we climb the more carefully we must watch our step. One misstep can prove to be a fatal fall.

Key lesson for us: guard your vulnerabilities, at all times, in the highs and the lows.

GOD IS BIGGER THAN OUR MISTAKES. HE REALIGNS AND RESTORES.

While we have observed this tumultuous phase of David's life – one mistake after another we see God's sovereign grace and mercy working things out. We see the redemptive heart of God and His redemptive hand at work, in spite of David's many mistakes.

Solomon was born. David sinned with Bathsheba. Yet God in His mercy, brought Solomon through this union. Solomon became the next king.

Rabah was captured. David had sinned – and yet God blessed them with the capture of this territory.

The kingdom was retained. David neglected his family and Absalom rebelled. Yet God in His mercy helped David retain the kingdom.



A temple was built. And what is so beautiful is that out of that huge mistake of numbering Israel, when God move to judge the nation and David bought a piece of land to make atonement – on that same land Solomon’s temple was built.

2 Chronicles 3:1

Now Solomon began to build the house of the LORD at Jerusalem on Mount Moriah, where the LORD had appeared to his father David, at the place that David had prepared on the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite.

The threshing floor of Araunah and Ornan, (the different names, refer to the same man) (2 Samuel 24:18-25, 1 Chronicles 21:18-30) where David built his altar to stop God’s judgement, this became the site on which Solomon later built the Temple. Solomon built the Temple on David’s threshing floor. It also identifies the Temple site as **Mount Moriah**, the name associated with Abraham’s offering of Isaac (2 Chronicles 3:1). While the exact location where Abraham offered Isaac cannot be determined, **the traditional identification is that Abraham’s offering of Isaac and David’s altar are associated with the same mountain, Mount Moriah.**

NOTE: 2 Samuel 24:24, records David paid a price of 50 shekels of silver for the threshing floor and oxen. In 1 Chronicles 21:25, David pays 600 shekels of gold for the site. Perhaps David first bought the threshing floor and oxen 50 shekels of silver and later bought a larger area with 600 shekels of gold for the Temple that Solomon would build. Solomon’s Temple was massive and hence needed a much larger area than just the threshing floor.

All of this speaks to us of the mercy of God. God re-writes our story. God is greater than our mistakes. God redeems, realigns and restores.

PSALMS OF DAVID MOST LIKELY WRITTEN IN THIS PHASE:

Psalm 51: repentance after Bathsheba

Psalm 32: forgiveness after confession. This is not explicitly dated to Bathsheba, but its language makes it a very natural companion to Psalm 51.

Psalm 38: penitential suffering

Psalm 39: mortality, discipline and restraint

These three are probable/possible penitential Psalms, not definitively “written after Bathsheba.”

Psalm 3: Absalom. Exceptionally strong historical connection. The historical Psalm literature identifies Psalm 3 with Absalom’s rebellion.



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Phase 4: Saul pursues David. David learns to trust God when enemies surround him.

SUMMARY

Key insights from this phase of David's life:

- **Stay in the battle. Stay in your place of assignment.**
- **Don't' ignore your core. When the core weakens, the whole collapses.**
- **Resolve issues at the first instant. Delays could mean disaster.**
- **Guard your vulnerabilities in the highs and lows.**
- **God is bigger than our mistakes. He realigns and restores.**

GOSPEL AND SALVATION CALL

SUPERNATURAL MINISTRY TIME

Minister as the Spirit leads



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Sunday Sermon, October 18, 2026**

This is a simple guide for use in Life Group discussions. Our objective is to focus on the application of the Sunday sermon - how each one is becoming a doer of the Word and building their life on God's Holy Word. The Life Group meeting would normally last for 1.5 to 2 hours. Each Life Group would have up to 12-15 people.

Preparation

Life Group Leader: To prepare for the Life Group meeting, you can listen to the Sermon or review the Sunday Sermon notes. Please do not make your life group read through the complete sermon notes during the life group. All you need to do is have individuals read the Scriptures listed below and then open for a time of discussion, sharing and learning using the questions given below. All these are available in the "All Peoples Church Bangalore" mobile App or online at our [sermons page](#). Pray for the Life Group meeting and invite the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Welcome

The Life Group meeting may commence with a time of prayer, worship, and a fun activity.

LISTEN to God's Word

Read the following Scripture references: ---

INVESTIGATE God's Word Together

Life Group is a discussion-based, participatory meeting with everyone given the opportunity to share their learning. Please discuss a few of these together, giving time for people to share their insights. We encourage each one individually to make notes of their personal learning during the Group discussion.

Q1, Review the key incidents (mistakes) of David's life during this 10-year period: 2 Samuel 11-24



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King David - A Biographical Sketch - Sermon Series
Sermon Notes, Sermon Outline and Small Group Study Guide

Q2, Discuss how we can apply the insights that were presented from this season of David's life:

- Stay in the battle. Stay in your place of assignment.
- Don't ignore your core. When the core weakens, the whole collapses.
- Resolve issues at the first instant. Delays could mean disaster.
- Guard your vulnerabilities in the highs and lows.
- God is bigger than our mistakes. He realigns and restores.

Each one can take a few (3 minutes max) to share one or two key insights and how they see themselves applying it to their specific life situations. Encourage each one to participate and share.

FELLOWSHIP by sharing your life and spiritual journey

Each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share anything from their walk with God, something God has been teaching them, a testimony of answered prayer or a specific challenge that they would like prayer for. Encourage each one to participate and share.

ENCOURAGE each other by praying and ministering to one another

Get into small groups of two or three and take turns to thank God and pray for each other in the light of what was learnt today. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow, bringing healing, releasing miracles, prophecy, etc.

Regroup and pray together for:

1, families to be protected and strengthened

2, a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on us as a church and through us to bless many others in our city and nation. Nothing but a mighty work of God's Spirit can change our city and nation.

3, for the BUILD TO IMPACT project - for all details to go well as we plan and build our Bible college and church facilities to serve the Lord and people.

Close by thanking God together.



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USEFUL RESOURCES

Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

YOUTUBE: <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

WEBSITE: <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

CHURCH: <https://apcwo.org>

FREE SERMONS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

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DAILY DEVOTIONALS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

JESUS CHRIST: <https://examiningjesus.com>

BIBLE COLLEGE: <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

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WEEKEND SCHOOLS: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools>

COUNSELING: <https://chrysalislife.org>

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SERMON OUTLINE

We study this 10-year period of David's life where he made several mistakes (2 Samuel 11-24, 1 Chronicles 17-21). David committed adultery with Bathsheba. David ignored problems within his own family that eventually resulted in a nation-wide rebellion led by his son Absalom. David ordered a census, that brought God's judgement. We present key lessons that will help us avoid implosion, from this season including: (A) Stay in the battle. Stay in your place of assignment. (B) Don't ignore your core. When the core weakens, the whole collapses. (C) Resolve issues at the first instant. Delays could mean disaster. (D) Guard your vulnerabilities in the highs and lows. (E) God is bigger than our mistakes. He realigns and restores.

This sermon includes free audio (mp3) and video of this powerful, motivational, expository teaching, free printable PDF sermon outlines, sermon notes and small group study guide with discussion questions and presentation slides. All resources (sermon PDF, sermon MP3, sermon video, sermon presentation) are free for use in personal study, small groups, Bible study prayer groups, local churches, conferences, Bible colleges, etc.



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KEYWORDS

How to avoid implosion, king david, biographical sketch, sermons, sermon notes, sermon outline, free sermon notes, free sermon outlines, Bible study resources

REFERENCES/CITATIONS

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Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words, © 1984, 1996, Thomas Nelson, Inc., Nashville, TN

Mounce Concise Greek-English Dictionary. Edited by William D. Mounce with Rick D. Bennett, Jr. (1993)

Word Pictures in the New Testament. Archibald Thomas Robertson. Published in 1930-1933; public domain.

Word Studies in the New Testament. Marvin R. Vincent, D.D. (1886).

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