

D. Iconoclastic Arrogance Illustrated: 2 Samuel 13:20-29

Sons Born to David at Hebron (Mother):

1. Amnon (Ahinoam the Jezreelitess)
2. Chileab (Abigail the Carmelite)
3. Absalom (Maacah, daughter of Talmai, king of Geshur)
4. Adonijah (Haggith)
5. Shephatiah (Abital)
6. Ithream (Eglah)

Amnon was the Crown Prince of Israel and naturally there was attached to his persona the assumptions of royal conduct, aristocratic manners, and establishment integrity. In 2 Samuel 13:1-2 Samuel 13:19 we see the story of how Amnon lured his half-sister, Tamar into his chambers and raped her.

Tamar was the full sister of Absalom. Their mother was Maacah, the daughter of Talmai who was the king of Geshur and therefore an aristocrat. Amnon's mother was Ahinoam of Jezreel. Although a commoner her son was David's first born making him the Crown Prince. Nevertheless, Amnon was trash, an arrogant, boorish, loser who did many despicable things but what he did to his half-sister was the worst of all.

Beginning in 2 Samuel 13:20 we see the historical account of how aristocratic Absalom became involved in role-model arrogance, the feet-of-clay syndrome, projection and denial, anger and hatred, iconoclastic arrogance, revenge motivation, revenge tactics, conspiracy arrogance, crusader arrogance, and finally, civil disobedience including murder.

2 Samuel 13:20 - Then her brother Absalom said to her, "Has your brother Amnon been with you? Now therefore my sister, do not plan any revenge for he is your brother. Put this matter out of your mind." So, Tamer remained as a recluse in the castle of her brother Absalom.

Absalom has given his sister excellent advice based on divine guidance from the mandate found in:

Deuteronomy 32:35 - Vengeance is Mine, and retribution. In due time their foot will slip, for the day of their calamity is near and the impending things are hastening upon them.

Absalom has total and complete faith in his father, David. In fact, David is his role model. Absalom doesn't want his sister to react to her tragedy and become bitter. His desire is to confront her and then let his father execute justice.

Tamar agreed to sequester herself in her brother's castle and let establishment authority to deal with her assailant.

Both Absalom and Tamar display the stabilized mental attitude with is typical of aristocrats. They showed great poise and clear reasoning under pressure.

Principle: To react to those who injure you lowers you to their level. Don't take vengeance into your own hands. "*Why don't you just leave it alone*" and put it into the Lord's hands.

The Lord has delegated justice to establishment authority, in this case David, King of Israel. David's adjudication of this case is the subject of verse 21.

2 Samuel 13:21 - Now when King David heard all these things he became extremely angry.