



# 1 Kings 1

*Danger of Existing* Sun, May 20<sup>th</sup> 2007



---

## This morning – continue study of life of David

- Going to be in **1 Kings**...but not yet
- Join me to begin with in **1Chr 23:1**
  - Here see Solomon made king – 1<sup>st</sup> time
- Go over to **1Chr 29:21-23**
  - See second coronation of Solomon
- Why two coronations?
  - If reading Chronicles alone – no idea
  - But...we have another account
  - Join me now in **1 Kings 1**

# I. David is an Old Man

## 1. Hard almost to look into this scene

- a. David...giant killer, king...now an old man
- b. As a culture, we don't like to consider
- c. Tell you something – happening to all of us
  - i) **Eccl 12:1** 📖

## 2. As we look in – see David is frail...cold

- a. Nothing can be done for David to make him warm
- b. Blankets, clothes hold in heat...don't produce

## 3. Solution – Abishag....

- a. Understand – normal in that day
- b. Not a wife – not intimate with – nurse, body heat
- c. Why not one of David's wives? Doesn't say
  - i) Could be they are all older too
  - ii) Could be problem with multiple wives
- d. Question – why isn't David intimate with?
  - i) Has multiple wives, concubines....
  - ii) Could be age – ill – can't
  - iii) Could be grown in grace

## 4. I suppose more questions could be asked...

- a. But the main point – David is old...frail

## II. David is Existing

1. **Seems to me – David is in a state we can call “existing”**
    - a. Prob. know as much by feeling as understanding
    - b. Place of just maintenance—to stay going—all you do
    - c. Not moved by world around—no drive, purpose, impact
  2. **“Just existing” is a dangerous tendency with old age**
    - a. I say carefully...still fairly young—don’t want to demean
    - b. But it is a common struggle...valley in old age
  3. **“Just existing” can happen in many lives – not just old**
    - a. Can happen in sickness, failure, disappointment
    - b. Can happen....at many stages and places
  4. **“Just existing” is an empty place in life**
    - a. It is like not really being alive – not really living
    - b. Think of **John 10:10** 📖 - opposite of what God has
  5. **“Just existing” misses the point of being alive**
    - a. **Your life is not accidental, empty thing**
      - i) Philosophically – “existentialism”
    - b. **There is a God – there is a plan, a purpose**
      - i) Consider David’s own Psalm of this – **139**
      - ii) Consider how God describes in **Eph 2:10**
      - iii) Christian – immortal till God’s plan is done
    - c. **Danger of missing what God has you here for**
      - i) Think of the familiar quote to **Esther 4:14** 📖
      - ii) God is ordering world. When existing...oblivious
      - iii) This is what David is-missing, ignoring world around
  6. **What is at stake in David’s world**
    - a. Next king.....God’s promises...plan
    - b. David is existing, ignoring, letting Adonijah do **v.6**
-

# III. Enter Adonijah

1. **Whenever we are not what God has for us**
    - a. We leave a vacuum ...for an Adonijah
  2. **Adonijah has a great name**
    - a. Adoni: means Lord; Jah–YHVH – Lord is Yahweh
    - b. Sadly...doesn't live up to his name
  3. **Adonijah is David's son...David's oldest son**
    - a. Actually his 4<sup>th</sup> son...but the rest are gone 📖
    - b. Probably about 35 years of age – apparent heir...
  4. **Adonijah is a Self Exalting man**
    - a. Want to say much ...could spend rest of time on
    - b. Heart of sin– satan exalted self, Adam exalted self
    - c. Watch intensity of this (much like Absalom)
  5. **Adonijah is a good looking man**
    - a. Key in worldly culture...then and now
  6. **Adonijah is a Powerful – politically (note those with him)**
    - a. Joab falls for Adonijah – David's faithful general
    - b. Abiathar follows – priest, faithful to David
    - c. Why do these and others follow? Doesn't say
      - i) Could be they don't see it as disloyalty to David
  7. **Adonijah complete success – looks like next king!**
    - a. David not stopping, Solomon–young(17), unlinked?
    - b. Seems all Israel moved to follow–opinion poll **2:15**
  8. **Adonijah is completely out of God's will...and knows it**
    - a. He knows...others know is to be Solomon **2:15**
  9. **Whenever we fail to be what God has ....**
    - a. Satan has an Adonijah...character like satan
-

## IV. Nathan – a Faithful Friend

### **1. Nathan still is...one of the only staying with**

- a. Most seem to have sided with Adonijah
- b. A few – faithful stay w/David – Nathan is one
- c. Staying w/David at a time of his “ineptness”

### **2. Nathan has been a loyal friend to David**

- a. One that brought news of Temple **2 Sam 7**
- b. One that confronted David w/Bathsheba **2 Sam 12**
- c. One God used to call Solomon Jedediah **2Sa 12:24**
- d. Helped David organize worship 2Chr 29:25–26

### **3. Nathan has a plan**

- a. Not manipulation...but influence
- b. Knows how to awaken David

### **4. First – uses Bathsheba**

- a. Shows they have a good relationship
- b. If she was a blond bimbo...no impact
- c. Appeals to David from the personal angle

### **5. Second – Nathan confirms**

- a. But does so in a non- confrontive way, doesn't put David on the defensive
- b. Some see in this the place of two witnesses
- c. But that does not seem to me the point – the point is to wake David up from his slumber...existence

# V. David awakes to Action

## **1. David wakes fully up! Wonderfully**

- a. Convinced David does more than they thought
- b. David has been through w/Absalom – learns

## **2. Note David's heart:**

- a. **As the Lord lives – focus there**
  - i) Important place to come to out of existence
- b. **Who has redeemed my life- again and again**
  - i) See's God's faithfulness in past
  - ii) Convinced the point is he sees it now
- c. **As swore by Lord...so I will do**
  - i) Brought back to obedience
  - ii) Brought to living out, apply God's ways

## **3. David nips this rebellion – immediately**

- a. To wait a day, David knows will be trouble
- b. Deals with it – and causes Adonija's dinner to be interrupted and dissolved

## **4. Adonijah is stopped – with grace**

- a. For today...next chapters – he will die
- b. Keeps his scheming....and Solomon will stop

## **5. David is awake....more to do**

- a. Co-reign with Solomon – maybe 2 years
- b. Focus on the future again – organization

---

## Conclusion

---

### Wonder, today, are you just existing?

- Missing the **Eph 2:10** moments of your life?
- You don't expect...live for or look for
- Today – can I be a Nathan & wake you up

### Guys, God is good...and sovereign

- He has, He is ordering your days
- He is preparing opportunities before you
- Right attitude is of expectation, expectancy

### Wonder if God is seeking to wake you from sin, to Him

- Near to my heart – because it is this thought that awakened me to my need for the Lord
- I was falling into existentialism
- Empty...meaningless
- Found in God – meaning, order, purpose