

## DECEPTION

### **I. MEANING OF DECEPTION**

Deception means the act of deceiving someone by trickery.

### **II. HOW DAVID WAS DECEIVED**

**2 Samuel 14:1-7**

**(1) Now Joab the son of Zeruiah perceived that the king's heart was toward Absalom.**

**(2) And Joab sent to Tekoah, and fetched thence a wise woman, and said unto her, I pray thee, feign thyself to be a mourner, and put on now mourning apparel, and anoint not thyself with oil, but be as a woman that had a long time mourned for the dead:**

**(3) And come to the king, and speak on this manner unto him. So Joab put the words in her mouth.**

**(4) And when the woman of Tekoah spake to the king, she fell on her face to the ground, and did obeisance, and said, Help, O king.**

**(5) And the king said unto her, What aileth thee? And she answered, I am indeed a widow woman, and mine husband is dead.**

**(6) And thy handmaid had two sons, and they two strove together in the field, and there was none to part them, but the one smote the other, and slew him.**

**(7) And, behold, the whole family is risen against thine handmaid, and they said, Deliver him that smote his brother, that we may kill him, for the life of his brother whom he slew; and we will destroy the heir also: and so they shall quench my coal which is left, and shall not leave to my husband neither name nor remainder upon the earth.**

**A. Joab put a woman of Tekoah (7 miles from Bethlehem) up to deceiving King David.**

#### **B. Background**

1. David's oldest son Amnon had raped and committed incest with Absalom's sister, Tamar.

2. Tamar then lived with Absalom in disgrace.

3. After 2 years Absalom killed Amnon in revenge and fled to his father King Talmai of Geshur on the border of Syria.

4. Joab pays a woman of Tekoa to tell the king she has lost a son by murder and now wants her only and last son left to be protected from either having to be killed through blood revenge, or else live in a refugee city away from her. She begs David to let her last son live free. David emotionally grants her the request.

5. But then the woman of Tekoa says "why will you not then bring back your own vanquished son (meaning Absalom)?"

6. David asked her then if Joab had put her up to this and she said, "Yes".

- C. So because of this, David was tricked and now felt he must go by his words and bring Absalom back.
- D. He had opened the door to deception and now told Joab, “bring back Absalom with no consequences.”

### **III. REBELLION IN ISRAEL**

- A. Because of this deception, Absalom’s spirit of rebellion now had permission to operate in Israel.
- B. According to the law:
  1. Absalom should have died for his brother’s murder or else,
  2. He should have lived in a city of refuge for the rest of his life, not in Jerusalem.
- C. Notice that after Amnon raped Tamar, he had been allowed to live without consequences as well.
- D. David’s sons lived above the law of God.
- E. Absalom had prior to this lived in Israel for 2 years without seeing his father.
- F. But finally he set Joab’s field on fire to force an audience with David.
- A. Now it had been a total of 5 years he had been back from Geshur and Absalom, still bitter, decides to try to destroy his father David and take over the kingdom.

### **IV. ABSOLOM’S REBELLION – 3 LEVELS OF DECEPTION**

- A. First – lead people away from his father and tell them “If I were your leader I would hear your case.”
- B. Second – get 200 of David’s leaders to follow him using a false letter from his father – deception.
- C. Third – get a family member and a royal counselor to follow him. Absalom got the grandfather of Bathsheba to follow him and also Ahithophel, one of the counselors of King David.
- D. Ahithophel advised Absalom that in order to get the army to follow him, he should sleep with the 10 concubines of his father David.

### **V. OUTCOME**

- A. Because of Absalom’s three part deception, when Joab kills Absalom he puts three darts in his heart.
- B. Then 10 men killed Absalom with 10 spears/swords to pay back for the 10 concubines.
- C. But Absalom had 1) Rebelled against the King. 2) Split the court of Israel.
- D. God judged Absalom and Joab killed Absalom to stop rebellion in Israel.