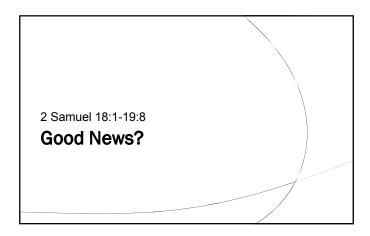


"For Yahweh had ordained to thwart the counsel of Ahithophel, in order that Yahweh might bring calamity on Absalom."

(2 Samuel 17:14)



Good News?

1. An Unfortunate Tension

"Deal gently for my sake with the young man Absalom"

- as a father, David's love for his son was both understandable and remarkable
- as a king, David's command expressed both weakness and folly

Good News?

- 2. An Inglorious Ending
 - the Lord brings low and shatters the selfexalted who oppose His anointed
 - the Lord had freed David from the hand of his enemies

Good News?

- 3. An Inordinate Grief
 - David's grief seemed to have no theological or God-ward perspective
 - David's inordinate grief was a sign of his inordinate affection
 - David's grief was detrimental to his people and his necessary role as king

Good News?

- > Implications
 - 1. In this age we will have disappointment and sorrow, but God will wipe away every tear in the age to come
 - In Christ mercy and justice are reconciled, and repentant rebels become children of God