

"Opposition to the King" (Part 3)  
2 Samuel 3:1-21

*"For a man to lead in humility, he must be doubtful about himself, and undoubting about the truth."*

*"Abner appeals to Scripture when it is for his benefit and he ignores Scripture if it requires him to deny himself."  
(Dale Ralph Davis)*

*"But when he (Uzziah) was STRONG, he grew proud, to his destruction. For he was unfaithful to the LORD his God...." (2 Chronicles 26:16a)*

- (2 Samuel 3:1–11) Growing Strong in the World's Eyes
  - There was a 2 year war between David and Ish-bosheth (2 Samuel 2:10-11). This conflict was very one-sided (2 Samuel 2:17,30-31).
  - Culturally, the power of a king was seen in the number, the importance, and the beauty of their wives and concubines (1 Kings 11:1-5). God specifically told the kings not to participate in this practice (Deuteronomy 17:17).
  - Abner had used Ish-bosheth as his puppet and Ish-bosheth was no longer needed (2 Samuel 2:8-9). To take one of the king's concubines was an act of rebellion and treason against the king (1 Kings 1:3-4; 2:13-18,23).
  - Throughout this whole narrative Abner has taken the position of power and acted as if he had God's power:
    - Abner made Ish-bosheth king.
    - Abner made the challenge to Joab.
    - Abner took for himself one of the concubines of Ish-bosheth.
    - Abner said he had the power to make David king.
  
- (2 Samuel 3:12-21) Selfish Submission
  - Not sure how David would respond, Abner sends messengers to see if David would accept his proposition. David asked for his wife back, that Saul had given to another man, if he was going to make this covenant with Abner (1 Samuel 18:27-29; 1 Samuel 25:44).
  - David, despite receiving the messengers from Abner, honors Ish-bosheth as king. He sends his request to the king, not Abner.
  - Abner again uses the Word of God for his advantage. He convinces the tribes to join David by reminding them of God's promise to David (1 Samuel 10:1).
  - David sent Abner in "peace", meaning that Abner was protected under David's authority. Abner again claims the power position, "I will arise and go and will gather all Israel to my lord the king".
  
- Acts 8:9-24: Abner and Simon — Lovers of Power, Not God!

**Announcements:**

★**“FOURTH OF JULY” SERVICE:** We will be having our annual “4th of July” service ***THIS*** Sunday, July 2nd, at Andy Wesley’s house (1062 National Drive SE; Hebron) at 5pm! There is a sign-up list on the table in the entryway, please sign-up to bring a food item to this event. Please bring any yard games that you have and bring your lawn chairs! Mark your calendars and plan on attending our annual outdoor Worship Service and Fellowship Dinner!

★**NEW MEMBERS CLASS:** If you are interested in church membership, we will be offering a 3 week New Members Class starting on Sunday, July 16th, from 4-5pm in the Fellowship Hall. This is also something we would encourage our current church members to participate in, as we will be working through our By-Laws, Statement of Faith (our church’s belief on Salvation, Baptism, Marriage, Eschatology, etc.), why our church has church membership, and the roles of Elders and Deacons in the church. There is a sign-up list on the table in the entryway, please sign-up if you are interested in participating in the New Members Class. If you are unable to participate in this class in July, we will be offering the New Members Class again in October.

★**MEMBERS MEETING:** We are having a Members Business Meeting on Sunday, July 23rd, immediately following the worship service. This meeting will be to discuss the *potential* of moving to a Sunday morning worship service. At this meeting we will be sharing the results of the anonymous ballot from the vote in May and opening the floor for Q&A. If you are currently a church member, please mark your calendars and plan to stay for this important meeting.