

“Deception and Curses: The Difficult Side of Sanctification”
2 Samuel 16:1-14

“The one who states his case first **seems right**, until the other **comes and examines him.**” (Proverbs 18:17)

“You shall do no injustice in court. You **shall not be partial** to the poor or defer to the great, but **in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor.**” (Leviticus 19:15)

“Whoever trusts in his own mind is a fool, but he who walks in wisdom will be delivered.” (Proverbs 28:26)

- **David is Still King:**
 - David is God’s chosen king (1 Samuel 16:1-3), just like Saul (1 Samuel 10:24). Israel’s king was to be chosen by God, not by men or self-appointment (Deuteronomy 17:15).
 - To be against God’s chosen king is to be against God (1 Samuel 24:6; 26:9).
 - The king is chosen by God, disciplined by God, and God’s servant or instrument to accomplish God’s will.

- **The Deception of Ziba: (2 Samuel 16:1-4)**
 - Ziba, the servant of Mephibosheth: (2 Samuel 9:9-13)
 - “Why have you brought these?” (2 Samuel 19:17-18)
 - “Where is your master’s son?” (2 Samuel 19:24-30)
 - **What can we learn from Ziba and David?**
 - We must be very careful not to do acts of service for our glory.
 - We must be careful not to play both sides of a conflict; find the truth.
 - We must be careful in making decisions based on emotion.
 - We must be careful who we listen to in emotional situations.

- **The Curses of Shimei: (2 Samuel 16:5-14)**
 - “He cursed continually and he threw stones at David and at all the servants of King David, and all the people.”
 - “Why should this dead dog curse my lord the king? Let me go over and take off his head.”
 - “It may be that the LORD will look on the wrong done (by) me, and that the LORD will repay with good for his cursing today.” (2 Samuel 19:18-23)
 - At times God’s providence and discipline is incredibly painful, but God always acts in love toward His children. He knows how to sanctify His children.

“But He disciplines us **for our good**, that we may **share His holiness**. For the moment all discipline seems **painful** rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of **righteousness** to those who have been trained by it. Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but **rather be healed.**” (Hebrews 12:10b-13)

Announcements:

★**FELLOWSHIP MEAL:** We are having a Fellowship Meal THIS Sunday, January 14th, immediately following the worship service. There is a sign-up list on the table in the entryway, please sign-up to bring something to the dinner. EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the dinner and the fellowship with us!

★**BAPTISMS:** Our next Baptism Service will be on Sunday, January 21st. If you are interested in being baptized or have any questions about baptism, please see Pastor Jeremy or one of the other Elders.

★**DONATIONS:** Throughout the month of January we are collecting monetary donations for Heartbeats. For more information about Heartbeats and what they do, please see the board in the back of the sanctuary. There is a container on the back table for your monetary donations. You can also give on Venmo, please make sure to note that it is for Heartbeats.