

Spirit of Life Community Adventist Fellowship
Prayer Meeting 9-5-06 [2 Samuel 16](#) (beginning at vs. 5)
Pastor William Dawson

1. [16:5-8](#). This stone throwing fool was not really within striking distance. His stone throwing was a way of acting out David's punishment. Had David been punished for murder and adultery he would have been stoned. I call this man a fool because David is not the kind of man you should make angry. A weakened David was stronger than most men. David was a warrior with a reputation for killing the best soldiers. He knew by experience what it would take to kill a man while on the run. Shimei was a fool, like so many fools who make fun of people who are down. Do not laugh at your neighbor's troubles. Your laughter may tip the scales in their behalf and God will show them more mercy to counteract your curses.
2. **His basis for cursing David was**, "The Lord hath returned upon thee all the blood of the house of Saul." He is suggesting that David was the cause of Saul's death. This is another clue that the spirit of God was not guiding this man. Saul had been slain as a result of his disobedience and involvement with witchcraft. This fool also incorrectly said God delivered the kingdom into the hands of Absalom. We know from reading the rest of the story that the Lord was not in anything Absalom was doing. Perhaps God was using Absalom's evil desire as a collecting broom to sweep all of David's enemies into one pile and sweep them away.
3. [16:8,9](#) **Notice the reaction and response of David's men.** They did not have a sense of defeat. They were leaving the city because David told them to leave. They were ready to fight. Killing this fool Shimei would be a great delight to them and not take much effort.
4. [16:10-13](#). David begins by saying that the Lord hath told Shimei to curse him. Is David right or wrong in this statement? Will God instruct one person to curse another person? To curse the ruler of the people is contrary to the word and law of God, ([Exodus 22:28](#)). God is not into condemnation and humiliation. In the New Testament, when the woman caught in adultery was thrown in front of Jesus, he did not publicly condemn her or her accusers. He wrote their sins in the sand (that is what we believe) and he released the woman with her self-respect in order. In the Hebrew language, what God permits to be done is sometimes written as if He did it Himself. What God allows to happen is written as if He caused it to happen. It is true that God permitted Shimei to curse David. It is not true that God told him to curse. God allows for the discipline of your children. He does not approve of abuse. People outside of Christianity may hear of a Christian abusing their children and falsely say that the abuse a result of following God. They would be wrong. We have the ability to put our own two-cents into the message. Shimei sensed that

- David no longer had God's protection. While David was king in Jerusalem, Shimei was silent. When a man's ways please the Lord He makes even your enemies to be a peace with you. When you reject God you invite in all of the enemies God had been keeping at bay. Shimei is an example of what the devil would love to do to you. [Psalm 7:1-17](#)
5. [16:14-18](#). Hushai meant in his heart that God and all the people of Israel had chosen David; but he spoke in a way to make Absalom believe that he spoke of him. Everything he says may be understood in the same way. Hushai was a great friend to David. Absalom wanted to test his loyalty. He was not questioning him as if he were guilty of deceit, because that would also point the finger at Absalom. He rather questioned him as someone who was out to get all he could, as was the case with Absalom. As far as Absalom was concerned Hushai had picked the real winner.
 6. [16:19-23](#). Verse [18](#). Whom the Lord and this people-choose. Verse [21](#). Go in unto thy father's concubines. You may remember that David left ten concubines behind to take care of the house. Ahithophel advised dirt, in order to prevent the possibility of a reconciliation between David and his son; thus was the prophecy to Nathan fulfilled, [2 Samuel 12:11](#). For a son to take his father's wives was the sum of abomination, and was death by the law of God, [Leviticus 20:11](#). This was a sin rarely found, even among the Gentiles. This probably took place in the very same place where David's walked around and looked at Bath-sheba; see [2 Samuel 11:2](#). Absalom was an obvious pervert. He had mastered all of his father's sins. He was proud, vindictive, adulterous, and incestuous. Remember he killed his half-brother for crossing the family line with his sister. This shows how corrupt the people of Israel were at this time. No one with Absalom objected to this madness. Perhaps no one said anything because their complaints would not have made a difference.
 7. **Now with two wise men at his side Absalom** begins to put his plan in motion. He never sought out God. He never went to the temple. And if he had nothing would have changed. Church attendance does not make you right in God's eyes. If your actions are wrong and your heart is wrong, it does not matter how you dress it up, you are wrong.
 8. **Group discussion. List at least 6 great ways to respond to criticism. What are the first three things you should do when someone curses you? David had multiple wives, and murdered the innocent yet it seems as God continued to claim David as one of His own. In your opinion, why did God continue to help David?**