

**Spirit of Life Community Adventist Fellowship**  
**Pastor William Dawson**  
**Prayer Meeting 11-14-06**  
**Where Did Absalom Go Wrong?**

1. We have read up to **2 Samuel 17** in our study. Absalom is killed in **chapter 18**. Before we study what led to his death, we need to be clear as to what caused him to go wrong? Exactly what was the nature of his sin? Absalom betrayed his father. Wrong thinking and the spirit of betrayal cause more betrayal. The spirit of betrayal is sometimes called an Absalom spirit because it is seen full bloom in his life. The Absalom spirit is a spirit that undermines leadership. To undermine means to dig under a structure in a hidden way, so that all of the support is removed and the foundation eventually crumbles. The spirit of Absalom or the spirit of betrays is a spirit that does not openly attack leadership. It only attacks in subtle ways. It is hidden in its approach but deadly in its affect.
2. **Matthew 12:25**. A house, team, church or family divided against itself cannot stand. Absalom was the son of King David. He lived in the King's house as a son, but his heart was not submitted to his father. His heart had its own agenda and plan. He wanted his own way. He divided David's kingdom. He was disloyal. It is just as sinful to be disloyal as it is to commit adultery.
3. **Betrayal and disloyalty** are so destructive because the family of God can only be built on trust. The covenant is based on trust. We trust God to do His part. He trusts us to do our part. We trust each other. If you cannot trust those around you, you will not be able to build anything that lasts. The relationship will crumble. The moment you don't trust somebody, that is the moment your ability to receive from him or her begins to be reduced. If you do not trust someone, you will not be able to receive from him or her what God has for you. The more you trust them the greater your capacity to receive from them. Imagine two people are prophesying in the church. One person is a trusted servant with a reputation of good morals, character and spiritual honesty. The other person is a known drug dealer, wife beater and currently shacking-up with his new girlfriend. Both men may have a true word from the Lord; however it will be harder to receive a word from the drug dealing wife beater.
4. **1 Thessalonians 5:12**. It takes more than a handshake to know someone. It is not proper for you to walk into a new church as a stranger and just pop-up with some prophecy. They don't know you. You have no right to minister until they know you. Before you prophesy you will need to go and speak to someone in governmental leadership of that church and introduce yourself to them and share the prophecy with them. Then the leadership of that house will determine if your prophecy needs to be

released or not. The kingdom of God is built on trust. I repeat. The kingdom of God is built on trust.

5. **We are commanded to love one another, but nowhere are we commanded to trust one another!** If a husband is unfaithful to his wife, she is commanded to forgive him but not commanded to trust him again. Trust has to be built. When you undermine the governmental leadership and authority structure in the church you provide an opening for spirits that desire to destroy.
6. **A man had worked** diligently for a contractor. He had been paid well but began to resent his employer. One day the contractor called him in and gave him the plans to build a home with no limit in price. The disgruntled employee went to work on the building but cut corners on the quality of the material. He charged top dollar for his work but did the worst job possible. When the house completed the contractor turned to his employee and said, "I am giving you this house." The employee had to live in the house he built. Our churches are spiritual houses we live in. We do not want to vomit on our floors and trash our living space. When we allow disloyalty, gossip, dissensions or we embrace the spirit of betrayal; we are harming and destroying the home we must live in.
7. **Absalom went bad because of an unresolved offense.** Absalom was angry with his father David because David never dealt with the rape of his sister, Tamar. The seed of offense had a long time to grow in Absalom before he actually tried to kill his father.
8. **2 Samuel 13:38.** People with the spirit of Absalom detest authority and runs form it. Absalom ran away from responsibility and accountability. The Absalom spirit in a church is always on the run from spiritual authority. **Never welcome or embrace anyone who is running from a place where they acted irresponsibly and are under discipline.** God wants us to be a people of integrity and accountability. If you run from one church because you were doing wrong and you join another church without resolving your previous wrong, you are spreading a disease. You may sing well and teach well but your rebellion against authority will cause division and strife. You will cause more harm than good. You must go back to your former place and get things right.