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July 25, 2006 **Keep the door closed on demonic dysfunction. PART FIVE**

1. Once you open the door for the enemy to come in, he will usually do more damage than expected. Satan has modeled his attacks on us using the multiple-layered approach he learned from watching God. God always does more than one thing at a time. He blesses us on several levels at the same time. Satan does the same in reverse. He causes horrible destruction and pain on several levels all at the same time.
2. **2 Samuel 13:20-39**. Has Amnon your brother been with you? (**2 Samuel 13:20**) This question by Absalom indicates that Amnon was known for his lewd behavior. It must have been known that, it was dangerous for a modest woman to be with him. What a reputation Amnon must have had for Absalom to consider him to be the first and only suspect.
3. **When King David heard of all these things**, he was very angry (**2 Samuel 13:21**). Nevertheless, David did absolutely nothing about it. According to the law in **Lev. 22:28**, if Amnon had raped **any virgin**, he should have been compelled to marry the virgin whom he had raped and also severely fined. However, if the virgin raped was his sister, the daughter of either his father or his mother, the penalty was death (**Leviticus 20:17**). David did nothing at all, except stew in his own anger. David refused to do anything because he had committed the same sins. He was frozen by the guilt of his past.
4. **And Absalom spoke unto his brother Amnon neither good nor bad**. He said nothing at all to him about the rape of his sister; nor did he stop talking to him altogether for then Amnon would have become suspicious of the invitation. Absalom and Amnon talked freely. Absalom used this appearance of friendliness as the cover for his hatred of Amnon. Absalom hated Amnon.
5. **Vs. 23** **this long delay clearly marked the murder** as premeditated and indicated Absalom as someone who was concerned about more than his sister's honor. If this were just about his sister, he would not have waited; he would have killed Amnon at the first opportunity. Notice that Absalom tried to get David to attend the dinner, which leaves some scholars to believe that Absalom may have put together a plan to kill David himself and all of the king's sons and take over the kingdom. We cannot prove that from this text but we must notice the urgency of the request to have

David attend the dinner. Also when we see all of the kings sons running immediately they must have recognized that Absalom was capable of murdering all of them. One cannot help wondering why Amnon willingly placed himself within Absalom's power. Can it be supposed that he actually thought that he had gotten away with his shameful rape of Absalom's sister? Certainly, he was an unqualified fool for accepting Absalom's invitation. Please hear this – when you have a purpose and destiny from God as heir to the throne you have to learn how to protect yourself. There are simply some people you must not be around. Learn how to discern your surroundings.

6. **Amnon, the heir apparent to David's throne, had been shamefully** murdered by one of David's own sons; and the words of Nathan must have once more rung in David's ears, "Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house" ([2 Samuel 12:10](#)). David could not have missed the similarity between Absalom's murder of Amnon and his own murder of Uriah. Both David and Absalom depended on the help of others to bring about the murder. The great difference was that Uriah did not deserve to die, whereas Amnon most assuredly did. Even Amnon's adulterous rape of Tamar was similar to David's affair in that both of them brought their victims to their place of living. As David had committed adultery, made Uriah drunk, and then murdered him: so Amnon committed incest, is made drunk, and is then murdered. Notice also that Absalom tricked Amnon with his words just as Amnon had tricked Tamar and David with his words. Amnon was reaping what he had sown.
  
7. **These tragic events were by no means** the end of God's punishment upon David. Much, much more, was in store. Just as the blessings of God come pressed down, shaken together and running over, punishments from God come in the same fashion. As we study the tragic account of these deeds of blood and shame, our newspapers and televisions are filled every day with stories of sexual deviations similar to these in the Bible. The circumstances vary, but the results are always the same -- guilt, shame, hatred and murder. Imagine how David was feeling as he realized that both of his sons had used him to do their dirty work. Both of them hid behind their father's approval as the cover for their evil actions. David's lack of correction against his children contributed to their destruction. They choose to be evil but David allowed that evil to grow and flourish by not correcting his children when they were wrong.
  
8. **Notice how word of mouth grows and spreads.** [Vs 30](#). They took the part of the truth they knew and added much they did not know but reported it as if they knew. [Vs. 32](#) – **don't you find it interesting that Jonadab** was the one who knew that Amnon was the only one dead. Jonadab speaks of the death of his supposed friend in a cool manner. He hid the fact that Amnon would not have attempted the rape if it were not

for his advise. He was the one who designed the tragedy; perhaps he gave Amnon bad advise because he wanted to see his destruction. He was probably jealous of the heir-apparent. (You have to know that everyone around you don't like you as much as you think. Some people are close to you only because they are seeking opportunities to give you bad advice). You avoid the schemers and most destroyers simply by avoiding evil activities. Jonadab is very positive, and speaks with great confidence. It appears as if he was in on the secret, and knew of the plot against Amnon's life; and, if so, he must be a very wicked man, first to design a plan whereby Amnon might come at Tamar to rape her, and then be accessory to the murder of Amnon, if he knew of the plot to kill him. Pray that God will grant you the wisdom and grace to be delivered from every friend you have named Jonadab. Really the one person who should be killed is Jonadab. He is a fire-starter.

9. **Vs. 37 Absalom fled because** he had committed pre-mediated murder. He would not qualify for safe keeping in a city of refuge. He had to leave the land of Israel in order to survive. He hid out with Talmi, king of Geshur, his grandfather by his mother's side. See [2 Samuel 3:3](#).
10. **Vs. 39 – David missed Absalom. Notice what is** missing. Notice the dysfunctional pattern David was following. He did nothing about the rape of his daughter and now a murder has taken place and again he does nothing. Perhaps this text is saying David gradually became resigned to Amnon's death and anxious to see Absalom again. We are not sure how this verse really played out because when Absalom did return, David did not allow him to come into his presence for years.
11. **The most tragic part of this story is that it continues** and continues again. David is frozen in the past. Evil is free to continue in the present. It takes the threat of tremendous loss to get David to finally put an end to his new pattern of non-involvement.