

## Notes & Quotes – May 3, 2009

### David & Absalom (pt. 1)

### 2 Samuel 13-18

**“Most men and women grow up with an emptiness inside of them. Call it father hunger, call it male deprivation, call it personal insecurity, it’s the same emptiness. When positive masculine energy, an energy that can be trusted and relied upon, is not shared from father to son, from father to daughter, it creates a vacuum in the soul. And into that vacuum demons rush – demons of self-doubt, fear, mistrust, cynicism and rage.” – Richard Rohr**

Absalom = David’s 3<sup>rd</sup> son, well-built, handsome, gifted



**usurping spirit** = seeks to undermine authority by means of manipulation for the purpose of control (usually involves forming alliances)

Satan himself is a usurper at his core, having sought to usurp God’s position on the throne.

Other examples in our journey through the OT where we have seen this usurping spirit rise up...

- Genesis 27 (Jacob manipulating birthright away from Esau)
- Numbers 12 (Miriam & Aaron opposing Moses’ leadership)
- Numbers 16 (Korah, Dathan, Abiram rebelling against Moses & Aaron’s leadership)

**Absalom’s death** (2 Samuel 18:9-14)...hanging from a tree, by his hair, three spears in his heart



## Fingerprints of a usurping spirit...

- highly critical of those in authority
  - Absalom sowed seeds of suspicion by the gate, along the road...empathizing with complaints
- straining & striving for control
  - it exhausting to play sovereign when you're not

**“We are destined to become control freaks in a secular society because there is no one who we know, trust, or like enough to finally hand over control to. In fact, you would be absolutely irresponsible if you did not micromanage everything and engineer ever situation. Who else will take care of things, if not you? Is that not the growing and pervasive mentality in every aspect of our lives? Americans and Europeans are, by definition, high-maintenance people. They have grown used to needing a great deal, and needing much control of that great deal...When so many people have been given such a sense of entitlement and deservedness, when taking control of your life has been made into a national mantra, quite contrary to the whole spiritual tradition, we are setting ourselves up for hurt and for hurting one another more than ever before. Not just because of wars and violence, but because our daily lives will just stop being much fun.”**

**– Richard Rohr**

- aroma of self-promotion
  - somewhere along the way Absalom's life became all about Absalom

## As a Christian I am...

- ... **chosen** (*Matthew 22:14; 1 Peter 2:4*)
- ... **called** (*1 Thessalonians 5:24*)
- ... **reconciled to God** (*Romans 5:10; 2 Corinthians 5:20*)
- ... **redeemed by God** (*Romans 3:24; Colossians 1:14; 1 Peter 1:18*)
- ... **born again spiritually** (*John 3:7; 1 Peter 1:23*)
- ... **regenerated** (*John 13:10; 1 Corinthians 6:11; Titus 3:5*)
- ... **made righteous** (*1 Corinthians 1:30; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Romans 3:22; Philippians 3:9*)
- ... **justified** (*Acts 13:39; Romans 3:26; 5:1; 8:30; 1 Corinthians 6:11; Titus 3:7*)
- ... **adopted** (*Romans 8:15, 23*)
- ... **sanctified** (*1 Corinthians 1:30; 6:11*)
- ... **forgiven** (*Acts 10:43; Romans 4:25; Colossians 1:14; 2:13; Ephesians 1:7, 4:32, 1 Peter 2:24*)
- ... **accepted** (*Ephesians 1:6; 1 Peter 2:5*)
- ... **crucified with Christ** (*Romans 6:6-8; Galatians 2:20; 1 Peter 2:24*)
- ... **buried with Christ** (*Romans 6:4; Colossians 2:12*)
- ... **raised with Christ** (*Romans 6:4; Ephesians 2:6; Colossians 3:1*)
- ... **born of the Spirit** (*John 3:6*)
- ... **baptized with the Spirit** (*1 Corinthians 10:17; 12:13*)
- ... **indwelt by the Spirit** (*John 7:39; Romans 5:5; 8:9; 1 Corinthians 6:19; Galatians 4:6*)
- ... **sealed by the Spirit** (*John 7:39; 2 Corinthians 1:22; Ephesians. 1:13; 4:30*)
- ... **in God** (*1 Thessalonians 1:1*)

... **in Christ** (*John 14:20*)  
... **in the Spirit** (*Romans 8:9*)  
... **dead to the law** (*Romans 7:4*)  
... **delivered from the law** (*Romans 6:14; 7:6; 2 Corinthians 3:11; Galatians 3:25*)  
... **rescued from the dominion of darkness** (*Colossians 1:13; 2:13-15*)  
... **a child of God** (*2 Corinthians 6:18; Galatians 3:26; 1 John 3:3*)  
... **a new creation** (*2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 6:15*)  
... **a member of His Body** (*1 Corinthians 12:13*)  
... **a part of His Bride** (*Ephesians 5:25-27*)  
... **a saint** (*1 Peter 2:9*)  
... **His inheritance** (*Ephesians 1:18*)  
... **a heavenly citizen** (*Luke 10:20; Ephesians 2:19; Philippians 3:20; Hebrews 12:22*)  
... **an ambassador for Christ** (*2 Corinthians 5:20*)  
... **light in the Lord** (*Ephesians 5:8; 1 Thessalonians 5:4*)