

# FASCINATING STORIES OF FORGOTTEN LIVES REDISCOVERING SOME OLD TESTAMENT CHARACTERS

ABSALOM: THE REBEL PRINCE CHARMING

2 SAMUEL 12:7-25



## The Heart of the Matter

There is no pain harder to bear than domestic difficulty. We can bounce back from blows at work or recover fairly rapidly from problems at school. Even physical infirmities or emotional battles—as hurtful as they may be—can hardly be compared to the devastating impact brought on by trouble in the home. Family feuds, wayward kids, parent-child clashes, husband-wife disagreements, and other in-house pressures have a way of breaking our spirits and stealing our joy. And no one is immune who compromises with God's standard—not even a king such as David. In this study we will witness the monarch's misery as the sword of consequences falls on David and his family. As we watch it happen, let's take heed!



## Discovering the Way

### 1. Statement from Scripture (Galatians 6:7–8; 2 Samuel 12:10–11)

David reaped the familial consequences of the sin he sowed with Bathsheba and, as a result, Absalom rebelled. The sword did not depart from David's family.

### 2. Problems in the Palace (2 Samuel 13:1–14; 2 Samuel 13:21–30; 2 Samuel 16:20–22)

The prophet Nathan made a general prediction of trouble for David's household. The specific results were devastating: tragic death, marital unfaithfulness, hatred within the family, and murder, among others.



## Starting Your Journey

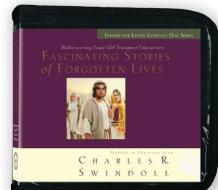
How can we handle the consequences of sin? We can pray, face the consequences squarely, lean hard on the truth, and persevere.



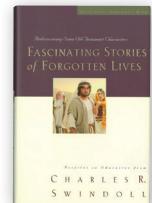
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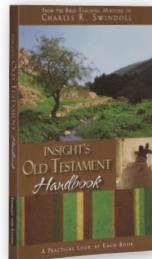
## Tools for Digging Deeper



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