

BIBLE STUDY NOTES - Rev. James B. Logan

February 25, 2009

LEADERSHIP TRANSITION: CONFLICT RESOLUTION Part - #2

This evening's session will explore biblical approaches to resolving conflict God's way. We may periodically reference current events centered on President Barak Obama's leadership style in handling conflicts.

David's Response to Family Conflict

Read 2 Samuel 13: 1 – 22 (Note: verses 23, 28, 29 – 31)

Observations:

- 1 – David has authority as a king but does not exercise that authority in his own family.
- 2 – David displays anger; rightfully so. However, no action is taken.
- 3 – David allows time (2 years) to pass without addressing the family crisis.
- 4 - David's avoidance of bringing some resolution or even addressing the raping of his daughter Tamar brings abandonment, isolation, strained family relationships and murder by his son Absalom.

Solomon's Response to Parental Dispute

Read 1 Kings 3: 16 – 28 (Note: verses 5 – 12)

Observations:

- 1 – Solomon displays active listening towards both women.
- 2 – Solomon does not take sides.
- 3 – Solomon relies on the wisdom given to him by God in reaching a decision.
- 4 - Solomon exercises authority and the result is clear to both parties.

Conflict Starts in the Heart

Read James 4: 1 – 3; Matthew 15:19

1 – **The heart is described as the seat of our emotions.** It is the wellspring of all our thoughts, desires, words, and actions. Therefore it is also the source of our conflicts. (See Luke 12: 13 – 15)

2 – **Cure for an idolatrous heart** - (Matthew 22: 37; Luke 12:4, 5; John 14:1)

Suggested Reading The Peace Maker; By Ken Sande; Ninth printing 2008; Baker Books