

# 1 Kings Chapter 2

## Solomon Secures the Throne

- Previously in 1 Kings....
  - Recap Chapter 1
- King David's Last Will and Testament to Solomon
  - Does the language David uses in 2: 2-4, bring to mind any other passages in scripture?
  - Who are the people David asks Solomon to "take care of " after he dies? Anyone surprising?
- Bathsheba and Adonijah's request (1 Kings 2: 13-24)
  - What is Adonijah's request and why is it taken as a subversive move by Solomon?
    - Abner is accused of a similar crime by Saul's son, Ish-Bosheth and is so indignant at the accusation that he decides to defect and follow David (2 Sam 3: 7-11)
  - Why do you think Bathsheba agrees to take Adonijah's request to her son, Solomon?
  - What is Solomon's response to Adonijah's request? Was it the right decision?
- Solomon fulfills his father's final requests for justice
  - Abiathar the Priest
    - Career Highlights
      - Escapes Saul's slaughter of the Priests of Nob and joins David (1 Sam 22:20)
      - Ministers before the ark on behalf of David
      - Spies on Absalom for David (2 Sam 15:35)
    - Low-points
      - Supports Adonijah's bid for the throne (1 Kings 1:7)
    - Result?
      - Receives mercy from Solomon and is exiled instead of killed
      - Prophecy found in 1 Sam 2:30 regarding Eli is fulfilled
  - Joab the Commander
    - Career highlights
      - With David from the early days of running from Saul (1 Sam 26:6)
      - Commander of David's Army (2 Sam 8:16)
      - Tries to help reconcile David and Absalom (2 Sam 14)
      - Oversees the death of Absalom after his uprising (2 Sam 18: 14-15)
      - Helps put down Sheba rebellion (2 Sam 20:13)
    - Low points
      - Murders Abner (2 Sam 3:27)
      - Has Uriah Killed (2 Sam 11:14-16)
      - Murders Amasa (2 Sam 20:8)
      - Supports Adonijah for King (1 Kings 1:7)
    - Result?
      - Joab receives capital punishment for his crimes (2:34)
  - Shimei
    - Who is Shimei and what did he do to David? (2 Sam 16:5-7)
    - How does Shimei forfeit the mercy offered him by David and Solomon?

### Questions for Reflection

1. After reading about Solomon's rocky road to the throne, does this change how you view Solomon?
2. Are Solomon's actions justified? Should he have killed Adonijah, Joab and Shimei?
3. David tells Solomon (and Jesus later tells the pharisees in Matthew) to love God with our all our heart and all our soul. How does Solomon do this? In what ways are David's words applicable to us today?