

UNEXPECTED CONSEQUENCES

II Samuel 21:1-14

*The reality is that we can live as we wish and hope for the best,
but we cannot predict the consequences of our misdeeds.*

**Consider some unexpected consequences that can come
as a result of sinful behavior.**

I. UNEXPECTED DISCOVERY (1-2)

A. CIRCUMSTANCES

1. Reality: A three year famine
2. Request: David is pressed to seek the Lord
3. Revelation: The famine is due to Saul's violence (cf. 2, 5)
4. Reminder: Israel had a 400 year old covenant - see Josh. 9:15-19

B. OBSERVATIONS

1. Regarding Retribution: God did not forget
2. Regarding Punishment
 - The fact that punishment is delayed does not mean it is dismissed
3. Regarding Covenants: No expiration date

II. UNEXPECTED BARGAINING (3-6)

A. DAVID'S OFFER (2-3)

1. Immediate
2. Atoning
3. Shocking: He desires the Gibeonites to bless Israel (3b)

B. GIBEONITE'S RESPONSE (4)

1. No desire for money
2. No interest in war
3. No authority for capital punishment
4. No craving for vengeance

C. DAVID'S INSISTENCE (4b)

1. I'll do whatever you say
2. He is not willing to ignore this

D. GIBEONITE'S REQUEST (5-6)

- Justice and worship

III. UNEXPECTED JUSTICE (7-9)

- A. DAVID'S AGREEMENT (6b)
- B. MEPHIBOSHETH SPARED (7)
- C. SAUL'S HEIRS KILLED (8-9)

IV. UNEXPECTED DEVOTION (10-14)

- A. RIZPAH'S KINDNESS (10)
 - 1. She is mourning but does not appear to be mad
 - 2. She is diligent in not allowing further disgrace of the dead
- B. DAVID'S THOUGHTFULNESS (11-14)
 - 1. The Cause
 - a. Rizpah's devotion no doubt impressed him and encouraged his actions toward the deceased
 - b. There may have been a twinge of conscience here ... What had David neglected?
 - 2. The Action: Providing honorable burials
- C. GOD'S MERCY (14b)
 - 1. Moved by David's righteous responses to what was revealed to him.
 - 2. The rains fell and the famine ended

CONCLUSION:

What unexpected things will God one day reveal about us? - I Cor. 4:4-5

For I am conscious of nothing against myself, yet I am not by this acquitted; but the one who examines me is the Lord. ⁵ Therefore do not go on passing judgment before the time, *but wait* until the Lord comes who will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness and disclose the motives of *men's* hearts; and then each man's praise will come to him from God.

What do you think you have gotten away with? [Are you sure?]

What do you need to confess?