

THE KINGDOM OF THE CHRIST (17)

WHAT GOD HAS ORDAINED

(2 SAMUEL 17)

1. **Recap Question.** *What stage has Absalom's rebellion reached by the end of 2 Samuel 16? What have those events so far taught us about life today in the visible church?*

2. **Read 2 Samuel 17:1-14 (Page 322).** *Is Ahithophel's advice good or bad? What motivates Hushai's advice? What methods does Hushai use to argue his case?*

3. *Why is Hushai's advice taken, according to verse 14? What is the wider lesson of verse 14 to us here today?*

4. **Read 2 Samuel 17:15-22.** *Who are the loyalists in this passage? What characterizes their actions? Lesson to us today?*

5. **Read 2 Samuel 17:23.** *Why does Ahithophel commit suicide? What does it teach us about rebellion against the authority of God?*

6. **Read 2 Samuel 17:24-29.** *Why are we told so much about Amasa? And why is such detail given to the goods provided by Shobi, Machir and Barzillai in verses 27-29? What contrast is being drawn between these three and Amasa - and why? Lesson to us?*

7. *What has been the message of tonight's chapter? How should we respond?*