

## 2 Samuel 21: 1-22

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## Sermon Study Guide

(Reminder: The purpose of the questions is to explore the text and themes of the sermon. **Do not feel a need to go through all of the questions.** The goal is to stimulate discussion/reflection and transformation related to the sermon text and themes.)

1. What do you make of the link between famine and treaty-breaking (vv. 1-2)? How important is a promise, no matter how long ago it was made or how costly it is to keep? Contrast Hannah who kept her vow (1 Sam. 1:11, 22ff) with Saul who broke a centuries old covenant.
2. How do we reconcile what happened to Saul's family (vv. 3-9) with Deuteronomy 24:16?
3. Atonement in this passage (vv. 5-10) and in the NT (Mk. 15:16-20, 24-37) is ugly and costly. We sing songs about the glories of the cross, but how often do we look at it for what it was: cruel, humiliating, bloody, life-ending. Take time to reflect on what it cost the Godhead to save you.
4. Share some of the enlightening discoveries the Spirit has shown you from 2 Samuel 21:15–22 (preserving God's king; honoring God's servants; fulfilling God's promise; silencing God's enemies).

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