I. The transition of power once again brings out the foibles of human nature.

 A. David’s impending death brings out family dysfunction once again.

 B. A human blanket, Abishag, sends a signal to Adonijah.

 C. David’s lack of discipline sets the stage for a spoiled son to break David’s heart.

 D. Politics makes for strange bedfellows.

II. God does not remain silent.

 A. Nathan once again is God’s mouthpiece

 B. Bathsheba’s request reminds David of God’s plan.

 C. Power makes for strange alignments.

III. David’s advice to Solomon resembles, “Do what I say, not what I do.”

 A. Adonijah did not give up – requests Abishag for his wife.

 B. Solomon begins to rule with an iron fist.

IV. Solomon makes a request that pleases God.

 A. Lessons in leadership are evident in the events which follow.

 B. The two prostitutes’ claim reveals the fine example of how wisdom looks in practice.

 C. The delegation of responsibility is the next example of how wisdom is practiced.

V. New Testament consideration of discipline from God is a corrective contrast to David.

 A. Hebrews 11 and 12 paint a healthy picture of how wholesome discipline works in life.

 B. Love and discipline are inextricably linked here.

 C. Pain and discipline are explained here.

*It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord.* (Psalms 92:1)

*In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God.* (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

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| Praise, my soul, the King of heaven,To His feet thy tribute bring;Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,Who, like me, His praise should sing?Praise Him for His grace and favor,To our fathers in distress;Praise Him, still, the same forever,Slow to chide and swift to bless. | Fatherlike, He tends and spares us; Well our feeble frame He knows,In His hands He gently bears us,Rescues us from all our foes.Angels, help us to adore Him – Ye behold Him face to face;Sun and Moon, bow down before Him; Dwellers all in time and space. |

Praise Him! Praise Him! Praise Him! Praise Him!

Praise with us the God of grace!