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BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:

**A1517 ~ Solomon Appointed King.**

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*Welcome to Bible Adventures. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow. Jesus is Lord of all.*

A dear saintly old woman was gradually losing her memory. Throughout her life she had loved and depended on the Word of God and learnt many verses from it. Her favourite verse had always been 2 Timothy 1:12: "For I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day."

The old lady was finally confined to a bed in a nursing home. Sometimes when family visited, she would still quote verses of Scripture but even parts of her favourite verse were fading away. By the time she was dying, the only word left of that verse was "Him." That was all she needed.

King David had grown feeble with age. He was confined to his bed most of the time and he had trouble staying warm. A beautiful young woman called Abishag was chosen to be his nurse and constant companion.

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DRAMA - [The Bible In Living Sound.](#)

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King David's eldest living son Adonijah now had ambitions to be the next king. His mother urged him to take action before David passed away. Adonijah promoted himself to the role of king and called a great feast to gain the people's favour. He hoped that the people would accept him as the ruler on the throne as soon as David was gone.

Adonijah talked to Joab, the commander of David's army, and Abiathar, the priest, to see if they were for him or against him. Why should Adonijah become the next king when God had not indicated to him that this was to be so? Certainly Joab should have remembered the time when he hid with David in caves in the wilderness before David became king. David was not in Saul's royal line to succeed to the throne but God appointed him to be the next king through the prophet Samuel.

Joab, as army commander, should have seen that Adonijah was rebelling against King David's God-given authority by proclaiming himself as king. Joab knew exactly what happened when David's son Absalom had rebelled many years earlier. Just because David was old and feeble, he still had the authority of the crown. Joab's loyalty to David and his leadership of Israel was now lacking.

If respect and prudence had been in Adonijah's heart, the young prince would have sought an audience with David and talked with him about such matters.

Two very famous preachers at one time in their lives were tempted to be ambitious and seek a certain appointment. God turned them both away from this by recalling to their minds the words of Jeremiah in Chapter 45: "Do you seek great things for yourself? Do not seek them."

Solomon had been heavily influenced by Nathan the prophet while he was growing up. David was deeply concerned that Solomon was to receive the training he needed to prepare for his lifework of building the temple. Adonijah saw the special care and attention given to Solomon and jealousy sprang up in his heart. Jealousy, sadly, moves on to other sins. In the life of King Saul, pride led to anger, anger led to jealousy and jealousy to the attempted murder of David.

In the story Jesus told his disciples about the prodigal son, the younger son committed sins in the flesh but his older brother became jealous and sinned in his spirit. Jealousy shuts us out of the house of spiritual development because jealousy distorts everything. Jealousy was one of the sins responsible for sending Jesus to his death. The crowd may not have been aware of what was going on in the hearts of the chief priests, but Pilate knew. Jealous people often wrongly compare themselves to others. For believers our standard for comparison is always the Lord Jesus and no one else.

Adonijah came to despise the 19-year-old Solomon, then to dread him. It seems that Adonijah had learnt nothing from the mistakes Absalom had made. Just because the pagan nations around Israel followed the custom of the eldest born son to a king would follow on the throne, this was not the way God wanted for His own people. The Israelites had become increasingly influenced by what the idol-worshipping nations around them did, and less and less understanding of what God wanted them to do.

A professional parachutist jumped from a very high cliff in California and fell to her death on rocks. Her husband and reporters were there filming the jump. She and the four other jumpers knew that it was illegal to jump from that point. The local authorities had passed law to prevent more people being injured at that site. The jumpers on this occasion were protesting over the authority's restrictions by trying to prove that the sport was safe. They knew the law, but they deliberately chose to defy it. This particular parachutist paid for her disobedience with her life. In a similar way, many people think they can deliberately violate God's law. Eventually they learn, sometimes the hard way, that God's laws exist to protect us. And there are serious consequences in defying them.

King David was told about Adonijah's self declaration of being the next king. David countered this by having Solomon anointed king and set on the throne of Israel. Solomon was thus made king by the authority of his father. Adonijah's supporters realized that they had made a mistake and quickly deserted him. They would not have known God's promise to David that a son would be born to him who would build the wonderful Temple of God. King David had known all along that Solomon was to be his successor. Unfortunately, David should have told other important people in his kingdom about this decree before Adonijah took things into his own hand.

What then could Adonijah do next? He knew his rebellion was punishable by death. Adonijah fled into the tabernacle tent and took hold of the corners of the altar, pleading for safety. King Solomon heard and required to see him. Solomon decreed that if Adonijah was loyal to him, he would not be harmed; but if he was not, he would die. Solomon then sent Adonijah home.

Do you sometimes live in a rebellious way, defying the rules God has set over us? Rebellion is one of the sins arising from jealousy. The only way we can get rid of it is to ask God for His forgiveness and let His Holy Spirit lead us differently. Sin is the enemy of God and all of us who trust in the Lord Jesus. Sin is most our enemy when we are tricked into believing that it isn't present or that it doesn't matter. Always remember that God has a place for you in His great plan, and His plan is best. Once we are convinced of this, we can remain free from jealousy of anyone else. Surrender your life to God's control today, and every day hereafter.

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MUSIC - [Integrity Music](#).

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That was Gary Janney singing "Teach me your way."

*The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.*

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