

LAMENT FOR FALLEN WARRIORS

2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27

Introduction: It has been said that David was a man of God's own heart. Saul persecuted David but David offered no retaliation. When Saul was killed, David wept, lamented. Why would David do that? Christians must follow David's example in lamenting the fall of fellow Christians. David grieved for Saul because Saul was God's anointed king of Israel. Christians are God's elect, chosen for His glory. Our lament should have the same attitude of David's for Saul.

I. THE ATTITUDE OF FORGIVENESS OF THE FALLEN

1. The lament of David for Saul reflects forgiveness.
2. The greatest need of a fallen Christian is God's forgiveness.
3. The next great need of a fallen Christian is forgiveness by fellow believers.
4. The prodigal son's father forgave him. His older brother did not. Wanted no fellowship whatsoever.
 - Whenever believers withhold forgiveness from fallen brothers and sisters in Christ, there is no fellowship.

II. THE ATTITUDE OF POSITIVE TALK ABOUT THE FALLEN

1. David forbade negative talk about Saul's death.
2. David encouraged everyone to speak good of Saul.
3. Athletes sometimes fail, get a pat on the back, words of encouragement or they are put down and ridiculed.
4. All around us are struggling brothers and sisters.
 - Their marriages, their children, their job insecurity, their health.
 - Many struggles and there can be only ONE response from fellow believers:
 - Love, encourage, positive talk.

CONCLUSION:

1. When Christians fall, the LAST thing they need to hear from a fellow Christian is judgment or criticism.
2. Fallen Christians need forgiveness and encouraging.