

Pastoral Notes

'I never saw it coming' -
2Sam 13:1-15.

The biblical story of Tamar and Amnon can be a very troubling read. It sheds light on one of the worse abuses known to man. While most of us have not had to share her experience, all of us have shared her pain for there has been something in life that has hit you and 'you never saw it coming'.

We experience all sorts of troubles & issues, whether physical, verbal or financial.

Key Sermonic Points:

1. *The closest people cause the deepest wounds*
2. *What deflates you does not have to defeat you*
3. *Jesus covers your blindside*

We have all been hit with losses: loved ones, income, friends; even our health. What makes it hard to deal with is when we don't see it coming. Out of nowhere, all of a sudden, "oops there it is".

As we celebrate the MLK holiday, we are reminded how his life ended tragically and stunned the nation because most people didn't see it coming. Interestingly, his mountaintop speech gave us a clue that the Holy Spirit had prepared him. We need to understand the power of God and the Holy Spirit. What shocks and stuns us does not

shock God. He can see what we can't, therefore we must stay close to God and hear him speaking to us.

Being blindsided also hurts when the perpetrators are people we know & love. Those closest to us have the ability to harm us the most. When we let our guard down, the amount of pain increases.

Bad things happen to good people. It always has and always will, until Jesus returns. This is due to the presence of sin, those evil transgressions 'that so easily

besets us. Sometimes it is our own sin but other times it is the sin of others.

We must know that God not only has our back but, watches our blindside. Even though you may be victimized, you must not see yourself as a victim, but as a victor. What deflates you does not have to defeat you.

Let this message bless you. Visit our website, or get a CD, for more depth on this teaching.

Stay Blessed,
Pastor Robbie

Nuggets:

- When others push you out, Jesus pulls you in.
- The Apostle Paul reminds us that "if God be for you, who can be against you"? (Romans 8:31)
- Unlike medication whose effects are temporary, the Holy Spirit provides you a comfort that is long-lasting.
- People in your inner circle are supposed to protect you, not neglect you.
- Don't put all your trust in people. Like a bar stool, they can easily turn on you.
- Life has a way of throwing you fastballs, curve balls and even canon balls.