

***Recap of 10/19/25 message by Pastor Chris Sommerfield
(How the Mighty Have Fallen) 2 Samuel 1:13-27***

- In this tragic moment, David reflects on the weight of loss after the deaths of Saul and Jonathan. His lament reveals not only personal sorrow but also serves as a powerful testament to the values of loyalty, honor, and the complexities of relationships shaped by both love and rivalry. We see David begin to step into his role as king when he upholds the state's justice by executing the Amalekite who testified of his own treason in an attempt to curry favor with the new king. The irony of the twofold mention of the Amalekites here in chapter 1 highlights Saul's disobedience in 1 Samuel 15 which leads to his downfall.
- David shows the respect for the LORD's anointed that comes from his heart for God. He cannot contemplate that someone would disrespect the LORD's anointed the way this Amalekite claimed. Even though David had everything to gain from Saul's death, he would not act on it nor honor the man who claimed responsibility. Instead, he honors Saul in his death bringing to mind the good things from his life.
- Freedom from bitterness comes from a relationship with God. David is free of the bitterness that can come from experiencing the relentless opposition of Saul, both as king and as a father-in-law. David loved Saul, but Saul took David's family, friend, country, home, and a decade of his life. Yet in this moment, he shows no bitterness, he is free to honor Saul and call others to join him. We can learn so much from this. We should consider our own bitterness or resentment we may be holding onto and make the choice to let it go as we press on to lay hold of the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.