

REDEEMER

LUTHERAN CHURCH

TOP 10

BIBLICAL VILLAINS



ABIMELECH

Sunday, July 16, 2023, 9:00am
Seventh Sunday After Pentecost
Top 10 Villains...Abimelech

Abimelech really wanted to rule over the citizens of Shechem, but he had a slight problem in the form of his brothers, 70 problems actually.

Taking matters into his own hands, Abimelech slaughtered all 70 of his own brothers and was promptly crowned king.

Prelude

#869, *With the Lord Begin Your Task*

**1 With the Lord begin your task; Jesus will direct it. For His aid and counsel ask;
Jesus will perfect it. Ev'ry morn with Jesus rise, And when day is ended,
In His name then close your eyes; Be to Him commended.**

**2 Let each day begin with prayer, Praise, and adoration. On the Lord cast ev'ry care;
He is your salvation. Morning, evening, and at night Jesus will be near you,
Save you from the tempter's might, With His presence cheer you.**

**3 With your Savior at your side, Foes need not alarm you; In His promises confide,
And no ill can harm you. All your trust and hope repose In the mighty Master,
Who in wisdom truly knows How to stem disaster.**

**4 If your task be thus begun With the Savior's blessing, Safely then your course will run,
Toward the promise pressing. Good will follow ev'rywhere While you here must
wander; You at last the joy will share In the mansions yonder.**

**5 Thus, Lord Jesus, ev'ry task Be to You commended; May Your will be done, I ask,
Until life is ended. Jesus, in Your name begun Be the day's endeavor; Grant that it may
well be done To Your praise forever.**

Text: Morgen- und Abend-segen, 1734, Waldenburg; tr. W. Gustave Polack, 1890–1950, alt.

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001748

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

P: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Most merciful God, I confess that I am by nature sinful and unclean. I have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what I have done and by what I have left undone. I have not

loved You with my whole heart; I have not loved my neighbors as myself. I justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me. Forgive me, renew me, and lead me, so that I may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name, Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Jesus, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

KYRIE LSB 168

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C : Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

THIS IS THE FEAST LSB 171

P: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

C: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and blessing and glory are His. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia, alleluia.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Together, we pray,

C: Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Time

Judges 9:1–6

Now Abimelech the son of Jerubbaal went to Shechem to his mother's relatives and said to them and to the whole clan of his mother's family, "Say in the ears of all the leaders of Shechem, 'Which is better for you, that all seventy of the sons of Jerubbaal rule over you, or that one rule over you?' Remember also that I am your bone and your flesh." And his mother's relatives spoke all these words on his behalf in the ears of all the leaders of Shechem, and their hearts inclined to follow Abimelech, for they said, "He is our brother." And they gave him seventy pieces of silver out of the house of Baal-berith with which Abimelech hired worthless and reckless fellows, who followed him. And he went to his father's house at Ophrah and killed his brothers the sons of Jerubbaal, seventy men, on one stone. But Jotham the youngest son of Jerubbaal was left, for he hid himself. And all the leaders of Shechem came together, and all Beth-millo, and they went and made Abimelech king, by the oak of the pillar at Shechem.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Romans 15:4 and Galatians 5:21

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.....envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these, I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

L: This is the Word of the Lord,

C: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE LSB 173

**C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 20th Chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

But Jesus called them to Him and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

#793, Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

**1 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; To His feet your tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, Evermore His praises sing:
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.**

**2 Praise Him for His grace and favor To His people in distress; Praise Him still the same as
ever, Slow to chide and swift to bless: Alleluia, alleluia! Glorious in His faithfulness.**

**3 Fatherlike He tends and spares us; Well our feeble frame He knows;
In His hand He gently bears us, Rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia, alleluia! Widely yet His mercy flows.**

**4 Angels, help us to adore Him; You behold Him face to face; Sun and moon, bow down
before Him, All who dwell in time and space. Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace.**

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847

Text: Public domain

The Sermon *Abimelech*

P: Please rise and join with me as we profess our faith,
C: NICENE CREED

The Gathering of our Gifts and Tithes

OFFERTORY LSB 176

C: What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?

I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.

**I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

The Prayers of His Children

P: Lord, in Your mercy, **C: Hear our prayer.**

Service of the Sacrament LSB 177

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Holy Lord, Almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing,

SANCTUS LSB 178

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Words of our Lord

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Jesus, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray,

C: LORD'S PRAYER

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

AGNUS DEI LSB 180

C: Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

The Distribution of Holy Communion

#637, Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord

**1 Draw near and take the body of the Lord, And drink the holy blood for you outpoured;
Offered was He for greatest and for least, Himself the victim and Himself the priest.**

**2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields, To all believers life eternal yields;
With heav'nly bread He makes the hungry whole, Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.**

**3 Come forward then with faithful hearts sincere, And take the pledges of salvation here. O
Lord, our hearts with grateful thanks endow As in this feast of love You bless us now.**

Text: Latin, 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.

Text: Public domain

#761, Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

**1 Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee; Let the water and the blood,
From Thy riven side which flowed, Be of sin the double cure:
Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.**

**2 Not the labors of my hands Can fulfill Thy Law's demands; Could my zeal no respite know,
Could my tears forever flow, All for sin could not atone;
Thou must save, and Thou alone.**

**3 Nothing in my hand I bring; Simply to Thy cross I cling. Naked, come to Thee for dress;
Helpless, look to Thee for grace; Foul, I to the fountain fly; Wash me, Savior, or I die.**

**4 While I draw this fleeting breath, When mine eyelids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown, See Thee on Thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee.**

Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740–78

Text: Public domain

#570, *Just as I Am, without One Plea*

- 1 Just as I am, without one plea But that Thy blood was shed for me
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**
- 2 Just as I am and waiting not To rid my soul of one dark blot,
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**
- 3 Just as I am, though tossed about With many_a conflict, many_a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**
- 4 Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind; Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need, in Thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**
- 5 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**
- 6 Just as I am; Thy love unknown, Has broken ev'ry barrier down;
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871

Text: Public domain

THANK THE LORD LSB 181

**C: Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

P: Together, we pray,

**C: We give thanks to You, Almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary
gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in
faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son,
our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever,
Amen.**

God's Benediction

#525, *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

- 1 Crown Him with many crowns, The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless king Through all eternity.**
- 2 Crown Him the virgin's Son, The God incarnate born, Whose arm those crimson
trophies won Which now His brow adorn: Fruit of the mystic rose,
Yet of that rose the stem, The root whence mercy ever flows,
The babe of Bethlehem.**

**3 Crown Him the Lord of love. Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above, In beauty glorified. No angels in the sky
Can fully bear that sight, But downward bend their wond'ring eyes
At mysteries so bright.**

**4 Crown Him the Lord of life, Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife For those He came to save.
His glories now we sing, Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring And lives that death may die.**

**5 Crown Him the Lord of heav'n, Enthroned in worlds above,
Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n The wondrous name of Love.
Crown Him with many crowns As thrones before Him fall;
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns, For He is king of all.**

Text (sts. 1–3, 5): Matthew Bridges, 1800–94, alt.; (st. 4): Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903

Text: Public domain

Ministry Announcements

Postlude