

INDICATORS OF AN ABSALOM SPIRIT:

1. They have big dreams, but blame others, for blocking those dreams.
2. They feel their perceived level of wisdom is being ignored, or their super gifts are not being put to use. They want more recognition than they are getting. 2 Samuel 18:18
3. They have false criteria—Absalom had a way of judging everything by his own criteria.
4. A person under the influence of the Absalom spirit gets offended at leadership, then, secretly arranges the subtle “execution” of the leader’s reputation, achievements, or integrity.
5. An Absalom spirit typically harbors camouflaged bitterness, unresolved offenses, disappointments, and anger.
6. An Absalom spirit thrives on hidden agendas, concealed strategies, and secret alliances.
7. Absalom is a master of manipulation and flattery.
8. The Absalom spirit feeds its followers with fault-finding and a critical spirit.
9. An Absalom spirit exhibits false humility, yet proudly believes he is wiser and better than the appointed leader.

"When an Absalom spirit is at work in a church or business (even in a family), you will notice turmoil, confusion, and will probably experience a twisted stomach and a bombardment of your thought life because of the demonic release of an Absalom spirit." ~ Dave Williams

HOW TO OVERCOME THE ABSALOM SPIRIT

1. Pray for (yourself) and exercise the gift of discerning of spirits. This is the most important of the list. – 1 Cor 12:10
2. Keep your distance if you recognize an Absalom spirit at work. Absalom is not your friend! He will infect you. Psalm 101:4-8
3. Don't give the Absalom spirit a place in your life, ministry or business. Ephesians 5:11
4. Do what you can to protect those who could be hurt or destroyed by an Absalom spirit. Matthew 7:15 Wolves don't come dressed as wolves - they come dressed as sheep and many will not recognize them for who they really are. If you discern that there is an Absalom spirit at work and you are not in authority - say something to trusted leaders.
5. Be on guard and mark those who display an Absalom spirit. Romans 16:17-18
6. Pray for the individual exercising an Absalom spirit - take authority over the spirit first in prayer - at some point bring in trusted intercessors, if necessary. Luke 6:28

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Personal Cautions: Do not allow an Absalom spirit to work through you.

- If ever I am more concerned about my recognition than the mission, malevolent, degenerative forces are at work!
- If ever I seek to manipulate someone for personal gain, I have sided with Satan and lost the anointing of God!
- If ever I dig a pit for another, I am sure to be buried in that very grave!
- If ever I believe that I need what someone else has to be happy, whether it's possessions or positions, I have lost sight of God, lost my security in Him, and have taken a step closer to the Absalom spirit.
- If ever I am not content with what I have, I can be sure I won't be content with what I want.
- If ever I sow seeds of dissention and division (and diminish spiritual authority), I can be sure that I am operating in the spirit of Lucifer and not the Christ of Calvary!
- If ever I think, "If I were in charge," it's a sure sign I do not have what it takes to be in charge.
- If ever I believe myself to be more in touch than the leadership, I need to be humbled.

- If ever I verbalize any agreement with disgruntled members, I'm unworthy to be a leader.
- If ever I find myself manipulating rather than motivating, I'll know I'm moving toward an Absalom spirit and must repent quickly.
- If ever I surround myself with people who have unresolved offenses, I'll know I'm on the road to shame.
- If ever I find myself looking for ways to prove how much more I know or how much more gifted I am than the pastor or leader, I'll know Satan has stolen a piece of my soul.
- If ever I find myself subtly criticizing my pastor or my leader, and I haven't sincerely invested time in praying for them, I can be sure that I am out of spiritual alignment and must either repent or prepare to sabotage my own future.

<https://tonycooke.org/articles-by-others/absalom-spirit/>