

(2nd Samuel 12–1st Kings 1:1-4; 1st Kings 2:10)

2nd Samuel 12: 1-31

Nathan, the prophet, had the privilege of speaking to David on God's behalf concerning the covenant with David and his descendants. In chapter 12 of 2nd Samuel David had been covering his sins, but now Bathsheba's baby was about to be born. Nathan confronts David with a word from the Lord. In this chapter we find David on trial, David's verdict, God's pardon, and the Lord's comfort.

The Trial: (Verses) 1-6

- A. How did Nathan prepare David to deal with his sins? (1-4)
- B. In the story Nathan told David, who did the rich man, the poor man, and the little lamb represent? (2-3)
- C. How did David respond to Nathan's story? (5-6)

The Verdict: (Verses 7-9)

- D. God used Nathan to convict David, but explain how God convicts believers today.
- E. David had many wives so why would he take Bathsheba? (7-9)
- F. What sins did David commit? (9)

The Sentence: (Verses 10-12)

- G. Explain God's sentencing for David. (10)
- H. Who did David despise and why? (10-11)
- I. What public shame would David suffer as a result of his sins? (11-12)

The Pardon: (Verses 13-14)

- J. Did David confess his sin to the Lord? (13)
- K. Explain why David had to suffer a consequence for his sins? (14)
- L. Did the baby deserve to die? (14) Explain your answer.

The Chastening: (Verses 15-23)

- M. Define chastening. Did God chasten David through the death of the child? (15-16)
- N. Why would a loving God not answer a repentant sinner's prayer and let the child live, after all the child had not done anything wrong? (18-20) Explain as best you can.
- O. Did David believe in the resurrection? (21-23)

The Comforting: (Verses 24-25)

- P. How did God give David and Bathsheba another chance? (24)
- Q. The name Solomon means peaceable and the name Jedidah means loved by the Lord. Why was Solomon destined to be a great man?

The Conquering: (Verses 26-31)

- R. Why did Joab want David present during the battle? (26-28)
- S. Explain why God gave a victory David even though David had been living in rebellion to God. (29-31).

Identify some life lessons you learned from this chapter.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

2nd Samuel 13: 1-39

The remainder of the book of 2nd Samuel deals with David's life after he committed the sins of adultery, murder, and deception. Even though God forgave David there are some consequences for the poor choices. David, and his family paid a great price for his choices.

Consider this question: What price do those close to us pay for our wise/unwise decisions?

From love to lust: (Verses 1-14)

- A. What was the relationship between Amnon, Absalom, and Tamar? (1)
- B. Describe Amnon's unnatural desire for his sister. (2)
- C. Who was Jonadab, and what was his solution for Amnon? (3-5)
- D. How did Amnon deceive his father? (6-7)
- E. Why did Amnon order the men to leave his room? (9-11)
- F. Was it legal for Tamar and Amnon to marry? (13)
- G. List the reason Tamar rejected Amnon's advances? (12-14)
- H. Why did Amnon's hate for Tamar exceed his initial love for Tamar? (15)

From lust to hatred: (Verses 15-22)

- I. Was Tamar willing to be reconciled to Amnon? (16-17)
- J. What was the significance of Tamar's garment? (18-19)
- K. Why did Absalom ask Tamar to wait before taking vengeance of Amnon? (20)
- L. What was David's response to Amnon's rape of Tamar? (21)

M. Did either David or Absalom confront Amnon concerning his wicked deed? (22)

From hatred to murder: Verses 23-39)

N. Describe Absalom's two year plan to avenge his sister's shame. (23-27)

O. Describe Amnon's death? (28-29)

P. What was David's response to Amnon's death? (30-31)

Q. Was Absalom justified in killing Amnon? (32)

R. Why did Absalom flee Jerusalem, and how did David respond? (34-39)

2nd Samuel 14: 1-33

After one of David's son, Absalom, kills his brother Amnon for raping their sister Tamar; David's personal life is disintegrating. Absalom has fled Jerusalem and now David and Absalom are to be reconciled; however deceit and dishonesty prevail in David's interpersonal relationships.

From exile to reconciliation: (Verses 1-33)

A. Who was Joab and what was his plan to reconcile David and Absalom? (1-3)

B. Describe the woman's attempt to reconcile David and Absalom? (4-19)

C. How did David know that the woman from Tekoah was being deceitful? (19-20)

D. What caused David a desire to reconcile with Absalom? (21)

E. Did Joab's deceit result in a good outcome, and do lies ever lead to truth? (22)

F. How did David respond to Absalom? (24)

G. How long did it take for Absalom to see his father? (25-28)

H. What did Absalom do to cause Joab to establish a meeting with his father? (28-32)

I. Did David and Absalom experience a true reconciliation? Why or why not? (33)

Identify some lessons you gleaned from this chapter.

1.

2.

3.

2nd Samuel 15: 1-37-16:14

In this narrative David is still experiencing chastening from God. In Psalm 3: 1-4 David wrote "Lord, how are they increased that trouble me. Many there be which say of my soul, There is no help for him in God. Selah. But Thou, O Lord, art a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter of mine head. I cried unto the Lord with my voice, and He heard me out of His holy hill. Selah." These verses of scripture reveal who is the king of Israel.

Absalom: the counterfeit king. (15: 1-12)

- A. What is Absalom's goal at this time? (1)
- B. Describe Absalom's deception? (2-6)
- C. Verse 7 presents a problem in timing, because of the 40 year time period. Most text prefer a 4 year period. Consequently Absalom waited 4 years after Amnon's death to openly rebel against his father. (7)
- D. Compare and contrast David and Absalom using the following terms: committed/calculating, dedicated/deceiver, appointed by God/self-appointed.
- E. Did Absalom walk in integrity? (8-11)
- F. Who was Ahithophel, and why was his presence important? (12)

David: the true king. (15: 13-21)

- G. Why did David require that his family and servants evacuate Jerusalem? (13-14)
- H. Why did David leave his 10 concubines in Jerusalem? (16)
- I. Why is David escaping and not preparing for war? (17-18)
- J. Ittai commanded the 600 men from Gath, and what assurance did he give David?(21)

Jehovah: the sovereign King. (15: 24-16:14)

- K. Why did the priest take the Ark of the Covenant with them? (24)
- L. Why did David request that the Ark of the Covenant be returned to the city? (24-28)
- M. What caused David to weep atop Mt. Olivet? (30)
- N. Who was Ahithophel, and what was David's prayer request? (31-37)
- O. What happened between Ahithophel and David? (31)
- P. It is believed that David wrote Psalm 55:11-14 concerning Ahithophel.
- Q. What happened between David and Ahithophel?
- R. What was David's concern about Ziba's offering him gifts? (16:1-4)
- S. What did Ziba and Shimei do to David, and why? (16:4-8)
- T. How did David respond to the constant conflict between himself, Absalom, Ziba and Shimei?

Identify the life lessons you learned.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

2nd Samuel 16: 15–18:33 David's bittersweet victory.

In chapters 16-18 David and his son Absalom were on the verge of engaging in battle, and in David's eyes there could be no winner; because if David won it meant death for Absalom and David's friend Ahithophel. But if Absalom won, then it would mean death for David and other members of his family. Absalom's biggest mistake was he trusted in Ahithophel; however David was trusting in the Lord. It is believed that David wrote Psalm 61 during this difficult time in his life. Psm. 61: 1-3 "Hear my cry, O God; attend unto my prayer. From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I. For thou hast been a shelter for me, and a strong tower from the enemy."

Questions, Answers, and Life Application

- A. Who did Hushai refer to as the king, and how did Absalom respond? (15-19)
- B. Who did Absalom look to for counsel? (20)
- C. What advice did Ahithophel give Absalom and what were the consequences? (21-23)

2nd Samuel 17

- D. What was Ahithophel's plan to kill David, and did Absalom agree? (1-4)
- E. What was Hushai's plan, and which plan did Absalom choose? (5-14)
- F. What was Hushai's ultimate plan? (15-17)
- G. What happened during the plan that almost led to disaster? (18-22)
- H. Why did Ahithophel commit suicide? (23)

2nd Samuel 18

- I. Why was David not permitted to fight in the battle? (2-3)
- J. What order did David give concerning Absalom? (5)
- K. What caused the death of so many soldiers? (6-8)
- L. How did Absalom die, and who killed him? (9-15)
- M. What was Absalom's legacy? (18)
- N. Why was this victory bittersweet for David? (29-33)

Discuss the life lessons you learned.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

2nd Samuel 19: 1-40

Now that Absalom was dead, the kingdom of Israel needed to be reunited. In this chapter David took 5 steps to reunite the nation of Israel, and the 5 steps were as follows:

- Reconciliation must start at home. (11-12)
- Appoint capable people to lead the future even though it may not be popular. (13-15)
- Forgive your enemies. (16-23)
- Correct the errors of the past. (24-30)
- Reward faithfulness. (31-40)

We need to learn that — what we do after victory is just as important as what we do before victory; because it's possible to win the battle, but lose the victory.

- A. Why was David's victory turned into mourning? (1-2)
- B. How did David's people respond to the victory, and what did the king do? (3-4)
- C. How did Joab address King David? (5-8)
- D. Why did the nation of Israel desire David to be king? (9-10)
- E. What did David do to persuade the elders of Judah to restore him as king? (11-15)
- F. What was the relationship between David and Shimei? (16-17; See 2nd Sam. 16:5-8)
- G. How did David show mercy to Shimei? (18-23)
- H. Why did David show kindness to Mephibosheth and Ziba? (24-30)
- I. What kindness did David show to Barzillai? (31-40)
- J. Why was there conflict between the tribes? (41-43)

Discuss the life lessons you learned from this chapter.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

2nd Samuel 20

Israel is finally a united kingdom, but the twelve tribes still had difficulty in obtaining unity. Jealousy caused internal and external strife, and in this chapter we find a rebellion to David's kingship. Please remember that how we resolve conflict speaks to who and what we believe.

- A. Who was Sheba and what was his complaint? (1)
- B. What caused division within the tribes of Israel? (2)
- C. What is the significance of these 10 women? (3; See 2nd Sam. 16:20-22)
- D. Describe the failure of Amasa and why Joab killed him? (4-10)
- E. Describe Sheba's death. (14-23)

Discuss the lessons you learned.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

2nd Samuel 21:1-22

David is nearing the end of his kingdom and in chapters 21-24, David's goal was to resolve any remaining conflict. Israel had made a covenant with the Gibeonites but King Saul broke the promise; and David attempts to rectify the problem. David gives King Saul and Solomon a proper burial. **Consider this issue as you study this chapter: Sometimes we must resolve conflict of a predecessor before we can succeed.**

- A. How long was the famine and what was the cause of the famine? (1)
- B. What covenant did Israel make with the Gibeonites? (2; Josh. 9: 1-6; 17-19;)
- C. What did the Gibeonites require from David to make the injustice right? (3-6)

Part IV

A Shepherd, Servant, Servant Leader and a Psalmist

- D. Why did David spare the life of Mephibosheth? (7)
- E. Who did David sacrifice to the Gibeonites and why? (8-9)

- F. Who was Rizpah and how did she respond to David's decision? (10)
- G. What caused the famine to end? (14)
- H. How many times did David and Israel fight with giants, and what was the outcome? (15-22)
- I. How did the men of Israel learn to defeat the giants? (22)

Discuss the lessons from this chapter.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

2nd Samuel 22: 1-51

Chapter 22 of 2nd Samuel is a psalm of praise for every victory God gave David. Please notice the similarities between this chapter and Psalm 18. Psalm. 18:1-3 "I will love Thee, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower. I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies."

- A. Why is David praising the Lord? (1-7)
- B. Describe the theophany, an appearance of God, David experienced. (8-16)
- C. Why did God deliver David? (17-20)
- D. Is David claiming to be sinless? What is David's claim, and what does it say about God? (21-30)
- E. What blessings did David pronounce, and who was to receive the blessing? (47-51)

2nd Samuel 23: 1-24:1-25

We are nearing the end of King David's life, and chapter 23 begins with these words. "Now these be the last words of David. David the son of Jesse said, and the man who was raised up on high, the anointed of the God of Jacob, and the sweet psalmist of Israel, ..." Then David writes a song of deliverance; however as chapter 24 begins the Bible records that "the anger of the Lord was kindled against Israel, and He moved David against them to say, Go, number Israel and Judah." Which leads us to conclude that David's life had many ups and downs. Our discussion of these two chapters will deal with David's life, his legacy, and the lessons we learn from David, the son of Jesse, the shepherd, the servant leader, and the sweet psalmist of Israel.

- A. Explain the different roles of David as:
- The son of Jesse,
 - The anointed of God, of Jacob
 - The sweet psalmist of Israel. (23:1)
- B. What did the Spirit of God reveal to David concerning spiritual leadership? (23:2-4)
- C. Although David had not been perfect, what covenant did God make with him? (23:5)
- D. The word “Beliah” means not profitable, so what is David’s warning? (23:6-7)
- E. Why mention David’s mighty men? (8-39)
- F. Why would taking a census be considered a wrong thing? (24:1-3)
- G. How many valiant men were counted in Israel? (24:5-9)
- H. What was the conviction David experienced? (24:10)
- I. What were the three options given to David to atone for sin? (24: 11-13)
- J. What was David’s request of the Lord, and why? (24:14)
- K. What punishment did God send to Israel, and what does it mean “the Lord repented Him of the evil...” Explain repentance in this context. (24:15-16)
- L. Explain David’s repentance. (24:17)
- M. Why did David want to purchase the threshing floor of Araunah? (24:18-22)
- N. Why was it important for King David to pay a price in worship? (24:23-25)

Discuss some of the lessons from this chapter.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

1st Kings 1:1-4; 2:10) The death of King David.

Chapter 1 of 1st Kings serves as a transition from David’s reign as king, and the coronation of Solomon as the new king of Israel. King David is now an old man, and he prepares Solomon to become the new king of Israel. The death of David is recorded in 1st Kings 2:10-11. As we prepare to close our study on the life of King David, who was a shepherd, servant, servant leader, and psalmist; remember that even though David was not perfect he was a man after God’s and own heart. One of David’s endearing qualities was that he cultivated a lifelong relationship with God that served him both in times of joy and pain.

- A. How old was David? (1; 2nd Sam. 5:4)
- B. What was the symptom of David's old age, and what was the purposed remedy? (1-4)
- C. Where was David buried, and how long did he reign as king? (1st Kings 2:10-11)

DAVID THE PSALMIST

The psalms that are attributed to David:

3-9; 11-32; 34-41; 51-65; 68-70; 86; 101; 103; 108-110; 122; 124; 131; 133; 138-145.

In addition to these psalms, David is mentioned as the author of two psalms by writers in the New Testament, Psalm 2 is attributed to David in Acts 4:25, and Psalm 95 is attributed to David in Hebrew 4:7

- Psalm 3: When David fled from Absalom.
- Psalm 7: A Shiggaion of David, which he sang to the Lord concerning the words of Cush.
- Psalm 30: A song at the dedication of the temple.
- Psalm 34: When David changed his behavior before Abimelech.
- Psalm 51: Nathan confronts David concerning his relationship with Bathsheba.
- Psalm 52: A Maskil of David, when Doeg told Saul where David was located.
- Psalm 54: A Maskil of David, when the Ziphites told Saul David's hiding place.
- Psalm 56: A Miktam of David, when the Philistines seized him in Gath.
- Psalm 57: A Miktan of David, when he fled from Saul in the cave.
- Psalm 59: A Miktan of David, when Saul sent men to watch his house in order to kill him.
- Psalm 60: A Miktan of David, when he strove with Aram, and Joab struck down 12k men.
- Psalm 63: A Psalm of David, when he was in the wilderness of Judah.
- Psalm 142: A Maskil of David, when he was in the cave. A Payer.

David's psalms express a heart devoted to God. His music brought comfort to King Saul, gave confidence to his nation, and continues to change lives today.