

Day 111 – 2 Samuel 2-4 • More than fifteen years earlier, Samuel anointed David as king over Israel (1 Samuel 16:13). In verse 2:4 we read that the men of Judah anointed David as king over the house of Judah.

Chapters 2-4 record the conflict between two rivals: David, who took the throne of Judah, and Ish-bosheth, Saul's surviving son, who occupied the throne in Israel. ¹

Abner and Joab were the respective leaders of Ish-bosheth's and David's armies. Abner issued a challenge, resulting in a civil war from which nineteen of David's servants were killed, while 360 of Benjamin and Abner's men died.

Abner later deserted Ish-bosheth and made a covenant with David, declaring his loyalty. Joab slew Abner, for the blood of Asahel his brother. David did not consider Joab's actions to be justified.

Ish-bosheth was later assassinated by two men. These men, Rechab and his brother Baanah, brought the head of Ish-bosheth to David. David had the men executed for killing a righteous man, in that Ish-bosheth was not guilty of any wicked deed or crime. Ish-bosheth had merely assumed the throne upon his father Saul's death.

An Israelite king was not to imitate royal courts of other nations in his desire for horses, wives, and money. Deuteronomy 17:17 reads in part - "*Neither shall he multiply wives for himself, or else his heart will turn away.*" David broke this commandment.

List the sons of David next to the name of their birth mother (2 Samuel 3:2-6):

Mother	Son
Michal daughter of Saul	n/a
Ahinoam the Jezreelitess	
Abigail the widow of Nabal the Carmelite	
Maacah the daughter of Talmai king of Geshur	
Haggith	
Abital	
Eglah	
Bathsheba	Solomon

Day 112 – 2 Samuel 5:1-6:11; 1 Chronicles 11:1-9; 12:23-40; 13:1-14:17 • In 2 Samuel 5:3, the house of Israel anointed David as king over Israel, resulting in the unification of the twelve tribes under one king.

David established his capital in Jerusalem - neutral territory between Israel and Judah. Jerusalem was naturally defensible on the south, east, and west (due to valleys) and the Gihon spring provided a good water supply.

Meanwhile David took more wives from Jerusalem, a direct violation of Deut. 17:17. Eleven more sons and daughters were born to David in Jerusalem.

The Philistines came and spread themselves out in the valley of Rephaim, the most direct approach to Jerusalem from Philistia. David inquired of the Lord and the Lord instructed him to strike down the Philistines.

Q. What went wrong while transporting the ark of the covenant to Jerusalem?

Day 113 – 2 Samuel 22; Psalm 18 • 2 Samuel 22 is almost identical to Psalm 18. It is a hymn of praise and the fourth longest psalm.

For what reason does David praise God in Psalm 18?

Name _____

Day 114 – 1 Chronicles 15-16; 2 Samuel 6:12-23; Psalm 96 • David learned from the mistake he had made in his first attempt to bring the ark to Jerusalem. This time he instructed the Levites to carry the ark of God.

Levites were appointed as singers, with instruments of music, harps, lyres, and loud sounding cymbals.

Psalm 96 is a parallel passage to 1 Chronicles 16:23-33.

Why did David's wife Michal despise him in her heart as the ark was brought into Jerusalem (2 Sam. 6:20-23)?

Day 115 – Psalm 105; 2 Samuel 7; 1 Chronicles 17 • Psalm 105 contains a sketch of the history of Israel: (1) Abraham's journey to Canaan, then to Egypt and back; (2) the history of Joseph; (3) the Israelites in Egypt; (4) Moses and Aaron leading the people out of Egypt; and (5) the LORD leading them through the wilderness and then into Canaan. ¹

David desired to build a temple to house the ark, but God promised instead that he would build a house for David (ie. a royal dynasty).

2 Samuel 7:12-16 (repeated in the 1 Chronicles 17 parallel passage) records the covenant that God made with David.

- I. After David's death, God will establish the kingdom of David's son.
- II. David's son would build the Temple, rather than David.
- III. The throne of his son's kingdom would be established forever.
- IV. God will chasten David's son, as a father corrects his son, and God's lovingkindness would be forever.
- V. David's house, kingdom, and throne would be established forever.

Presently, no one rules from the throne of David. But the right to rule will always remain with David's dynasty.

Who will reign over the house of Jacob, from the throne of David, during the millennial kingdom (Luke 1:31-33)?

Day 116 – 2 Samuel 8-10; 1 Chronicles 18-19; Psalm 60 • 2 Samuel 8 records the expansion of David's kingdom under the blessing of God. David defeated the Philistines, Moabites, Arameans (Syrians), and Edomites.

Upon the discovery of Jonathan's crippled son Mephibosheth, David showed kindness toward him, restoring his property and providing for his physical needs.

2 Samuel 10 records the details of David's conflict with the Ammonites and Arameans. 1 Chronicles 18-19 is a parallel account of these battles.

Psalm 60 is a Mikhtam of David - as David was fighting the Arameans in the North, Edomites invaded Israel from the South and defeated them. The meaning of Mikhtam (also used in the headings of Pss. 16, 56-59) is uncertain. It is apparently derived from a verb meaning "to cover" and may indicate psalms dealing with protection from one's enemies. ¹

What act of kindness resulted in a battle between Israel and Ammonites, and why (2 Sam. 10:1-5)?

Name _____

Day 117 - 2 Samuel 11-12; 1 Chronicles 20:1-3; Psalm 51 • Spring was often the season when kings would go out to battle. But upon one occasion, David stayed at Jerusalem while Joab the commander of his army fought against the Ammonites.

The scandal of David's adultery with Bathsheba and his murder of her husband, Uriah, occurred during this time. Although Uriah was a Hittite, he must have worshiped the Lord since his name means "Yahweh is my light".

After the time of mourning was over, David sent and brought Bathsheba to his house and she became his wife.

The Lord sent the prophet Nathan to David. Nathan lead David to condemn his own actions and repent.

The Lord struck the child that Uriah's widow bore to David, so that he was very sick. The child soon died.

Although 2 Samuel 12:23 may lend some support to the view that infants who die are taken to heaven, the emphasis here is not on existence after death, but on the inevitability of death. The child could not return to life, but David would someday join his son in death. ¹

Briefly summarize Psalm 51.

Day 118 - 2 Samuel 13-14 • David had troubles in the area of morals, politics, and family relationships. The tragedy of the rape of his daughter Tamar and the murder of his son Amnon is clearly a fulfillment of God's promised judgment on David for his sin with Bathsheba. ¹ Amnon and Tamar were David's children, but each had a different mother - Ahinoam and Maacah respectively.

Absalom, Tamar's brother, murdered Amnon and fled. After a three year separation, David permitted Absalom to return to Jerusalem, partly due to the intervention of a wise woman sent to David by Joab (2 Samuel 14).

What was the exaggerated report received by David in 2 Samuel 13:30-33?

Day 119 - 2 Samuel 15-17 • Absalom usurped the throne, forcing David to flee for his life from Jerusalem.

Ahithopel, one of David's counselors, was among the conspirators with Absalom (2 Samuel 15:31). David's mistreatment of Bathsheba, Ahithopel's granddaughter, was likely a factor in his defection.

The LORD had ordained to thwart the good counsel of Ahithopel (2 Samuel 17:14). God was controlling the decision of these men - an example of God's sovereignty over the affairs of men.

What friend of David helped thwart the counsel of Ahithopel (2 Samuel 17)?

Day 120 - Psalm 3; 2 Samuel 18-19 • David's army and Absalom's army met in battle in the treacherous forest of Ephraim, east of the Jordan.

The servants of David found Absalom with his head caught in an oak tree, hanging between heaven and earth.

The tradition that Absalom was caught by his hair comes from Josephus (a Jewish historian), but it seems reasonable in light of 2 Samuel 14:26. ¹

Who slew Absalom, in defiance of the king's explicit orders (2 Samuel 18:14-15)?

Day 121 – 2 Samuel 20-21; 23:8-23; 1 Chronicles 20:4-8; 11:10-25 •

David returned to find disorder and an eventual revolution in the kingdom (2 Samuel 20). Recall that Saul was of the tribe of Benjamin while David was of the tribe of Judah. Sheba, one of the Benjamites, led a rebellion.

David replaced his commander Joab with Amasa, the commander of Absalom's army, to secure the allegiance of the rebel army.¹ It was not long until Joab was provided the opportunity to kill Amasa and regain his lost position.

Then Joab pursued Sheba to Abel Beth-maacah. 2 Samuel 20:18 states that the people of this city were well known for their wisdom.

How did Sheba's rebellion end (2 Samuel 20:21-22)?

Day 122 – 2 Samuel 23:24-24:25; 1 Chronicles 11:26-47; 21:1-30 •

2 Samuel 21-24 is a nonchronological appendix to the book and records many events that occurred earlier in David's reign.¹

2 Samuel 21:19 attributes the slaying of Goliath to Elhanan, in contradiction of 1 Samuel 17:50. There is evidence of a copyist's error (1 Chron. 20:5) and it is probable that Elhanan killed "the brother of" Goliath.

God permitted Satan to prompt David to take a census of the people, and David insisted on doing it, contrary to Joab's advice (1 Chronicles 21:1-4).¹

What were the three things the LORD offered to David (one was to be punishment for David's sinful census) and which one did David choose (2 Samuel 24:13)?

References

¹ *Ryrie Study Bible*, Moody Press, 1995, pp. 478-520.