

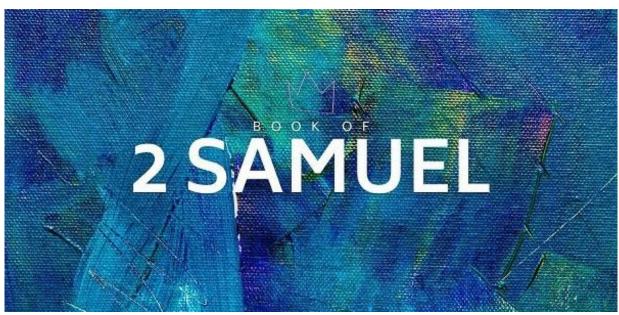
My Drift

Title: Bible – The Book of 2 Samuel

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Date: 7 Jun 2023

Article Number: (426-2023-16)



Chapter-by-Chapter Summaries

2 Samuel 1, David Mourns Saul and Jonathan: An Amalekite tells David how he killed Saul to end his suffering. David kills the Amalekite and composes a lament for Saul and Jonathan.

I forgot – Who is Jonathan? Jonathan is the eldest son of King Saul.

2 Samuel 2, Two Kings in Israel: David moves to Hebron and is anointed king of Judah. Saul's son Ish-bosheth is anointed king of the other tribes. The generals of the two sides lead their armies into an internecine battle.

What's an internecine battle? A battle marked by a deadly slaughter which is mutually destructive.



A Deadly Battle

- 2 Samuel 3, David's Rise; Abner's Untimely Death: After having a falling-out with Ish-bosheth, Abner and his forces join David's side. Joab avenges his brother's death by killing Abner. David mourns for Abner and protests his own innocence.
- 2 Samuel 4, Ish-bosheth is Murdered; David Avenges his Death: Rechab and Baanah secretly murder Ish-bosheth. They tell David about their deed and he has them both put to death. Ish-bosheth's head is buried in Abner's grave.



Killed by his own soldiers, they brought the head of Ish-bosheth to David in Hebron, and said to the king, behold the head of Ish-bosheth the son of Saul thine enemy, which sought thy life; and the LORD hath avenged my lord the king this day of Saul, and of his seed.

2 Samuel 5, David is Anointed; David Conquers Jerusalem; David Defeats the Philistines: All of the tribes anoint David as king of Israel. David captures Jerusalem from the Jebusites and makes it his stronghold. He then routs the Philistines who assemble against him.



The Jebusites Impregnable Fortress

Who were the Jebusites? The Jebusites was a people group mentioned several times in the Old Testament. For centuries, they held an impregnable fortress city in the hill country surrounded by the Israelite tribe of Judah. The Jebusites were a remnant of the Canaanite tribes God commanded Joshua to remove when the Israelites invaded and inhabited the Promised Land. Yet those Jebusites held on through wars and conflicts, declaring that their city was impossible to conquer.

With God, however, nothing is impossible.

2 Samuel 6, Uzzah is Killed; The Ark is Moved to Jerusalem; Michal's Punishment: God kills Uzzah for touching the ark. David transfers the ark to Jerusalem amidst a spectacular celebration. After rebuking David for his foolish dancing, Michal is punished with barrenness.

Why did God strike Uzzah dead for touching the Ark of the Covenant?

This incident is an example of people disregarding God's instructions and doing what was right in their own eyes. God had given clear instructions about how the ark should have been carried.

Barrenness? Land or soil not being good enough for plants to grow on it.

- 2 Samuel 7, God's Promise to Perpetuate the Davidic Dynasty: David expresses his desire to build the temple. Although God rejects David's request, he promises to perpetuate the Davidic dynasty forever. David prays to God and asks him to uphold his promise.
- **2 Samuel 8**, David's Military Might: David is victorious over the Philistines, Moabites, Arameans, Edomites, and the king of Zobah. David acquires great wealth and rules his kingdom righteously. His cabinet members are enumerated.



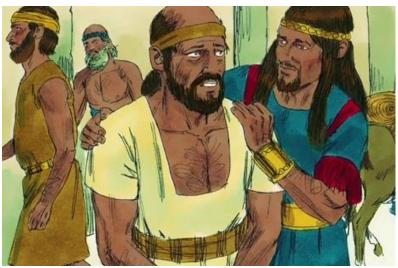
David's Mighty Men

- 2 Samuel 9, David Honors Mephibosheth: David wishes to honor one of Jonathan's descendants. He finds his son Mephibosheth and gives him land, grants him servants, and feeds him in Jerusalem.
- 2 Samuel 10, David defeats the Ammonites and Arameans: David sends courtiers to the king of Ammon, and they are publicly humiliated. David assembles his army and routs the Ammonite and the Aramean armies.
- 2 Samuel 11, David and Batsheba Adultery and Murder: David impregnates a married woman named Batsheba. He attempts to cover up the pregnancy by having Batsheba's husband sleep with her, but her husband refuses to do so. David has the husband killed and takes Batsheba as his own wife.



David defeats the Ammonites

- 2 Samuel 12, David's Punishment; Solomon's Birth; The Ammonite Capital is Captured: Nathan condemns David by telling him a parable and predicting family difficulties. David and Batsheba's son dies, but the two have a second son named Solomon. David's general conquers the Ammonite capital.
- 2 Samuel 13, An Incestuous Rape; Absalom's Revenge: Amnon rapes his sister Tamar. Absalom kills Amnon and flees from his father David.
- 2 Samuel 14, Absalom is Brought to Jerusalem: After pardoning a man for killing his brother, David decides to forgive Absalom for killing Amnon. Absalom is brought to Jerusalem to meet with David.



Absalom - The Rebellious Son of King David

- **2 Samuel 15**, Absalom's Rebellion: Absalom leads a revolt and forces David to flee Jerusalem. David sends spies to Jerusalem.
- **2 Samuel 16**, David's Decline: Ziba supports David and accuses Mephibosheth of treason. David shows restraint when Shimei hurls epithets and stones at him. Absalom sleeps with David's concubines in Jerusalem.
- 2 Samuel 17, Hushai Saves David's Life: Hushai delays Ahitophel's attack on David. David escapes and Ahitophel commits suicide. David's and Absalom's forces prepare for battle.
- 2 Samuel 18, David is Victorious; Absalom is Killed: David's army routs Absalom's forces. Absalom gets tangled in a tree and is killed by Joab. Messengers tell David about the battle and the death of his son.

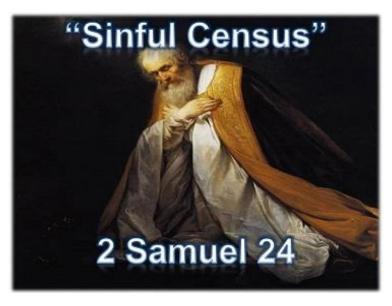


Absalom gets tangled in a tree and is killed by Joab

- 2 Samuel 19, David's Rise: David weeps for his son. He makes his way back to Jerusalem, pardons those who wronged him, and honors those who honored him.
- 2 Samuel 20, Sheba's Revolt: Sheba leads the Israelites away from David. Joab pursues Sheba and besieges him in the city of Abel. The siege ends when Joab is given Sheba's severed head.
- 2 Samuel 21, A Deal with the Gibeonites; David's Close Call; Victory in Philistia: Saul's descendants are killed by the Gibeonites. After a close call in battle, David retires from the military. His men defeat many Philistine warriors.
- 2 Samuel 22, David's Thanksgiving Song: David sings a thanksgiving song praising Yahweh (God) for saving him from his enemies.



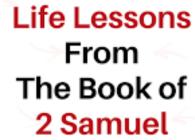
- 2 Samuel 23, David's Theophany; David's Warriors: David relates a message he once received from God. David's warriors and their military exploits are enumerated.
- 2 Samuel 24, David's Census and its Repercussions: David takes a census of the people. God is enraged and kills 70,000 Israelites with a plague. David propitiates God with burnt sacrifices.



What did I learn in 2 Samuel?

I learned that back in those days there were a lot of wars, rapes, killings, and other sinful activities going on. I learned that I would not like to have lived back in those days!

What was I supposed to have learned in 2 Samuel?





God has not forgotten you.

David was anointed King around the age of 15 but he did not take the throne until he was 30! And during that waiting period David faced a lot of hardship. I'm sure there were days that David felt forgotten by God.

❖ Freely we have received – now freely we must give.

Typically, a new king would wipe out the previous king's family so there would be no threat to his throne. But instead, David seeks out the son of Jonathan, who was crippled at the age of 5, named Mephibosheth. David invited Mephibosheth to eat at his table like one of his own sons...forever.

❖ No family is perfect. Jesus is the only one who is perfect!

David failed as a Husband when he was unfaithful through his adulterous relationship with Bathsheba. David failed as a King when he had Bathsheba's military husband killed. And David failed as a father, when he did not discipline his own son for violating his sister.

As a result of David's failures, David's family was a royal mess. David humbled himself and repented and his writings in Psalms show how deeply he understood his need for God.

At times, all of us fail and fall into sin.

* May we beware of any pride, anger or revenge that may be hidden in our hearts. It will always be a snare, if we do not deal with it.

David's handsome son, Absalom, wanted his father's throne so badly, he was willing to kill his father to get it!

Absalom allowed his bitterness and anger, along with a lack of patience, some bad counsel, pride about his good looks, and an insatiable ambition to be the King – lead to his own death.

While Absalom was hurt by his father's life choices, he did not have to choose rebellion.

God offers more mercy than man.

In the end, David disobeyed God once more when he counted his people. God's anger burned towards David and so God gave David a choice of 3 different consequences.

- Shall three years of famine come to you in your land?
- Or will you flee three months before your foes while they pursue you?
- Or shall there be three days' pestilence in your land?

Then David said to God, "I am in great distress. Let us fall into the hand of the Lord, for his mercy is great; but let me not fall into the hand of man." (2 Samuel 24:13-14)

Final Conclusions

David was a good king, who loved the Lord and loved his people. He was patient, humble, and courageous. God blessed David with military victories and successes. God made a covenant with David that he would establish his house, kingdom, and throne forever. It is through the line of David that the Messiah would come!

But David also had many failures. He was far from perfect. David's failings show us that we are all capable of falling into many sins. Even when we have a heart hot for Jesus, we are susceptible to temptation. We must be on guard and never think we are above falling.

And remember...as 2 Samuel has shown us, we have a God who never forgets us, who calls us His children, and who is full of mercy.



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