

DAILY BIBLE READING PLAN

04-09-2023 // WEEK 14 NOTES

This past week, you've finished **1 Samuel 25 - 2 Samuel 18**. Here are a few highlights:

- **1 Samuel Chapter 25:** Samuel dies. David almost kills Nabal but his wife Abigail intervenes. It's a fascinating story. Nabal dies of a stroke/heart attack. Abigail is taken as one of David's wives (polygamy is **never sanctioned by the Bible** and it never turns out well for those who partake of it).
- **Chapter 26:** David spares Saul's life again after creeping into his camp undetected. He had the chance to kill Saul but, once again, refused to do so, showing his **respect for the one God had called**. Taking his life and making himself king was not right.
- **Chapters 27 - 28:** David flees again to the Philistines to hide from Saul. Saul goes to a medium/witch in Endor to call up Samuel to see if he'd win in battle. **This practice was condemned in the Mosaic Law**. It's clear from this vision of Samuel (there is much debate about whether this was actually Samuel or not) that God had now rejected Saul.
- **Chapters 29 - 30:** David again flees to the Philistines to escape Saul and pledges allegiance to the king. But the other leaders demand David's rejection when they must go to war against Saul and the Israelites. David leaves and finds his city where he was living, Ziklag, overrun by the Amalekites. His wives were kidnapped. **He pursues them and wins them all back, again showing this military competence.**
- **Chapter 31:** Saul's and Jonathan's deaths by the hands of the Philistines. BTW: there are some who wonder if Jonathan was the **Psalms 55** one who betrayed David. Some ask, **"How did Saul know where David was hiding unless Jonathan betrayed him?"** We don't know for sure. But if this is true, it must have been especially painful for David. Finally, many of the psalms were written by David when he was going through these situations. When we read through the psalms, they will make much more sense when you identify them with David's different life situations.
- **2 Samuel 1:** David hears of **Saul's and Jonathan's deaths**. His lament is powerful at the end of this chapter. It appears he truly loved them.
- **Chapters 2 - 5:** David is anointed king of Judah. But there are still those in the northern part of Israel

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who are loyalists to Saul. This will be played out and experienced over the next several hundred years. **Ish-bosheth is made king.** There is a battle led by Abner from the north and Joab in the south (David's loyalists). Joab kills Abner. Ish-bosheth is murdered. **David tries to unite the kingdom** and is finally anointed king over both the north and south, over all of Israel.

- **Chapter 6:** The ark is brought back to Jerusalem by David, though with a problem of Uzzah casually touching it and causing his death. The ark stays at Kiriath-Jearim, at the home of Obed-Edom. His home is amazingly blessed, causing David to go fetch the ark and finally bring it to Jerusalem. He leads the ark back to Jerusalem. His wife, Michal, despises his overt dancing and dress. God closes her womb (or David never has relations with her again). God is displeased with her overt distaste for his anointed.
- **Chapter 7:** The Lord's covenant with David. Through him the world will be blessed. **Very important: God promises through David there will always be a king in the world. This is Jesus.** Because of this, David offers a beautiful prayer of thanksgiving and humility.
- **Chapters 8 - 10:** A series of victories for David over his enemies. His reign is strengthened. His popularity, unequalled (Remember: the people in Jesus's day thought he would be an earthly king like David, and have victory over the Romans like David did here over Israel's enemies).
- **Chapters 11 - 12:** Just pause and read this again. **It's the anatomy of adultery.** How David took Bathsheba. It's ugly and awful. He had read his press clippings. Thought he was bullet proof. And a period of demise and disgust now begins for him. Nathan the prophet confronts him after a year or so of lies, cover-ups, and silence. David repents (read **Psalm 51** here – when David wrote it – right after this adultery, murder, lies, etc.). The child who is conceived by Bathsheba in the affair dies. Solomon is born to Bathsheba some years later – the 4th child born to Bathsheba thru David – the next in the story to be handed the baton.
- **Chapter 13:** Amnon rapes Tamar. Absalom sees it all. David does nothing. Absalom holds on to his revenge for two years, but finally kills Amnon. David does nothing still (David appears very much like an absent dad in his sons' lives). Absalom flees to his grandfather's house in Geshur for three years.
- **Chapter 14:** A ruse by a woman, motivated by Joab, to try and get David to bring Absalom back. Joab must have thought Absalom had the leadership chops to succeed David. David finally grants it, but still ignores Absalom for several more years.

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- **Chapter 15:** After all David's victories, his affair, cover-up, murder of Uriah, began the demise of his influence. God still used him, but with some painful moments. Chapter 15 is one of those. Absalom's rebellion occurs. He worked behind the scenes in a conspiracy to overthrow his father, David. Absalom plots, schemes, and ignites a rebellion against David. It's rooted in David's: a) lack of involvement in the Tamar incident b) his lack of involvement in HIS life. David flees the city. Please read **Psalm 3** alongside this story. David's perspective.

Read this chapter carefully and you see how coups happen. A second-in-command woos people to himself because the first is too busy to notice it. Absalom is attractive and winsome. He hints that he could do a better job than his father. The coup happens. David trusts God with his future, but also asks God to frustrate the counsel of Ahithophel who is one of the prime persons in the plot. Ahithophel used to be a close advisor for David but now has changed. Betrayed David (some think he could be the **Psalm 55** traitor about whom David is referring). He is Bathsheba's uncle, so that could be the primary reason for his betrayal.

- **Chapter 16:** Ziba blesses David as he leaves. Shimei curses him. Absalom enters Jerusalem and sleeps with David's concubines. His way of saying to the people, **"I'm king now!"**
- **Chapter 17:** Hushi stays behind as David's spy. He gives counsel contrary to the counsel of Ahithophel (which Absalom should have followed). It allowed David enough time to get his troops together for an open battle.
- **Chapter 18:** Absalom is killed in the battle, his golden, long hair entangled in the trees. That which he had most pride in became his undoing and reason for failure. Pride goes before the fall.

Ok...do you see the storyline? From Abraham to Isaac to Jacob to Joseph to Moses to Joshua to the Judges to Samuel to Saul to David and soon to Solomon. God's promise is that through David will come the King of all kings. This is very important to understand. All moving toward Jesus, in the lineage of King David, who came to free us from our sin and give us eternal life.