

A WALK THROUGH THE OLD TESTAMENT
TIME FRAME #5– THE UNITED KINGDOM – DAVID AND SOLOMON
1010 BC TO 931 BC
SELECTED CHAPTERS IN 2 SAMUEL, 1 KINGS

CLASS NOTES

SUMMARY

The reigns of David and Solomon span some 80 years, and are the true Glory Years of the nation of Israel. We see their strengths and victories and their weaknesses and failures. We see David's heart for God and Solomon's great wisdom. And under Solomon, Israel reaches the peak of her strength, territory and wealth. Yet, as Solomon dies, the days of this United Kingdom are numbered.

MAJOR EVENTS

EVENT # 47 – DAVID ESTABLISHES HIS RULE (2 SAMUEL 2; 4:1-5:16)

After the death of Saul and his three older sons on the battlefield, David begins to establish his hold on Israel. He starts with his native tribe Judah. The other tribes follow Saul's remaining son Ish-Bosheth and Abner, Saul's commander of the army of Israel. After seven years of conflict, Ish-Bosheth is assassinated and David establishes his reign over all 12 Tribes of Israel.

EVENT # 48 – THE ARK IS RETURNED TO JERUSALEM (2 SAMUEL 6:1-7:17)

After 40 years of being housed in the home of Abinadab the Ark of the Covenant is returned to the Tabernacle, now housed in Jerusalem. There is a snafu when David does not transport the Ark Biblically. After arranging for the Levites to carry the Ark properly, David leads a joyous celebration and parade into Jerusalem.

EVENT #49 – GOD ESTABLISHES HIS COVENANT WITH DAVID (2 SAMUEL 7)

While David does not get his wish and desire to build the Temple for the LORD, he does receive a promise from God that will reach to the Millennial Kingdom rule of Christ. God establishes David's family line as the line of the Messiah Himself. The crown will never leave the family, even though there have been time gaps when there has not been a Davidic king on the throne.

EVENT # 50 – DAVID'S FAILURE AND REPENTANCE (2 SAMUEL 11-12)

David entered a period of dullness – spiritually and as king. This leads to a bored king at the palace instead of a leader on the battlefield. David sees and sleeps with Bathsheba which results in her getting pregnant. When deceit does not work as a cover-up to the affair, David resorts to pre-meditated murder. After this catastrophic failure, David is confronted by God through Nathan the prophet. His response of heart-felt repentance leads to forgiveness and his remaining king. However, the consequences will affect his family and the kingdom for generations to come.

EVENT # 51 – DAVID'S DEATH AND SOLOMON ESTABLISHED AS KING (1 KINGS 1, 3)

The consequences of David's affair with Bathsheba leads to a fractured family. The result is that his three older sons are all dead as he approaches the end of his life. As his oldest surviving son, Adonijah sees the declining king confined to his chambers, he tries to assume the throne. God's hand works through other palace officials to move David to declare Solomon as king. This resolves the issue but extends the dysfunction in the Royal Family.

EVENT # 52 – SOLOMON BUILDS THE TEMPLE (1 KINGS 6, 8)

Solomon, using the resources gathered by his father David, build the Temple in Jerusalem. This magnificent building will house the worship of Israel for some 400 years.

EVENT # 53 – SOLOMON TURNS FROM GOD (1 KINGS 11)

Even possessing divine wisdom is not enough to keep Solomon's heart focused on God. As he ages, his love for pleasure is evident. One expression of that desire is his hundreds of wives and concubines. These women turn his heart first to build them altars to worship their gods to joining them in that worship to abandoning his own worship of God. As a result, God announces that the Kingdom will be partially torn from his family.

KEY CHARACTER – DAVID SPIRITUAL LIFE LESSON – BEING A PERSON AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART

DAVID'S HEART FOR GOD WAS ESTABLISHED EARLY IN HIS LIFE. 1 SAMUEL 16:1-13

As Samuel goes to the house of Jesse to anoint the next king he tells the prophet what He is looking for in the next man.

1. God was not concerned with a man's physical appearance, but was looking at the heart of the man. That heart was one that: Loved God – Trusted God - was Committed to God – Obeyed God.
16:7
2. David is not a young man with the potential for developing this heart. He already has this kind of heart for God even though he is only in his mid-teens.
3. Added to this heart for God is the enablement from God to do what he was being called to. **16:13**

***NOTE:** When Saul was anointed King God's spirit came on him just as He did on David. However, even this divine enablement was not effective since Saul's heart was a divided heart. It is our heart for God that enables us to live by the Holy Spirit's enablement. He is present in every believer in Christ. He is transformational only when our hearts are fully devoted to God.*

DAVID'S HEART FOR GOD IS SEEN WHEN HE IS FACING HIS GREATEST CHALLENGES. 1 SAMUEL 17

1. David never sees that the challenge is the size of Goliath. The challenge is seeing Goliath through the eyes of God's presence and power.
 - They are not Saul's army, but the army of the living God **vs.26-27**
 - David's confidence comes from the ways God has met his challenges in the past **vs.37**
2. David's trust has feet! He goes out to meet Goliath confident God will defend His name through David defeating him. **Vs.45-47**
3. David's trust and action encourages and rallies the other men. **vs.50-54**

***NOTE:** David's heart for God enabled him to recognize when God's hand had delivered him in the past. This, over time, builds our faith and in turn our lives encourage others.*

WHEN HE GOT DISCOURAGED, DAVID'S HEART FOR GOD TURNED HIS FOCUS BACK TO GOD.

PSALM 13

1. David starts with a lament. Four times he asks God, "How long?" It is often healthy for us to pour out our feelings and emotions unfiltered to God. **Psalm 13:1-2**
2. David then asks God to deliver Him from the situation. **vs.2-3**
3. Even before David receives an answer from God, he settles into faith and trust. **vs.5-6**

NOTE: *We all have the full range of experiences and emotions in our lives. 'Venting' to God can be much more effective than venting to people. After clearing our emotions we are better able to pray God's promises over our lives and then hold on to Him in worshipful trust. When we have a heart after God, we are better able to travel this path of heartfelt sharing – heartfelt trust in God and His promises – heartfelt trust and worship.*

EVEN IN FAILURE, DAVID'S HEART FOR GOD LEADS HIM TO REPENTANCE AND GETTING BACK ON THE PATH OF RIGHTEOUSNESS. 2 SAMUEL 12:13; PSALM 51

1. David fully owns his sin **Psalm 51:1-4**
2. David desires not only forgiveness, but a restored relationship with God **vs.7-9**
3. David asks for a heart that is clean from sin and a spirit that is determined to obey and follow God **vs.10-12**
4. David promises to use his experience to help others gain the path of fellowship with God **vs.13-14**
5. David's pride is broken by his failure. He now offers his humbled spirit and life to God as an act of worship **Vs.15-17**

NOTE: *It is always better for us to stay on the path of loving obedience to God than to choose the path of self and sin. However, when our lives follow a pattern of having a heart for God, when we do sin His conviction leads to heartfelt repentance. While there may be consequences, we accept them and in faith move forward in our walk with the Lord.*