

Book of 2Samuel

Synopsis



Introduction

Book No	10
Name	2Samuel
Written By	Nathan son Zabud
Testament	Old
Category	History
Date Written	Approx. 930 BC
Place Written	Jerusalem
Audience	To the people of Israel
Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ To record the history of David's reign ❖ To demonstrate effective leadership under God ❖ To reveal that one person can make a difference ❖ To show the personal qualities that please God ❖ To depict David as an ideal leader of an imperfect kingdom, and to foreshadow Christ, who will be the ideal leader of a new and perfect kingdom (chapter 7)
History Covered	1003 - 980 BC
Chapters	24
Verses	695
Key Verse	"And David realized that the LORD had confirmed him as king over Israel and had blessed his kingdom for the sake of his people Israel" (5:12)
Key People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ David ❖ Joab

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Bathsheba ❖ Nathan ❖ Absalom
Key Places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Hebron ❖ Jerusalem ❖ Gath ❖ Moab ❖ Edom ❖ Rabbah ❖ Mahanaim ❖ Forest of ephra ❖ Abel beth Maac

Purpose of the Book

This book unfolds God's working in history. Although human beings were sinful and must sometimes be punished by Him, God still worked through them to accomplish His redemptive purpose, fully realized in Jesus Christ, the Messiah and King of Kings.

Among all the godly role models mentioned in the Bible, there is probably no one who stands out more than King David. Born halfway between Abraham and Jesus, he became God's leader for all of Israel and the ancestor of the Messiah. David was "a man after [God's] own heart" (1 Samuel 13:14). What are the personal qualities that David possessed that pleased God?

2Samuel deals with the ascendance of David to the throne of Israel and the forty years of his reign. He is the focal point of the book. The book begins with the death of Saul and Jonathan at the battlefield on Mount Gilboa. David is then anointed king over Judah, his own tribe. David unifies both the political and religious life of the nation by bringing the ark of the covenant from the house of Abinadab, where it had rested since its return from the Philistines.

David successfully defeats the enemies of Israel, and a time of stability and prosperity begins to emerge. Sadly however, his vulnerability and weakness lead him into his sin with Bathsheba and his murder of Uriah, her husband. Though David repents after

being confronted by the prophet Nathan, the consequences of his actions are spelled out.

David's son Absalom, after a long estrangement from his father, instigates a rebellion against the king, and David flees from Jerusalem. The rebellion ends when Absalom, caught by his head in a tree, is killed by Joab. There is a quarrel between Israel and Judah concerning bringing the king back to Jerusalem. The rebel Sheba rouses Israel to desert David and go back to their homes. Although David makes a series of unfortunate and unwise decisions, the rebellion is quelled and David once again is established in Jerusalem.

Godliness does not guarantee an easy and carefree life. David had family problems—his own son incited the entire nation to rebellion and crowned himself king (14:1–18:33). And greatness can cause pride, as we see in David's sinful act of taking a census in order to glory in the strength of his nation (24:1-25). But the story of this fallen hero does not end in tragedy. Through repentance, his fellowship and peace with God were restored, but he had to face the consequences of the sins he committed (12–20). These consequences stayed with him the rest of his life as a reminder of his sinful deeds and his need for God.

As you read 2 Samuel, look for David's godlike characteristics—his faithfulness, patience, courage, generosity, commitment, honesty—as well as other God-honoring characteristics, such as modesty and penitence. Valuable lessons can be learned from his sins and from his repentance. You, like David, can become a person after God's own heart.

The book ends with two beautiful poems, a list of David's mighty men, and David's sin in numbering the fighting men of Israel. David repents, buys the threshing floor of Araunah, and presents offerings to the Lord on the altar he builds there.

Overview

- ❖ 10th book of the BIBLE, Old Testament and 5th of the 12 historical books
- ❖ David is the central character in 2 Samuel. In fact, the entire book is centered around him..
- ❖ The story of David begins in 1 Samuel 16 and ends in 2 Kings 2.
- ❖ David is the halfway point between Abraham and Christ
- ❖ The closing chapters of 2 Samuel summarizes David's words and deeds.

- ❖ David's Character is characterized by:
 - Justice
 - Wisdom
 - Integrity
 - Courage
 - Compassion
- ❖ While he sometimes fails in his personal life, he is always penitent and returns to God.
- ❖ David, unlike many of the kings that will follow him, he never allows idolatry to become a problem during his reign
- ❖ The theme of worship bringing about repentance appears repeatedly in the book of 2 Samuel.

Hebrew Names of GOD used in 2Samuel

- ❖ EL
- ❖ ADONAI
- ❖ FATHER

Revelation of JESUS CHRIST

David and his reign look to the coming of the Messiah. Chapter 7 especially anticipates the future King. God intercepts David's plans to build a house for the ark and explains that while David cannot build Him a house, God is building David a house, that is, a lineage that will last forever.

In his victory over all Israel's enemies, his humility and commitment to the Lord, his zeal for the house of God, his combining of the offices of prophet, priest, and king—David is a forerunner of the Root of Jesse, Jesus Christ.

Work of THE HOLY SPIRIT

He functioned most often through the priest. He is seen working as counsellor in the many times David would "inquire of the LORD" through the priest and the ephod.

The convincing or convicting work of the Spirit is seen clearly with Nathan the prophet confronting David about his sin with Bathsheba and Uriah. David's sin is laid bare, righteousness is accomplished, and the judgment is spelled out. This, in microcosm,

illustrates the broad working of the Holy Spirit in the world, through the Spirit empowered church.

Mega Themes of 2Samuel

KINGDOM GROWTH

Under David's leadership, Israel's kingdom grew rapidly. With the growth came many changes: from tribal independence to centralized government, from the leadership of judges to a monarchy, from decentralized worship to worship at Jerusalem.

No matter how much growth or how many changes we experience, God provides for us if we love him and highly regard his principles. God's work done in God's way never lacks God's supply of wisdom and energy.

PERSONAL GREATNESS

David's popularity and influence increased greatly. He realized that the Lord was behind his success because he wanted to pour out his kindness on Israel. David regarded God's interests as more important than his own.

God graciously pours out his favor on us because of what Christ has done. God does not regard personal greatness as something to be used selfishly, but as an instrument to carry out his work among his people. The greatness we should desire is to love others as God loves us.

JUSTICE

King David showed justice, mercy, and fairness to Saul's family, enemies, rebels, allies, and close friends alike. His just rule was grounded in his faith in and knowledge of God. God's perfect moral nature is the standard for justice.

Although David was the most just of all Israel's kings, he was still imperfect. His use of justice offered hope for a heavenly, ideal kingdom. This hope will never be satisfied in the heart of man until Christ, the Son of David, comes to rule in perfect justice forever.

CONSEQUENCES OF SIN

David abandoned his purpose as leader and king in time of war. His desire for prosperity and ease led him from triumph to trouble. Because David committed adultery with Bathsheba, he experienced consequences of his sin that destroyed both his family and the nation.

Temptation quite often comes when a person's life is aimless. We sometimes think that sinful pleasures and freedom from God's restraint will bring us a feeling of vitality; but sin creates a cycle of suffering that is not worth the fleeting pleasures it offers.

FEET OF CLAY

David not only sinned with Bathsheba, he murdered an innocent man. He neglected to discipline his sons when they got involved in rape and murder. This great hero showed a lack of character in some of his most important personal decisions. The man of iron had feet of clay.

Sin should never be considered as a mere weakness or flaw. Sin is fatal and must be eradicated from our lives. David's life teaches us to have compassion for all people, including those whose sinful nature leads them into sinful acts. It serves as a warning to us not to excuse sin in our own lives, even in times of success.

Life Lessons in 2Samuel

Truth	Lesson
<p>Growing in Godliness</p> <p>David's life teaches us that godliness begins with a heart devoted to the Lord. Godliness includes walking in and being submitted to God's Spirit, having a humble heart, seeking forgiveness, being courageously obedient, keeping commitments, and loving and serving God above everything and everyone else.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Devote yourself to the Lord with humility of heart. Do not allow others' pride-based opinions to dissuade you from wholehearted godliness and worship. ❖ Honor and keep past commitments you have made. The Lord will bless you for your faithfulness. Be assured that the LORD has heard them ❖ Respond to the conviction of the Holy Spirit; take responsibility for your sin; confess it to the Lord; trust in His mercy. ❖ Continually practice forgiveness as this imitates the ways of GOD ❖ Be certain that you are always where GOD wants you to be or you put yourself in jeopardy

<p>Cultivating Dynamic Devotion</p> <p>In the Book of 2 Samuel, King David models how loving the Lord with all of his heart, soul, and strength is the way to cultivate dynamic devotion. He continually responded to life's circumstances with a heart of worship.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Recognize that the presence of the Lord cannot be carried by or in things, but rests upon His people. ❖ Worship the Lord with all of your strength. Be childlike enough to dance before Him and give Him a shout of praise. ❖ Learn through practice to continually respond to the Lord with worship. ❖ Give thanks to the Lord; ❖ Acknowledge that all good things come from Him. ❖ Give God all the glory. ❖ Learn to praise GOD for all victories and spiritual gains. Understand that this increases your chances for further victories ❖ Be careful not to criticize forms of worship unfamiliar to you. To do so may cause future unfruitfulness
<p>Pursuing Holiness</p> <p>This book unveils a profoundly honest look at a leader who fell into sexual sin. We are to learn from the events that led to and surrounded that sin, be taught by David's responses, and be warned by the consequences of his sin.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Seek to be where God wants you to be. David's failure to do so made him vulnerable to sin. ❖ Guard your eyes! The lust of the eye led to enticement, which led to sin. Sin leads to death (James 1:13–15). ❖ Expose sin. Do not attempt to cover it; it will grow if left hidden. David's sexual sin grew into the sin of murder. ❖ Remember that God is merciful and forgiving, but there are still natural consequences of sin.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Pursue holiness, therefore; and seek the Lord.
<p>The Walk of Faith</p> <p>The heart of faith humbly recognizes that all provision and promise come by the grace and mercy of God. The action of faith reaches out through prayer to receive all that the Lord has for us.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Sit before the Lord; remain in His presence. ❖ There, you will gain revelation of who God is and what He has for you. ❖ Receive by faith all that God has promised and provided. ❖ Embrace the promises that God has given you. ❖ Expect them to come to pass. Invite His promises (Is. 62:6, 7; Matt. 7:7, 8), for He is faithful!
<p>Steps to dealing with sin</p> <p>The story of David and Bathsheba provides a negative albeit poignant object lesson on the importance of avoiding repenting of and forsaking sin. Its witness is consistent with the whole counsel of GOD. Confess and forsake sin quickly or it will prove to be your undoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Confess unknown sins. Do not hide them. Doing so usually leads to greater sin. ❖ Understand that continual refusal to deal with sin can lead to serious even fatal consequences ❖ Learn to see sin as GOD does ❖ Seek to develop within yourself a godly hatred for sin
<p>Keys to relating to authority</p> <p>Since all authority comes from GOD how we relate to GOD ordained and GOD appointed authority can reveal much to us about how we in fact are relating to GOD. Whether we submit or rebel will test our true character</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Honor leadership ❖ Know that the fall of any Christian leader is a defeat and shame for the whole church ❖ Understand that taking up a cause against any leader is a serious offense. ❖ Know that GOD has HIS ways of dealing with HIS leaders ❖ Be diligent in loyalty.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Refuse to cultivate a following from those of another's ministry. Understand that doing so promotes disunity and division
<p>Lessons for leaders</p> <p>Spiritual leadership is a sacred trust. How Christian leaders conduct themselves impacts far more than their own lives. This is why they will be more severely judged. Also godly leadership should grow and become stronger through its transmission to subsequent generations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Leaders know that you must eventually delegate a large measure of your authority to those you have raised up into ministry ❖ Leaders be careful not to overvalue the importance of numbers ❖ Leaders understand that sins you persist in can cause GOD's enemies to show utter contempt to the LORD and HIS people ❖ Leaders regard ministry as holy. Do not act presumptuously in carrying out assigned responsibilities
<p>Keys to moral purity</p> <p>One pattern of attack on our moral purity comes through the improper glance that lodges in the mind</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Guard your eyes. Be warned that a lustful gaze will often lead to lustful thoughts and can result in immoral action
<p>Steps in developing humility</p> <p>Humility is a premium spiritual virtue. The humble man is not necessarily self effacing. Rather he refuses to take credit for accomplishments knowing that any good in his life has resulted from GOD's working through him</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Pray that the LORD will confuse and frustrate the advice of wicked and ungodly counsel. Trust that HE will thwart them ❖ Know that counsel against GOD's people originates from hell and is part of the enemy's strategies against you
<p>Keys to generous living</p> <p>Sacrificial giving flows out of a godly and generous heart</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Follow david's example. Learn to give sacrificially

Praise Points in 2Samuel

- ❖ His guidance each day (2:1)
- ❖ His sovereignty over our life (5:12)
- ❖ His faithful love for us (7:14-15)
- ❖ Those who confront us directly about sin (12:17)
- ❖ His attentiveness to our prayers (22:7)
- ❖ His constant protection (22:49)
- ❖ His words to us (23:3)

Worship Insights in 2Samuel

Can sinners worship God? Many people think they must be without sin in their lives before they enter a church or participate in public worship. But participating in worship even when we feel shameful can help us face our sinfulness. Worship also recalls God's all-sufficient grace for those who wish to receive it. Often true worship can bring about real repentance.

While we may experience disappointments in our life, God is still good, and we can praise him for his greatness.

- ❖ We can worship God even while we mourn (1:17).
- ❖ God is holy, and we must not regard his commands as trivial (6:7).
- ❖ We can express our worship of God in different ways (6:14).
- ❖ We should offer thanksgiving when we recall the Lord's work on our behalf (7:18-29).
- ❖ God is worthy of our worship (22:4).
- ❖ True worship recognizes that there is a price to pay in order to commune with God (24:24).

An Outline of 2Samuel

I. The Story of David: 2Sa. 1:1-20:26

A. The Man Who Would Be King: 2Sa. 1:1-5:5

1. When Those Who Hate Us Die: [2Sa_1:1-16](#)
2. A Song of Sadness: [2Sa_1:17-27](#)
3. David Anointed King of Judah: [2Sa_2:1-7](#)
4. A Rival King: [2Sa_2:8-11](#)

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5. The Beginning of Civil War: 2Sa_2:12-32
 6. Looking Like a King: 2Sa_3:1-5
 7. Abner Joins Forces with David: 2Sa_3:6-21
 8. Joab Murders Abner: 2Sa_3:22-30
 9. David's Mourning for Abner: 2Sa_3:31-39
 10. The Murder of Ishbosheth: 2Sa_4:1-12
 11. David Reigns Over All Israel: 2Sa_5:1-5
- B. The Consolidation of the Kingdom of David: 2Sa. 5:6-10:19**
1. Conquest of Jerusalem: 2Sa_5:6-16
 2. The Philistines Defeated: 2Sa_5:17-25
 3. First Stage of the Ark's Move: 2Sa_6:1-11
 4. The Ark's Move to Jerusalem: 2Sa_6:12-23
 5. God's Covenant with David: 2Sa_7:1-17
 6. David's Thanksgiving to God: 2Sa_7:18-29
 7. David's Further Conquests: 2Sa_8:1-14
 8. David's Administration: 2Sa_8:15-18
 9. David's Kindness to Mephibosheth: 2Sa_9:1-13
 10. The Ammonites and Syrians Defeated: 2Sa_10:1-19
- C. The Beginning of the End: 2Sa. 11:1-12:31**
1. David, Bathsheba, and Uriah: 2Sa_11:1-27
 2. Nathan's Parable and David's Confession: 2Sa_12:1-15
 3. The Death of David's Son: 2Sa_12:15-23
 4. Solomon is Born and the War Ends: 2Sa_12:24-31
- D. Civil War: 2Sa. 13:1-19:8**
1. Amnon and Tamar: 2Sa_13:1-22
 2. Absalom Murders Amnon: 2Sa_13:23-39
 3. Absalom's Return to Jerusalem: 2Sa_14:1-24
 4. David Forgives Absalom: 2Sa_14:25-33
 5. Absalom's Treason: 2Sa_15:1-12
 6. David's Escape from Jerusalem: 2Sa_15:13-37
 7. Mephibosheth's Servant: 2Sa_16:1-4
 8. Shimei Curses David: 2Sa_16:5-14
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9. The Advice of Ahithophel: 2Sa. 16:15-17:4
10. The Advice of Hushai: 2Sa_17:5-14
11. Hushai Warns David to Escape: 2Sa_17:15-29
12. Absalom's Defeat and Death: 2Sa_18:1-18
13. David Hears of Absalom's Death and Mourns: 2Sa_18:19-33
14. Grief that Immobilizes: 2Sa_19:1-8

E. Putting the Pieces Back Together: 2Sa. 19:9-20:26

1. David's Return to Jerusalem: 2Sa_19:9-18
2. David's Mercy to Shimei: 2Sa_19:18-23
3. David and Mephibosheth Meet: 2Sa_19:24-30
4. David's Kindness to Barzillai: 2Sa_19:31-39
5. The Quarrel About the King: 2Sa_19:40-43
6. The Rebellion of Sheba: 2Sa_20:1-22
7. David's Government Officers: 2Sa_20:23-26

II. Appendixes: 2Sa. 21:1-24:25

A. Extra Threads on the Historical Tapestry: 2Sa_21:1-22

1. The Gibeonites Avenged: 2Sa_21:1-14
2. Philistine Giants Destroyed: 2Sa_21:15-22

B. The Poetic Side of a Warrior-King and the Exploits of His Mighty Men: 2Sa. 22:1-23:39

1. Praise for God's Deliverance: 2Sa_22:1-51
2. David's Last Words: 2Sa_23:1-7
3. David's Mighty Men: 2Sa_23:8-39

C. The Census and the Sacrifice: 2Sa_24:1-25

1. David's Census of Israel and Judah: 2Sa_24:1-9
2. The Judgment on David's Sin: 2Sa_24:10-17
3. The Altar on the Threshing Floor: 2Sa_24:18-25