



A Summary of the Old Testament

within the word

Lesson Twelve | David, the Second

King of Israel

As we have mentioned before, it is helpful to have a good map book so you can locate the places mentioned in scripture.

There are times when the location may be marked with a “?” beside it. This indicates the precise location is not certain.

Day One

1. Read 2 Samuel 2:1.
David has a conversation with the LORD before moving in any direction. This is such a wise decision.

He knows he has been anointed king of Israel and Saul is now dead. What he does not know is when or how God will orchestrate events to make this leadership transition.

What is the wisest thing to do when we do not know what to do?

2. Read 2 Samuel 2:2-7.
What happens to David at Hebron?
3. David is told the news that it was the men of Jabesh-Gilead who had buried Saul. He sent them words of blessing for showing respect and honor to King Saul by burying Saul. The men of Judah are the first to hear David has been anointed king. However, not everyone is on board.

Ish-Bosheth, the son of Saul, is set up as the king over Israel. The nation is divided in their allegiance. Abner and Joab the commanders of each army meet on a battle line.

Read 2 Samuel 2:8-32.
What plan is purposed to end this division?

4. The nation of Israel is suffering at the hand of civil war. In the New Testament Jesus himself taught on this very issue; read Matthew 12: 25.
What universal truth did Jesus share that day?

5. Read 2 Samuel 3:1.

What do you learn about David's rule?

6. Read 2 Samuel 3:6-28.

Abner had been leading the armies of Ish-Bosheth against David, but things were not well between Ish-Bosheth and Abner. Abner was a strong man of war who intimidated Ish-Bosheth. Abner sees the handwriting on the wall and chooses to meet and align with David. The meeting goes well. But when Joab, David's commander, returns home and hears about the agreement he is not pleased. Joab calls for Abner to return. Thinking all is well, Abner returns and is met by Joab.

How does this meeting end?

7. Read 2 Samuel 3:22-39.

Many years had passed since Joab's brother, Asahel, had been killed by Abner in a battle. But the years had not softened Joab's desire for revenge.

When we do not deal with vengeance, it grows and contaminates our whole life. Even though Joab was a loyal leader of David's army, he was a strong-willed and fierce man who could seldom be told what to do or restrained.

How did David feel about Joab's actions?

Day Two

1. Wicked men sometimes do exceedingly sinful things.

Read 2 Samuel 4.

Who were the two wicked men named in this section of scripture?

What event ended the rule of Ish-Bosheth?

2. It is obvious these wicked men knew little about David and his character. In all the years Saul chased and harassed David, he would not raise his hand against his enemy and king. He did not reward the Amalekite who lied and said he had killed Saul. He had him put to death.

What truth does David understand about his God that allows him to leave judgement up to God's timing?

Read Psalm 83:18 and Daniel 2:21

3. Read 2 Samuel 5:1-5.

Jot down the details seen here.

How many times has David been anointed king?

What was unique about each time?

1 Samuel 16:13

2 Samuel 2:4

2 Samuel 5:3

4. The Philistines are a reoccurring problem for the Israelites.

Read 2 Samuel 5:17-25.

What was the key to David's success over the Philistines?

5. The Ark of the Covenant had been residing in the home of Abinadab; David wanted to bring it to Jerusalem, so God would bless all Israel.

Read 2 Samuel 6:1-8.

What happened that quickly changed the mood from one of zealous rejoicing to somber mourning?

6. God had given clear instructions to Israel how to transport the Ark, when necessary. We may think, *"Oh, what's the big deal; David was doing a good thing."*

But God is quite concerned with details, especially when they pertain to his holiness and our service. As Samuel told Saul, to obey is better than sacrifice.

Is this a lesson you are familiar with?

Are there things you are doing but you are doing them in your time and in your way?

Have you ever thought that perhaps the key to unlocking God's blessing might be a careful look at how you worship and serve Him?

Day Three

1. 2 Samuel 6:12-23

After 3 months, David heard God had blessed Obed-Edom because the Ark was abiding at his house. David knew if he obeyed God's instructions and carefully transported the Ark, God would bless the nation.

What did David do after taking six steps on his journey with the Ark?

2. King David and the crowd rejoiced, singing and dancing the whole way. They set the Ark in the tent David had erected for it.

In your own words, what did he do next, in worship of the LORD?

- a.
- b.
- c.

3. While talking to Nathan the prophet one day, David expressed his sadness that the Ark of God dwelt in a tent, while he lived in a palace. 2 Samuel 7 is a beautiful chapter showing the hand of God on David's life.

In your Bible highlight the word 'I' in 2 Samuel 7: 5-17.

What do we see being revealed here concerning the sovereignty of God?

4. In the verses you just read, who did God say would be the one to build a house for him?
5. 2 Samuel 8 is about some of the battles King David fought and the victories he enjoyed. However, David was not only a mighty warrior king, he was also a man of integrity and mercy.

In 2 Samuel 9 we are introduced to a young man, Mephibosheth.

What brought about this reconciliation of David and Mephibosheth?

6. There are several stories of David's strength and courage, but not all the stories are ones he looked back on with pride. The night he met Bathsheba was one such story.

Read 2 Samuel 11 to see the chain of events.

Briefly state the events.

7. There are times when we are in the wrong place, at the wrong time, and it leads us to a temptation we could have avoided. That is where David found himself. But instead of acknowledging and repenting of his sin he tried to cover it up.

In 2 Samuel 12, Nathan the prophet, comes to David with a parable of reproof that touches this shepherd-king's heart.

Fill in the chart with what you learned about the two men from this parable and who each alludes to.

The rich man	The poor man

8. In scripture King David is not portrayed as a perfect man, but a man who loves and serves God. When David sinned, he was quick to repent and accept the consequences of his sin without getting angry at God.

Like David you may be able to live with your sin for a while. However, when confronted are you quick to repent and able to accept the consequences that come?

David paid a high price for this sin; the son born to the king and Bathsheba got extremely sick. David begged God to heal him.

What did David know about God that caused him to believe the child might get better?

9. David's baby boy died.

Read 2 Samuel 12:20-25.

What was David's amazing response to the child's death?

Day Four

1. David's family life was not easy. The turmoil Nathan had prophesied came true. David had many wives and concubines who bore him sons and daughters.

One of David's sons, Amnon, raped his half-sister, Tamar, and refused to marry her. When her brother Absalom found out, he took her into his home to care for her since she had been so utterly disgraced. The king heard about the event but did nothing.

Absalom waited two full years to get revenge. When the time came, he did just what he had intended to do all along, he killed Amnon. Absalom flees the hand of his father and went to live in Geshur for the next three years.

Read 2 Samuel 13:38-39.

What did the passing of time do for King David?

2. After several years Absalom, is allowed to return to Jerusalem. However, the relationship between he and the king is never the same. Absalom begins gathering followers and strength among the people. He devises a rebellious plan to take over as king.

Instead of facing Absalom, David chooses to flee with his leaders. David's three key men, Joab, Abishai and Ittai prepare to battle Absalom and his men. Just before leaving, King David begs them to, *"Be gentle with the young man Absalom for my sake."*

While in the heat of the battle Absalom gets his hair caught in a tree and he is found dangling there. Some of Joab's men report the spot, where they have seen him hanging. Joab himself puts Absalom to death.

Read 2 Samuel 18:33.

What was King David's response to the news of Absalom death?

3. The army slipped quietly back into the city, because their king was in such sorrow over the death of his son. Joab, the leader of David's army, came into the king's presence; he was very angry with the king.

Read 2 Samuel 19:1-8.

What advice did Joab give David that day?

4. David returned to his palace and continued his reign for many more years. He wrote many beautiful songs of praise and worship. One is recorded in 2 Samuel 22. Read this chapter, and note some of the things King David would like us to know about his God.
5. David's life is a series of highs and lows. Can you relate?

2 Samuel ends with King David calling for a census of his army. Joab tries to reason with his king, but David insists.

Read 2 Samuel 24.

What was God's response to David's sin of numbering the army?

6. Why would God not want King David to number his army? What might this do to the heart of the king?
7. David repented of his sin of taking a census of the army. Gad, the prophet gave him with three choices of consequences for this sin.

What choice did David make that showed great wisdom and a close relationship with his God?

8. King David was grieved seeing so many Israelites sick and dying. The story ends with David and an act of worship. The site of David's worship will become even more significant when his son Solomon is king.

What was the result of David's prayer?

9. When you hear someone mention King David, what are your thoughts about this man?
10. What is your greatest take-away lesson from your time studying David?

11. As a result of your time studying David, do you believe sin disqualifies a person from going on and doing great things for God?
12. What did you learn about forgiveness and the consequences of sin from your time studying David?

Day Five

1. Do you believe David's years of shepherding helped him be king?
If yes, how?
2. What previous life experiences have helped you become the leader God is calling you to be right now?
3. 1 Kings 1:1 states King David is old and suffering the effects of his aging. One of his sons, Adonijah tries to establish himself as the next king of Israel. By his own hand he acquires chariots and horsemen and foot soldiers to run ahead of him. Adonijah even hosts a feast, planning to establish his rule.

Bathsheba, the mother of Solomon, and Nathan, the prophet, are very concerned and discuss how they will present this news to the king.

First, Bathsheba went in to see David. After she left, Nathan came in and confirmed all she had said.

Read 1 Kings 1:28-53.

How did the events of Solomon's anointing affect Adonijah?

4. Read 1 Kings 2:1-4.
What specific instructions did King David give his son about being king?
5. Now read 1 Chronicles 22:6-16 to see further instructions given to Solomon.
6. Read 1 Kings 2:10-12.

King David died, and Solomon begins his reign as king of Israel.
What were the years of David's reign?

- a. Hebron-
- b. Jerusalem-
- c. Total years of King David's rule-

7. As we have done each week, add God's character qualities you have seen to your list on **The Character of God** page. Some of His qualities may be repeated from chapter to chapter but you may also see new ones as well.

Please, do not leave this undone. The purpose of our study is to get to know our God.