

"Flight 2SAMI"

2 Samuel 1-24

I. Introduction

A. Three phrases can be used to outline 2 Samuel:

1. David's triumphs
2. David's transgressions
3. David's troubles

B. David's importance in biblical history cannot be underestimated

1. Sixty-two chapters of the Bible are devoted to David
 - a. There are 1,118 verses written about David
 - b. David is mentioned more than any person in the Bible except one—Jesus Christ
 - i. Fourteen chapters were devoted to Abraham
 - ii. Fourteen to Joseph
 - iii. Eleven to Jacob
 - iv. Less than ten to Elijah
2. David's importance is reflected in these phrases: City of David, star of David, lineage of David, seed of David, house of David, tabernacle of David, offspring of David, root of David

C. David was chosen by the Lord (see Psalm 78:67-72)

1. God raised him up from shepherd to servant (of Saul) to sovereign
2. Before he even came on the scene, David was overlooked; even his father didn't think he should meet Samuel (overlooked runt)
3. Called twice in Scriptures a man after God's own heart (see 1 Samuel 13:14; Acts 13:22)

D. He was not perfect—he was a regular Joe with lots of flaws, which are highlighted in this book

II. David's triumphs (2 Samuel 1-10)

A. Despite having been chased by Saul for over a decade, "David lamented" (1:17) at the news of Saul's death

1. This passage marks the greatness of David: not seeking revenge and not rejoicing to see Saul dead, he wept over the very person who rejected him (prefigure of Jesus)
 - a. "Love your enemies" (Matthew 5:44) looks good on paper, but revenge is a lot more fun
 - b. A sign that you're growing in Christ is when you can love your enemies
2. "How the mighty have fallen" (1:25) speaks of Jonathan
 - a. David and Jonathan's souls were knit together (see 1 Samuel 18:1)
 - b. "Your love...[surpasses] the love of women" (1:26)
 - i. David was married to Jonathan's sister Michal
 - ii. Things were never good between them; Saul had planned to use Michal to ensnare David

- iii. David had at least eight wives
 - iv. David was a success in his career; he was an abject failure at home
- B. Three coronations
 - 1. The first coronation was private: anointed by Samuel in front of his father and brothers
 - 2. The first public coronation: David crowned in Hebron—king over the house of Judah (see 2:4)
 - a. However, not all of Saul's sons had died—Ishbosheth was still alive
 - b. Abner crowned Ishbosheth king over the eleven tribes
 - i. Joab was the commander of David's army; Abner was the commander of Saul's army
 - ii. After David was crowned in Hebron, a seven-year conflict followed—the first civil war in Israel—between David in the south and Ishbosheth in the north (see 3:1)
 - iii. Abner decided to negotiate a peaceful handover of the kingdom
 - 3. Then all the tribes came to David at Hebron and anointed David king over Israel (see 5:1-3)
- C. David was thirty years old when he began to reign over all Israel
 - 1. Next step was to secure a capital; he didn't want Hebron to be the capital
 - 2. Jebus—Jerusalem; also chosen by God (see Psalm 78:68)
 - a. Controlled by Jebusites, a Canaanite tribe left over from the old days; Joshua never took it
 - b. Jerusalem was strategically located: on a hill, valleys below on one side, hills on the other; metaphor of strength (see Psalm 125:1-2)
 - c. In order to be viable, ancient cities had to have their own water source—Jerusalem had the Gihon spring
 - 3. David took the stronghold of Zion
 - a. Because of the city's location, it's not hard to defend—the Jebusites said that the blind and the lame could defend the city against David (see 2 Samuel 5:6; 1 Chronicles 11:4-9)
 - b. David told his men that whoever could find a way through the shaft would be his commander—Joab
- D. Chapter 6 is an example of doing the right thing the wrong way
 - 1. The ark of the covenant hadn't been in the tabernacle for forty years
 - 2. They set the ark on a new cart (emulated the Philistines when they captured the ark); Uzzah was struck down by the Lord
 - 3. David ignored God's commands with regards to moving the ark; the problem may have been that David was too goal-oriented
 - a. Is being sincere enough to please God?
 - i. Being sincere isn't all that matters to God
 - ii. Abraham and Sarah had the same idea, thinking that Hagar's baby could be the fulfillment of the promise

- iii. A right thing done the wrong way is still wrong, no matter how sincere someone is
 - b. Three months later, the ark got to Jerusalem
- E. Chapter 7 is one of the most important chapters of the Bible
 - 1. The message of the Bible from this point on rests on this chapter
 - a. The first words of the New Testament are: "This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David, the son of Abraham" (Matthew 1:1, NIV)
 - b. The concept of Jesus as the greater Son of David comes from this chapter
 - c. Mary understood this chapter when Gabriel appeared to her (see Luke 1:32)
 - d. The promise found in Isaiah 9:6-7 is based on the covenant made in 2 Samuel 7:5-16
 - 2. God established an unconditional covenant: David will have a son who's going to build the temple, and the throne of David will be established forever (but not with Solomon)
 - a. God often blends a near fulfillment and a far fulfillment into one
 - b. He had two different things in mind, one immediate (Solomon) and one eventual (Jesus)
 - c. David's dynasty came to an end with the Babylonian captivity in 586 BC
 - d. God cursed the line of David and Solomon when Jeconiah was on the throne (see Jeremiah 22:24-30)
 - 3. David's line would be restored in the person of Jesus
 - a. The first coming of Christ—Jesus conquered the sin of the world
 - b. The second coming—He will conquer the world and rule with those for whom He conquered
 - 4. This explains the two genealogies of Christ:
 - a. Matthew followed David's genealogical record down to Joseph
 - b. Luke followed the genealogical record down to Mary
 - c. Two different branches:
 - i. Joseph's line goes through Solomon—the cursed branch (Jeconiah)
 - ii. Mary's line goes through another son of David—Nathan
 - d. Because of Joseph's line, Jesus has the legal right to the throne
 - e. God got around the cursed bloodline—Jesus was born of a virgin, whose genealogy goes all the way back to David, and not through the cursed bloodline
- III. David's transgressions (2 Samuel 11-12)
 - A. After twenty years, David started sliding
 - 1. The most vulnerable moment of David's life was 2 Samuel 11:1; when your life is at its most prosperous, you are at your most vulnerable
 - 2. "But David remained" (11:1); he had been a successful warrior, but those days were over
 - a. If David had been in the battlefield with his troops, he wouldn't have been in the bed with Bathsheba
 - b. David went out on the rooftop; the king's house is at the top of the city because Jerusalem was built on a series of hills/terraces

- i. *Behold* indicates a gaze; sometimes it can be impossible to avoid the first glance, but it's the double take that will get you every time
 - ii. "Sin: a thought, a form, a fascination, a fall" —St. Augustine
 - c. David inquired after the woman
 - d. David sent for her and lay with her, then she went back to her own house
 - i. She conceived, so David brought Uriah home from the battle and tried to send him home, but Uriah was too honorable
 - ii. David sent him back to Joab with his own death warrant
 - B. One sin left unchecked always leads to another: David's lust led to adultery, adultery to deception, deception to entrapment, and entrapment to murder
 - 1. David was burning with lust, and that led to his fall
 - 2. His fall led to his discontent
 - C. David hid his sin for a year, although he was miserable (see Psalm 32:3-4)
 - 1. God was patient; since David wouldn't come to God, He went to David through the prophet Nathan
 - 2. Nathan told him a parable, and David, thinking it was a true story, got upset
 - 3. Why the indirect approach? David was blind to his own sin, so Nathan showed him his own sin in someone else's life
 - a. David was given a good look at himself, and he got mad and overreacted
 - b. Nathan turned the story on David
- IV. David's troubles (2 Samuel 12:15-24:25)
- A. Bathsheba's firstborn son died
 - B. In chapter 13, David's daughter Tamar was raped by Amnon, the half-brother of Absalom
 - 1. The king was very angry, and Absalom hated Amnon
 - 2. David did nothing
 - a. Maybe because he felt that he had no moral high ground to stand on because he did this with someone else's wife
 - b. Some of us may be in a very similar category—Satan will come and say that you have no right to speak on this subject ever, especially if it's to your children
 - c. But sometimes your experience of the consequences can be powerful
 - 3. Absalom planned to kill Amnon (two years later)
 - 4. At shearing time, Absalom invited all his brothers to Baal Hazor, killed Amnon, then fled
 - C. David tried to reconcile with Absalom—he brought his son back but wouldn't see him for two years, which caused animosity and hatred between the two of them
 - 1. Absalom committed treason and stole the hearts of the men of Israel
 - 2. Absalom ruled for five years, sending David into exile
 - D. Joab killed Absalom
 - 1. "The king was deeply moved" (18:33)
 - 2. David's great pain was caused by the lack of reconciliation before Absalom's death
 - a. "This is the bitterest of all—to know that suffering need not have been; that it has resulted from indiscretion and inconsistency; that it is the harvest of one's

own sowing; that the vulture which feeds on the vitals is a nestling of one's own rearing" —F.B. Meyer

- b. Years from now, it won't matter how successful your business was or what house you lived in; it will matter how you handled your relationships with your loved ones
- E. David's final days (chapters 23-24)
 1. "Although my house is not so with God, yet He has with me an everlasting covenant" (23:5)
 2. The last chapter of 2 Samuel shows how that imperfect life which God chose, and used, ended
 3. David took a census, "That I may know the number of the people" (24:2)
 - a. David did it out of pride
 - b. Satan incited David to take the census (see 1 Chronicles 21:1)
 - c. This is a perfect illustration of God's sovereignty—Satan tempted David and God allowed it to happen, then He restored and redeemed it
 - d. David confessed to the Lord regarding his sinful intentions in taking the census
 - i. Then he made a sacrifice to the Lord
 - ii. The Lord heeded David's prayers for the land
 - iii. Even though God forgave David, there were still consequences

V. Conclusion

- A. Admit your sins
 1. 1 John 1:9
 2. Don't shift blame—own up to your mistakes
 3. Proverbs 28:13
- B. Leave your sin
 1. Make a clean break
 2. Don't return to it
 3. Replace it
 4. Romans 12:21
- C. Develop new activities, habits, and disciplines so that you don't have the time to go back to your sin

Figures referenced: St. Augustine, F.B. Meyer

Cross references: 1 Samuel 13:14; 18:1; 2 Samuel 5:6; 1 Chronicles 11:4-9; 21:1; Psalm 32:3-4; 78:67-72; 125:1-2; Proverbs 28:13; Isaiah 9:6-7; Jeremiah 22:24-30; Matthew 1:1; 5:44; Luke 1:32; Acts 13:22; Romans 12:21; 1 John 1:9

Topic: 2 Samuel

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