

PRECEPT
UPON
PRECEPT

2 Samuel
and
1 Chronicles

THE LIFE OF DAVID,
A MAN AFTER GOD'S
OWN HEART

2 SAMUEL AND 1 CHRONICLES
THE LIFE OF DAVID, A MAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART

PRECEPT UPON PRECEPT

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HELPFUL STUDY TOOLS

ARTHUR, KAY

How to Study Your Bible

Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 1994

Hebrew Word Study Tools

(The following is a list of helpful Hebrew Word Study Tools:)

HARRIS, R. LAIRD; ARCHER, GLEASON L. JR.; WALTKE, BRUCE K.

Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament

Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1980

ZODHIATES, SPIROS

The Complete Word Study Old Testament

Chattanooga, Tennessee: AMG Publishers, 1994

BAKER, WARREN; CARPENTER, EUGENE

The Complete Word Study Dictionary Old Testament

Chattanooga, Tennessee: AMG Publishers, 2003

RECOMMENDED COMMENTARIES

GAEBELIEN, FRANK E.

The Expositor's Bible Commentary, Volume 3

Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishers, 1992

HUGHES, ROBERT B. AND LANEY, J. CARL

Tyndale Concise Bible Commentary

Wheaton, Illinois: Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., 1990

EDERSHEIM, ALFRED

Old Testament Bible History

Grand Rapids, Michigan: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1984

LESSON ONE

Remember You're Destined for the Throne

THIS LESSON INCORPORATES Cross-references
The following located in the Appendix:
Observation Worksheets of 2 Samuel 1-5
"2 Samuel at a Glance" chart
"Israel in the Days of Samuel, Saul, and David" map
"David's Family Tree"

David's Ascent To the Throne

Someday, we as children of God will reign with the Lord Jesus Christ, the King of kings, the Lord of lords. What lessons can we learn from the life of David that will prepare us for that grand and glorious day?

DAY ONE

As always, Beloved of God, when you open the Word of God, you need to call upon the Spirit of God to open your eyes that you might know and understand the things of God, for from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. And to Him belongs the glory forever and ever. Amen.

1. Read through chapter 1 of 2 Samuel.
 - a. Do your observations. If you have studied New Testament books with us before, you will quickly see that observing Old Testament historical books is very different from observing doctrinal segments of Scripture which are far more complicated and demanding. So don't feel "spiritually cheated" because these do not demand the time and word studies that the others do. We will move through Old Testament passages much more rapidly simply because of the nature of the books. But rest assured you will learn so much...precept upon precept. If you have never observed a Bible chapter using an Observation Worksheet, then read "Focusing in on the Details" in *How to Study Your Bible*.
 - 1) Mark every reference to *death, dying, killing* in the same way. Also mark *love and anointed*.

- 2) Make a card of key words and how you are going to mark them, and use this for a bookmark as you study 2 Samuel. Some people mark their Bibles as well as, or instead of, their Observation Worksheets.
 - 3) If you don't have an *NISB* (*New Inductive Study Bible*), consider getting one. It's unique among study Bibles, and it will become a treasure you will want to leave as a legacy.
- b. Pay attention to the main characters in this historical account. Learn what you can about each.
 - c. As you note the 5 Ws and an H—the who, what, when, where, why and how of all that transpires in this chapter—make sure you double underline geographical references in green or however you care to mark them. There is a map in the Appendix, “Israel in the Days of Samuel, Saul, and David,” where you can locate the places mentioned.
 - d. As you searched out the 5 Ws and an H, what did you learn about the “when” of the events in this chapter? Write it out in a single sentence.
- e. Mark the word *fasted* and put it on your key word bookmark. It is not used frequently, but you will see it again in this book and you'll want to learn about this spiritual discipline in David's life.
 - f. What key phrase did you see in David's lament? If you didn't mark it, do so.
2. Now let's compare 2 Samuel 1 with the last chapter of 1 Samuel. If you didn't take *1 Samuel Precept Upon Precept* or it has been awhile since you studied it, read through 1 Samuel 31.
 - a. What differs in these chapters? (Can you see the importance of studying the Bible book by book? Remember 1 and 2 Samuel were originally one book.)
 - b. Why the difference?

- c. Do you think David knew the difference in the two accounts? Why?
- d. Who were the Amalekites? If you studied our 1 Samuel course, you probably remember. But if not, or if you didn't study 1 Samuel, look up the following Scriptures and record your insights:
- 1) Exodus 17:8-16
 - 2) Deuteronomy 25:17-19
 - 3) 1 Samuel 15:2-3, 7-9, 32-33
- e. Read 1 Chronicles 10:1-7. Which account do you think is true, the one in 1 Samuel 31 or what the Amalekite says in 2 Samuel 1? Why?

- f. What do you think was the Amalekite's motive in bringing the crown and bracelet of Saul to David?
- g. What can you learn from the Amalekite? Have you ever seen people bring news to another person with impure motives?
3. Some people have used 2 Samuel 1:26 to argue that David and Jonathan had a homosexual relationship. How would you answer them?

We are going to do a chapter a day this week, Beloved, so hang on. It is going to be good. Doing it at this pace will help you get a fuller picture of what is going on in David's life.

As you study, remember to approach the Scriptures prayerfully, asking the Spirit of God not only to open the eyes of your understanding but also to teach you valuable lessons for life from the account of the lives of these men and the workings of God.

DAY
TWO

1. Read through 2 Samuel 2. Mark references to time, place, and other key words including *inquired of the Lord*. This is a very important practice that you'll want to note. Remember from our study of 1 Samuel that inquiry to God was often made through the use of the Urim and the Thummim.

Exodus 28 says the Urim and Thummim were in the breastpiece of judgment the priest wore over his heart when he went before the Lord. Numbers 27 speaks of Eleazar the priest inquiring for Joshua by the judgment of the Urim before the Lord.

It seems that light was transmitted on this breastpiece that bore the stones of the twelve tribes of Israel and thereby gave God's answer to their questions. *The Stone Edition of the Chumash* reads, "the Breastplate was folded in half to form a pouch-like pocket. Into it Moses was to insert a slip of parchment containing the Ineffable Name.... This Name was called *Urim*, from the word... *light*, because it would cause individual letters of the tribal names on the Breastplate to light up; and it was called *Tumim*, from the word ...*completeness*, because, if read in the proper order, these luminous letters presented complete and true answers to the questions of national import that the Kohen Gadol would ask of God."¹

2. There are lots of significant names in this chapter, aren't there?
 - a. As you read through this portion of 2 Samuel, color-code the references to Joab and Abner since they are significant characters.
 - b. To keep the "players" of these events in mind we think you will find it helpful to make lists of *who's who* in David's camp and in Ish-bosheth's. As you list their names, note what happens with each or how each is identified. Joab's name is listed in the genealogies of 1 Chronicles 2:16. Read verses 12-16 so you can see David's relationship to Joab.

David's	Ish-bosheth's

- c. At the end of this lesson there is a family tree for Saul which you will find informative.

3. Now write out a brief synopsis of what happens in this chapter.

¹ Rabbi Nosson Scherman and Rabbi Meir Zlotowitz, eds., *The Stone Edition of the Chumash* (The Torah: Haftaras and Five Megillos with a commentary anthologized from the Rabbinic Writings), (Brooklyn: Mesorah Publications, 1993), p. 470.

DAY
THREE

1. Do your observations on chapter 3.
 - a. Make sure you add the word *covenant* to your key word list. It's always good to mark this word throughout your Bible. Everything God does is based on covenant, and He is the sovereign administrator of all covenants. This truth will "come home" more significantly in 2 Samuel. Also mark references to *evil* as you would mark *sin*.
 - b. If you get confused about the characters, go back to the lists you compiled yesterday. Watch the dynamics of these relationships, and remember, "there is nothing new under the sun."
 - c. In the Appendix you will find David's family tree, taken from the *New Inductive Study Bible*. It will help you keep David's children straight. Some of these children will take on more significance as you move through 2 Samuel.
 - d. After doing your observations on chapter 3, look at 1 Chronicles 3:1-9, which also mentions David's children. In verse 1 you will note that Abigail's son is named Daniel. This undoubtedly is Chileab.
2. As you observed this chapter, you noted that the author(s) were careful to let us know about Abner taking Saul's concubine and about the return of Michal to David. Alliances by marriage and the taking of a king's concubine were often matters of political import as is seen throughout history. Let's take a few minutes to examine these events further.
 - a. First, let's look at Abner's acquisition of Saul's concubine. The king's wives and concubines by custom went to the successor of the king. Look up the following verses (although they are a little preemptive in our study of the Old Testament) and note what you learn from them:
 - 1) 2 Samuel 16:20-22
 - 2) 1 Kings 1:1-3; 2:13-25

d. What does David's action say to the people?

4. Record the theme of this chapter on your "2 Samuel at a Glance" Chart.

DAY
FOUR

1. Do your observations on 2 Samuel 4. This is a short but significant chapter.
2. Look through the Observation Worksheets that you have completed and note where you marked references to *death* and *killing*. Is there a lot of killing?
3. Who is killed in chapter 4 and why?
4. What do the murderers assume?
5. Look up the following verses and record what you learn from them:
 - a. Genesis 9:4-6
 - b. Exodus 20:13
 - c. Leviticus 24:17,21

- d. Numbers 35:29-34
- e. Deuteronomy 21:1-9
6. How does our present system of dealing with murderers compare with what you have seen in the Scriptures? Does this give you any insight into how murderers should be dealt with and why?
7. What does David's response to the murderers of Ish-bosheth tell you about David?
8. List what you learn from 2 Samuel 4:4 about Mephibosheth. This is important information since we will encounter him again in our study of 2 Samuel.
9. Record the theme of this chapter on the At a Glance chart.

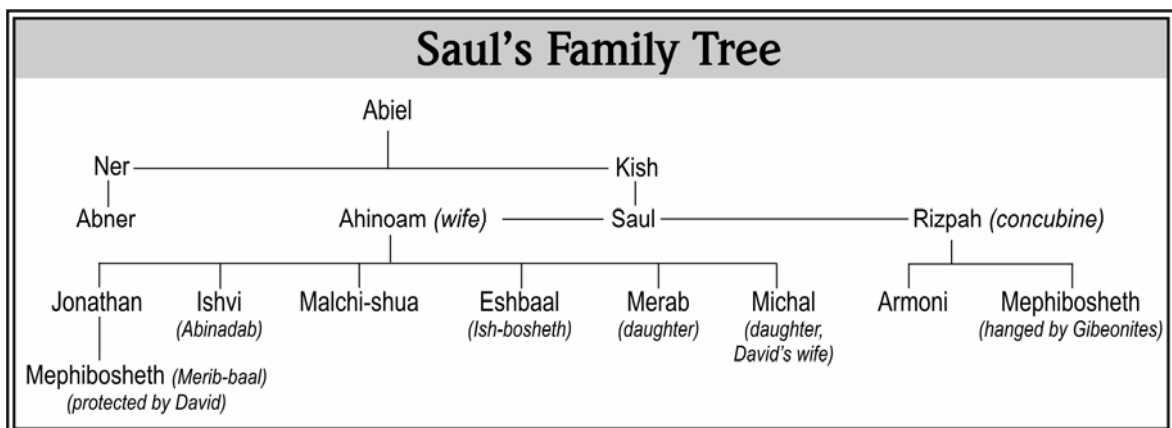
You've done well, Beloved. When Jesus drew aside with His disciples on the Mount of Beatitudes by the Sea of Galilee, He pronounced a blessing upon all those who hunger and thirst for righteousness. The blessing was that they would know satisfaction. May you experience this satisfaction through your studies as you take the precepts you are learning and make them your precepts for life. Remember, these historical accounts are preserved for us that we might learn from the lives of others and from the response of our God to the actions and activities of not only His people Israel but also of the nations.

DAY
FIVE

1. As you begin your time of study in prayer, ask God to help you remember that someday you too will reign with the King of kings and the Lord of lords. Ask Him to use this study of His Word to prepare you for that time.
2. Do your observations on 2 Samuel 5. Add to your key word list the word *establish* (*established*) and mark it if it is a reference to God's establishing something. Time phrases and geographical locations will be important in this chapter, so mark them carefully. Record the theme of the chapter on the At a Glance chart.
3. Now read 1 Chronicles 11:1-9, a parallel passage to 2 Samuel 5:1-10.
4. Jerusalem was also called Jebus and its inhabitants Jebusites. On the map "Israel in the Days of Samuel, Saul, and David," locate Jerusalem. Then look up the following references and see what you learn about the Jebusites and their city:
 - a. Exodus 23:19-25
 - b. Joshua 15:63
 - c. Judges 1:21
5. Now read through 2 Samuel 5:11-25 again. First Chronicles 14 is a parallel passage to this segment of 2 Samuel 5 which you don't need to read unless you have time to spare. However, there are two parallel passages that give us insight into an event that occurs when the Philistines spread themselves out in the valley of Rephaim to attack David. One is in the segment of 2 Samuel 23

8. As we bring this week's study to a close, what is your prayer to God? How has God spoken to you, Beloved...and what is your response?

Remember that God said David was a man after His own heart. Wouldn't you like to be a man or woman after God's own heart? From David we learn so much. Like David, we should grieve over our sin, plead for God's forgiveness, and then walk knowing that He in His abounding grace has given it. And like David, in response to God's faithfulness, we should worship Him with our lives and our service. Do you know God like David did? By doing this study you are taking the time to get to know God the way David did and the reward will be great! You cannot come face to face with the Holy God and not walk away changed forever! Keep studying, there is so much more to learn.²



² Chart taken from *The New Inductive Study Bible*, Harvest House Publishers, Eugene, OR, © 2000, page 470.

2 SAMUEL 1

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

NOW it came about after the death of Saul, when David had returned from the slaughter of the Amalekites, that David remained two days in Ziklag.

- 2 On the third day, behold, a man came out of the camp from Saul, with his clothes torn and dust on his head. And it came about when he came to David that he fell to the ground and prostrated himself.
- 3 Then David said to him, "From where do you come?" And he said to him, "I have escaped from the camp of Israel."
- 4 David said to him, "How did things go? Please tell me." And he said, "The people have fled from the battle, and also many of the people have fallen and are dead; and Saul and Jonathan his son are dead also."
- 5 So David said to the young man who told him, "How do you know that Saul and his son Jonathan are dead?"
- 6 The young man who told him said, "By chance I happened to be on Mount Gilboa, and behold, Saul was leaning on his spear. And behold, the chariots and the horsemen pursued him closely.
- 7 "When he looked behind him, he saw me and called to me. And I said, 'Here I am.'
- 8 "He said to me, 'Who are you?' And I answered him, 'I am an Amalekite.'
- 9 "Then he said to me, 'Please stand beside me and kill me, for agony has seized me because my life still lingers in me.'
- 10 "So I stood beside him and killed him, because I knew that he could not live after he had fallen. And I took the crown which *was* on his head and the bracelet which *was* on his arm, and I have brought them here to my lord."
- 11 Then David took hold of his clothes and tore them, and *so* also *did* all the men who *were* with him.

- 12 They mourned and wept and fasted until evening for Saul and his son Jonathan and for the people of the LORD and the house of Israel, because they had fallen by the sword.
- 13 David said to the young man who told him, “Where are you from?” And he answered, “I am the son of an alien, an Amalekite.”
- 14 Then David said to him, “How is it you were not afraid to stretch out your hand to destroy the LORD’s anointed?”
- 15 And David called one of the young men and said, “Go, cut him down.” So he struck him and he died.
- 16 David said to him, “Your blood is on your head, for your mouth has testified against you, saying, ‘I have killed the LORD’s anointed.’ ”
- 17 Then David chanted with this lament over Saul and Jonathan his son,
18 and he told *them* to teach the sons of Judah *the song of* the bow; behold, it is written in the book of Jashar.
- 19 “Your beauty, O Israel, is slain on your high places!
How have the mighty fallen!
- 20 “Tell *it* not in Gath,
Proclaim it not in the streets of Ashkelon,
Or the daughters of the Philistines will rejoice,
The daughters of the uncircumcised will exult.
- 21 “O mountains of Gilboa,
Let not dew or rain be on you, nor fields of offerings;
For there the shield of the mighty was defiled,
The shield of Saul, not anointed with oil.
- 22 “From the blood of the slain, from the fat of the mighty,
The bow of Jonathan did not turn back,
And the sword of Saul did not return empty.
- 23 “Saul and Jonathan, beloved and pleasant in their life,
And in their death they were not parted;
They were swifter than eagles,
They were stronger than lions.

- 24 “O daughters of Israel, weep over Saul,
Who clothed you luxuriously in scarlet,
Who put ornaments of gold on your apparel.
- 25 “How have the mighty fallen in the midst of the battle!
Jonathan is slain on your high places.
- 26 “I am distressed for you, my brother Jonathan;
You have been very pleasant to me.
Your love to me was more wonderful
Than the love of women.
- 27 “How have the mighty fallen,
And the weapons of war perished!”

2 SAMUEL 2

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

THEN it came about afterwards that David inquired of the LORD, saying, “Shall I go up to one of the cities of Judah?” And the LORD said to him, “Go up.” So David said, “Where shall I go up?” And He said, “To Hebron.”

2 So David went up there, and his two wives also, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess and Abigail the widow of Nabal the Carmelite.

3 And David brought up his men who *were* with him, each with his household; and they lived in the cities of Hebron.

4 Then the men of Judah came and there anointed David king over the house of Judah.

And they told David, saying, “It was the men of Jabesh-gilead who buried Saul.”

5 David sent messengers to the men of Jabesh-gilead, and said to them, “May you be blessed of the LORD because you have shown this kindness to Saul your lord, and have buried him.

6 “Now may the LORD show lovingkindness and truth to you; and I also will show this goodness to you, because you have done this thing.

7 “Now therefore, let your hands be strong and be valiant; for Saul your lord is dead, and also the house of Judah has anointed me king over them.”

8 But Abner the son of Ner, commander of Saul’s army, had taken Ish-bosheth the son of Saul and brought him over to Mahanaim.

9 He made him king over Gilead, over the Ashurites, over Jezreel, over Ephraim, and over Benjamin, even over all Israel.

10 Ish-bosheth, Saul’s son, was forty years old when he became king over Israel, and he was king for two years. The house of Judah, however, followed David.

- 11 The time that David was king in Hebron over the house of Judah was seven years and six months.
- 12 Now Abner the son of Ner, went out from Mahanaim to Gibeon with the servants of Ish-bosheth the son of Saul.
- 13 And Joab the son of Zeruiah and the servants of David went out and met them by the pool of Gibeon; and they sat down, one on the one side of the pool and the other on the other side of the pool.
- 14 Then Abner said to Joab, "Now let the young men arise and hold a contest before us." And Joab said, "Let them arise."
- 15 So they arose and went over by count, twelve for Benjamin and Ish-bosheth the son of Saul, and twelve of the servants of David.
- 16 Each one of them seized his opponent by the head and *thrust* his sword in his opponent's side; so they fell down together. Therefore that place was called Helkath-hazzurim, which is in Gibeon.
- 17 That day the battle was very severe, and Abner and the men of Israel were beaten before the servants of David.
- 18 Now the three sons of Zeruiah were there, Joab and Abishai and Asahel; and Asahel *was as* swift-footed as one of the gazelles which is in the field.
- 19 Asahel pursued Abner and did not turn to the right or to the left from following Abner.
- 20 Then Abner looked behind him and said, "Is that you, Asahel?" And he answered, "It is I."
- 21 So Abner said to him, "Turn to your right or to your left, and take hold of one of the young men for yourself, and take for yourself his spoil." But Asahel was not willing to turn aside from following him.
- 22 Abner repeated again to Asahel, "Turn aside from following me. Why should I strike you to the ground? How then could I lift up my face to your brother Joab?"
- 23 However, he refused to turn aside; therefore Abner struck him in the belly with the butt end of the spear, so that the spear came out at his back. And he fell there and died on the spot. And it came about that all who came to the place where Asahel had fallen and died, stood still.

- 24 But Joab and Abishai pursued Abner, and when the sun was going down, they came to the hill of Ammah, which is in front of Giah by the way of the wilderness of Gibeon.
- 25 The sons of Benjamin gathered together behind Abner and became one band, and they stood on the top of a certain hill.
- 26 Then Abner called to Joab and said, “Shall the sword devour forever? Do you not know that it will be bitter in the end? How long will you refrain from telling the people to turn back from following their brothers?”
- 27 Joab said, “As God lives, if you had not spoken, surely then the people would have gone away in the morning, each from following his brother.”
- 28 So Joab blew the trumpet; and all the people halted and pursued Israel no longer, nor did they continue to fight anymore.
- 29 Abner and his men then went through the Arabah all that night; so they crossed the Jordan, walked all morning, and came to Mahanaim.
- 30 Then Joab returned from following Abner; when he had gathered all the people together, nineteen of David’s servants besides Asahel were missing.
- 31 But the servants of David had struck down many of Benjamin and Abner’s men, *so that* three hundred and sixty men died.
- 32 And they took up Asahel and buried him in his father’s tomb which was in Bethlehem. Then Joab and his men went all night until the day dawned at Hebron.

2 SAMUEL 3

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

NOW there was a long war between the house of Saul and the house of David; and David grew steadily stronger, but the house of Saul grew weaker continually.

- 2 Sons were born to David at Hebron: his firstborn was Amnon, by Ahinoam the Jezreelitess;
- 3 and his second, Chileab, by Abigail the widow of Nabal the Carmelite; and the third, Absalom the son of Maacah, the daughter of Talmi, king of Geshur;
- 4 and the fourth, Adonijah the son of Haggith; and the fifth, Shephatiah the son of Abital;
- 5 and the sixth, Ithream, by David's wife Eglah. These were born to David at Hebron.
- 6 It came about while there was war between the house of Saul and the house of David that Abner was making himself strong in the house of Saul.
- 7 Now Saul had a concubine whose name was Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah; and Ish-bosheth said to Abner, "Why have you gone in to my father's concubine?"
- 8 Then Abner was very angry over the words of Ish-bosheth and said, "Am I a dog's head that belongs to Judah? Today I show kindness to the house of Saul your father, to his brothers and to his friends, and have not delivered you into the hands of David; and yet today you charge me with a guilt concerning the woman.
- 9 "May God do so to Abner, and more also, if as the LORD has sworn to David, I do not accomplish this for him,
- 10 to transfer the kingdom from the house of Saul and to establish the throne of David over Israel and over Judah, from Dan even to Beersheba."

- 11 And he could no longer answer Abner a word, because he was afraid of him.
- 12 Then Abner sent messengers to David in his place, saying, “Whose is the land? Make your covenant with me, and behold, my hand shall be with you to bring all Israel over to you.”
- 13 He said, “Good! I will make a covenant with you, but I demand one thing of you, namely, you shall not see my face unless you first bring Michal, Saul’s daughter, when you come to see me.”
- 14 So David sent messengers to Ish-bosheth, Saul’s son, saying, “Give me my wife Michal, to whom I was betrothed for a hundred foreskins of the Philistines.”
- 15 Ish-bosheth sent and took her from *her* husband, from Paltiel the son of Laish.
- 16 But her husband went with her, weeping as he went, and followed her as far as Bahurim. Then Abner said to him, “Go, return.” So he returned.
- 17 Now Abner had consultation with the elders of Israel, saying, “In times past you were seeking for David to be king over you.
- 18 “Now then, do *it!* For the LORD has spoken of David, saying, ‘By the hand of My servant David I will save My people Israel from the hand of the Philistines and from the hand of all their enemies.’ ”
- 19 Abner also spoke in the hearing of Benjamin; and in addition Abner went to speak in the hearing of David in Hebron all that seemed good to Israel and to the whole house of Benjamin.
- 20 Then Abner and twenty men with him came to David at Hebron. And David made a feast for Abner and the men who were with him.
- 21 Abner said to David, “Let me arise and go and gather all Israel to my lord the king, that they may make a covenant with you, and that you may be king over all that your soul desires.” So David sent Abner away, and he went in peace.
- 22 And behold, the servants of David and Joab came from a raid and brought much spoil with them; but Abner was not with David in Hebron, for he had sent him away, and he had gone in peace.

- 23 When Joab and all the army that was with him arrived, they told Joab, saying, “Abner the son of Ner came to the king, and he has sent him away, and he has gone in peace.”
- 24 Then Joab came to the king and said, “What have you done? Behold, Abner came to you; why then have you sent him away and he is already gone?”
- 25 “You know Abner the son of Ner, that he came to deceive you and to learn of your going out and coming in and to find out all that you are doing.”
- 26 When Joab came out from David, he sent messengers after Abner, and they brought him back from the well of Sirah; but David did not know *it*.
- 27 So when Abner returned to Hebron, Joab took him aside into the middle of the gate to speak with him privately, and there he struck him in the belly so that he died on account of the blood of Asahel his brother.
- 28 Afterward when David heard it, he said, “I and my kingdom are innocent before the LORD forever of the blood of Abner the son of Ner.
- 29 “May it fall on the head of Joab and on all his father’s house; and may there not fail from the house of Joab one who has a discharge, or who is a leper, or who takes hold of a distaff, or who falls by the sword, or who lacks bread.”
- 30 So Joab and Abishai his brother killed Abner because he had put their brother Asahel to death in the battle at Gibeon.
- 31 Then David said to Joab and to all the people who were with him, “Tear your clothes and gird on sackcloth and lament before Abner.” And King David walked behind the bier.
- 32 Thus they buried Abner in Hebron; and the king lifted up his voice and wept at the grave of Abner, and all the people wept.
- 33 The king chanted a *lament* for Abner and said,
“Should Abner die as a fool dies?”

- 34 “Your hands were not bound, nor your feet put in fetters;
As one falls before the wicked, you have fallen.”
And all the people wept again over him.
- 35 Then all the people came to persuade David to eat bread while it was still day; but David vowed, saying, “May God do so to me, and more also, if I taste bread or anything else before the sun goes down.”
- 36 Now all the people took note *of it*, and it pleased them, just as everything the king did pleased all the people.
- 37 So all the people and all Israel understood that day that it had not been *the will* of the king to put Abner the son of Ner to death.
- 38 Then the king said to his servants, “Do you not know that a prince and a great man has fallen this day in Israel?”
- 39 “I am weak today, though anointed king; and these men the sons of Zeruah are too difficult for me. May the LORD repay the evildoer according to his evil.”

2 SAMUEL 4

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

NOW when Ish-bosheth, Saul's son, heard that Abner had died in Hebron, he lost courage, and all Israel was disturbed.

- 2 Saul's son *had* two men who were commanders of bands: the name of the one was Baanah and the name of the other Rechab, sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, of the sons of Benjamin (for Beeroth is also considered *part* of Benjamin,
- 3 and the Beerothites fled to Gittaim and have been aliens there until this day).
- 4 Now Jonathan, Saul's son, had a son crippled in his feet. He was five years old when the report of Saul and Jonathan came from Jezreel, and his nurse took him up and fled. And it happened that in her hurry to flee, he fell and became lame. And his name was Mephibosheth.
- 5 So the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, Rechab and Baanah, departed and came to the house of Ish-bosheth in the heat of the day while he was taking his midday rest.
- 6 They came to the middle of the house as if to get wheat, and they struck him in the belly; and Rechab and Baanah his brother escaped.
- 7 Now when they came into the house, as he was lying on his bed in his bedroom, they struck him and killed him and beheaded him. And they took his head and traveled by way of the Arabah all night.
- 8 Then they brought the head of Ish-bosheth to David at Hebron and said to the king, "Behold, the head of Ish-bosheth the son of Saul, your enemy, who sought your life; thus the LORD has given my lord the king vengeance this day on Saul and his descendants."
- 9 David answered Rechab and Baanah his brother, sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, and said to them, "As the LORD lives, who has redeemed my life from all distress,

- 10 when one told me, saying, 'Behold, Saul is dead,' and thought he was bringing good news, I seized him and killed him in Ziklag, which was the reward I gave him for *his* news.
- 11 "How much more, when wicked men have killed a righteous man in his own house on his bed, shall I not now require his blood from your hand and destroy you from the earth?"
- 12 Then David commanded the young men, and they killed them and cut off their hands and feet and hung them up beside the pool in Hebron. But they took the head of Ish-bosheth and buried it in the grave of Abner in Hebron.

2 SAMUEL 5

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

THEN all the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said, “Behold, we are your bone and your flesh.

- 2 “Previously, when Saul was king over us, you were the one who led Israel out and in. And the LORD said to you, ‘You will shepherd My people Israel, and you will be a ruler over Israel.’ ”
- 3 So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a covenant with them before the LORD at Hebron; then they anointed David king over Israel.
- 4 David was thirty years old when he became king, *and* he reigned forty years.
- 5 At Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months, and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty-three years over all Israel and Judah.
- 6 Now the king and his men went to Jerusalem against the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land, and they said to David, “You shall not come in here, but the blind and lame will turn you away”; thinking, “David cannot enter here.”
- 7 Nevertheless, David captured the stronghold of Zion, that is the city of David.
- 8 David said on that day, “Whoever would strike the Jebusites, let him reach the lame and the blind, who are hated by David’s soul, through the water tunnel.” Therefore they say, “The blind or the lame shall not come into the house.”
- 9 So David lived in the stronghold and called it the city of David. And David built all around from the Millo and inward.
- 10 David became greater and greater, for the LORD God of hosts was with him.
- 11 Then Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David with cedar trees and carpenters and stonemasons; and they built a house for David.

- 12 And David realized that the LORD had established him as king over Israel, and that He had exalted his kingdom for the sake of His people Israel.
- 13 Meanwhile David took more concubines and wives from Jerusalem, after he came from Hebron; and more sons and daughters were born to David.
- 14 Now these are the names of those who were born to him in Jerusalem: Shammua, Shobab, Nathan, Solomon,
- 15 Ibhar, Elishua, Nepheg, Japhia,
- 16 Elishama, Eliada and Eliphelet.
- 17 When the Philistines heard that they had anointed David king over Israel, all the Philistines went up to seek out David; and when David heard *of it*, he went down to the stronghold.
- 18 Now the Philistines came and spread themselves out in the valley of Rephaim.
- 19 Then David inquired of the LORD, saying, “Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will You give them into my hand?” And the LORD said to David, “Go up, for I will certainly give the Philistines into your hand.”
- 20 So David came to Baal-perazim and defeated them there; and he said, “The LORD has broken through my enemies before me like the breakthrough of waters.” Therefore he named that place Baal-perazim.
- 21 They abandoned their idols there, so David and his men carried them away.
- 22 Now the Philistines came up once again and spread themselves out in the valley of Rephaim.
- 23 When David inquired of the LORD, He said, “You shall not go *directly* up; circle around behind them and come at them in front of the balsam trees.
- 24 “It shall be, when you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam trees, then you shall act promptly, for then the LORD will have gone out before you to strike the army of the Philistines.”
- 25 Then David did so, just as the LORD had commanded him, and struck down the Philistines from Geba as far as Gezer.

2 SAMUEL AT A GLANCE

Book Theme:

Segment Divisions		Chapter Themes
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PRECEPT UPON PRECEPT

2 Samuel and 1 Chronicles *David's Family Tree*

