

Wednesday Night BIBLE STUDY

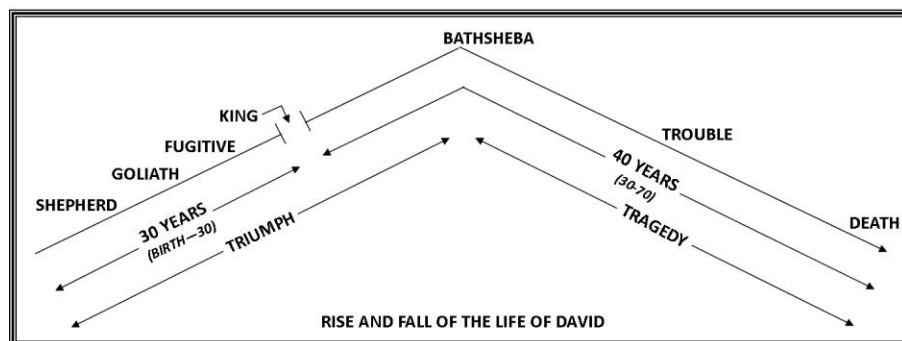
Wednesday, February 27, 2013 – First Baptist Church Buda
Midweek Prayer Meeting & Bible Study

DAVID... A MAN AFTER GOD'S HEART "New King, New Throne, Same Lord" 2 Samuel 1-5

In this study we come to the continental divide of this series of the life of David. It is time for us to look back a bit at some of David's yesterdays and forward to some of his tomorrows. Call this a mid-series orientation perhaps, but without it, the full impact of this man's life might be lost. No one reading these words has ever known the experience of being promoted from a fugitive to a king overnight. Think of it! One day you're on the bottom... the next, on the top. With wisdom and humility, the new king took over a new throne. David's life gradually built toward a peak until his encounter with Bathsheba. His life was sprinkled with a mixture of accomplishments and disappointments which are worth noting. However, as we look at this man... a man after God's own heart... we should attempt to look at him as God did, in no way minimizing his defeats, but at the same time focusing on his victories.

I. PANORAMIC VIEW OF DAVID'S LIFE (Psalm 78:70-72)

In a few words, these verses (Ps. 78:70-72) survey the life of a man who lived seventy years. ⁷⁰ He (God) chose David his servant and took him from the sheep pens; ⁷¹ from tending the sheep he brought him to be the shepherd of his people Jacob, of Israel his inheritance. ⁷² And David shepherded them with integrity of heart; with skillful hands he led them." As a child, David was a shepherd in Bethlehem; as a young adult (late teens to age thirty), he was a fugitive. At age thirty he became king and reigned forty years (2 Samuel 5:4). His life pattern is similar to the roofline of a house. Observe his movements through both triumph and tragedy.



II. FROM FUGITIVE TO MONARCH (2 Samuel 5:4-5 & Selected)

When David first rose to power, he ruled over the area known as Judah (in southern Palestine). He ruled from Hebron for seven years and six months, after which he moved to Jerusalem and ruled all of Judah for thirty-three years.

1. **David as King in Hebron Over Judah (2 Samuel 2:11, 3:1-14)** – According to 2 Samuel 2:1, David obediently went up to Hebron in response to God’s direction. From Saul’s reign there remained some satellite kings scattered around the north. David confined his rule to Judah, and let God handle the other kings in His own way. He didn’t push God into action, but had learned to allow God to work His own plans.

Disappointments at Hebron: Numerous times David repeated a wrong choice, which together added up to a polygamous life. He took seven wives who together gave him seven children. Observe the chart below, noting first the wives, and below each, their offspring:

WIVES	AHINOAM	ABIGAIL	MAACAH	HAGGITH	ABITAL	ELGAH	MICHAL
CHILDREN	AMNON	CHILEAB (Daniel)	ABSALOM TAMAR	ADONIJAH	SHEPHTIAH	ITHREAM	(No children)

Not only did David have these wives, but also others who remained nameless, as well as many concubines. This was a black spot on David’s character which he could not hide.

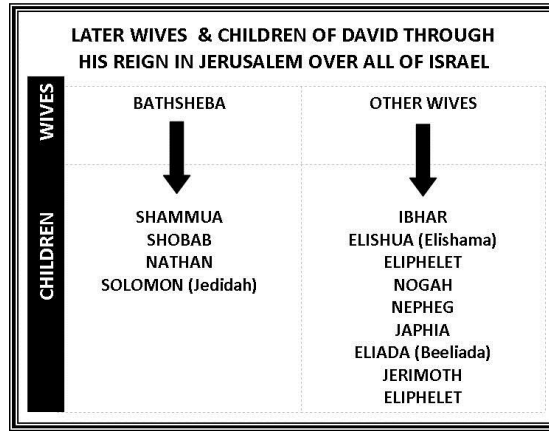
2. **David as King in Jerusalem Over All of Israel (2 Samuel 5:5-7, 9-10, 13)** – David moved his throne to a more strategic place geographically. Jerusalem could be easily defended, and a continuous spring served the site. Jerusalem was known as “The City of David” (v.9). For thirty-three years he enjoyed a limitless reign, great power, and great blessing from God. He “became greater and greater, for the Lord... was with him” (v.10). In Jerusalem his accomplishment and disappointments were mixed.

Accomplishments at Jerusalem:

- David expanded Israel’s boundaries from 6,000 to 60,000 square miles.
- David established extensive trade routes to the entire known world.
- David unified the nation, joining the northern and southern territories.
- David subdued the enemies of Israel more completely than ever had been done since the people had entered the land under Joshua. He was genuinely a “man of war.”
- David shaped a national interest in spiritual concern.

Disappointments at Jerusalem:

- David became so enamored with public life and pursuits that he lost control himself and of his family at home. Again he added more wives... more children. Observe the following chart that chronicles these additional wives and children.



The total size of David's immediate family (excluding concubines and their offspring) was twenty sons and one daughter (1 Chronicles 3:1-9). Two major mistakes were made by David:

2 Major Mistakes by David:

- (1) Too many wives to attend properly
- (2) Too many children to discipline responsibly

- He indulged himself in extravagant activities of sensual passion... numerous wives and concubines (2 Samuel 5:10-13), in appropriate seasons of leisure (2 Samuel 11:1), and unaccountable lust (2 Samuel 11:2ff). He momentarily put away from his mind the consequences, while he gave himself fully to the satisfaction of his flesh.
- He became a victim of self-sufficiency and pride (2 Samuel 24:1-3, 1 Chronicles 21:1-7 & 14).

NOTE: This is not a pretty picture of David. If called by any other name, this being all you knew about Him, he would probably not be someone that many of us would want to be around, but would rather be someone we would speak against as being morally corrupt and depraved. Remember that Scripture is very honest and lets us see not only the good but the bad as well. This is not to drive us away and point us to David's sin, but rather to pull us to God and remind us of just how good and gracious He truly is. Despite us, our faults and failing, God can use us if we surrender our all to Him.

III. TIMELESS AND PRICELESS TRUTHS UPON WHICH TO LIVE

- 1. No personal pursuit is more important than the cultivation of a godly family** – This requires discipline, concern, courtesy, commitment, acceptance, and involvement.
- 2. No character trait needs more attention than genuine integrity** – This requires honesty, standing alone, authenticity, principles, obedience, and maintenance of one's word... both publicly and privately.