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Week 15 - 1 Samuel 25-31; 2 Samuel 1-6; various Psalms

Week 15 Bible Readings

Sunday: Psa. 63,12,57

Monday: Psa. 58, 120; 1st Sam. 25 Tuesday: Psa. 141; 1st Sam. 26,27 Wednesday: 1st Sam. 28,29,30 Thursday: 1st Sam. 31; 2nd Sam. 1,2 Friday: Psa. 101; 2nd Sam. 3,4

Saturday: 2nd Sam. 5; Psa. 139; 2nd Sam. 6

Week 15 Chapter Titles

- 1 Samuel 25. Samuel Dies
- 1 Samuel 26. David Spares Saul #2
- 1 Samuel 27. David's Backsliding in Philistia
- 1 Samuel 28. Saul and the Witch of Endor
- 1 Samuel 29. David & Achish
- 1 Samuel 30. David and Ziklag (2 Wives Captured)
- 1 Samuel 31. The Death of Saul
- 2 Samuel 1. Saul & Jonathan's Death Told to David
- 2 Samuel 2. Civil War—Abner vs. David
- 2 Samuel 3. Civil War—House of Saul vs. David
- 2 Samuel 4. The Murder of Ish-Bosheth
- 2 Samuel 5. David Becomes King over Israel
- 2 Samuel 6. Ark to Jerusalem
- Psalm 12. Liars Against the Truth
- Psalm 57. Refuge in Trouble
- Psalm 58. Imprecatory Psalm
- Psalm 63. "Most Beautiful" Psalm
- Psalm 101. The King and His Subjects
- Psalm 120. Prayer Against a Lying Tongue
- Psalm 139. Spiritual Life Psalm
- Psalm 141. "Guard My Speech" Psalm

Psalm 63

- 1. David yearns for the Lord, and for His Word like a sheep in desperate need for the Shepherd's care (Ps. 63:1).
- 2. David's heavenly-mindedness allows Him to appreciate the Lord in His heavenly sanctuary (Ps. 63:2).
- 3. The believer who is focused on God's heavenly glory will have a value system appropriately adjusted (Ps. 63:3-5).
- 4. The believer who abides in the Word during the day can meditate upon it in his sleep (Ps. 63:6-8).

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5. The angelic conflict will have its conclusion by the power of the Lord (Ps. 63:9-11).

Psalm 12

- 1. David's adversity testing leaves him with the impression that there are no other godly men to share in his burdens (Ps. 12:1).
- 2. David's conflict with the rulers and powers was manifest through the Adversary's lying agents (Ps. 12:2-4).
- 3. The Lord will defend His servant, even as He defends His Truth (Ps. 12:5-7).
- 4. The believer's vindication may have to wait until eternity, because in this present evil age, vileness is exalted (Ps. 12:8).

Psalm 57

- 1. This psalm is David's plea to God for grace upon grace (Ps. 57:1).
- 2. This psalm is David's praise to God for His faithful answers to prayer (Ps. 57:2,3).
- 3. David enjoys the Lord's glory even in the midst of angelic conflict (Ps. 57:4-6).
- 4. David concludes with an orchestra of praise (Ps. 57:7-11).

Thoughts & Notes on Psalm 58

- 1. This psalm is an imprecatory psalm against the Satanic forces of evil in this world.
- 2. David addresses this song to gods and men (Ps. 58:1).
 - a. ??? 'el #410: god, mighty one, angel.
 - b. ????????? beney 'adam: sons of man.
- 3. Fallen humanity, walking according to the course of fallen angels, pursues works of unrighteousness (Ps. 58:2-5; Eph. 2:2).
- 4. David calls upon the Lord to leave the rulers and authorities disarmed (Ps. 58:6,7), and ultimately destroyed (Ps. 58:8,9).
- 5. Eternal vindication must await the appointed time of judgment (Ps. 58:10,11).

Psalm 120

- 1. Psalm 120 is the first of the Songs of Ascent (Ps. 120-134).
 - a. These songs were sung by pilgrims as they ascended to Jerusalem for the annual feasts.
 - b. David is the author of 4 of the 15 ascent psalms (Ps. 122,124,131,133). Solomon wrote one (Ps. 127), and the remaining 10 are anonymous.
- 2. The psalmist testifies how the Lord answered prayer, and delivered him from the Liar (Ps. 120:1-4).
- 3. The psalmist laments how a believer living in the world system encounters hostility (Ps. 120:5-7).

- 1. The death of Samuel is marked by national mourning, but David is excluded from such activity (1st Sam. 25:1).
- 2. Even as Samuel is leaving the scene, the Bible introduces us to another character—Nabal the fool (1st Sam. 25:2,3,25).
 - a. ????? nabal #5036: foolish; #5037: Nabal.
 - b. Nabal is described as "very great" ??????? ????? gadowl me'od.

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- c. This greatness is limited to temporal-life wealth.
- 3. David & his men enjoy a beneficial relationship with the shepherds of Nabal (1st Sam. 25:7,8,15,16,21).
- 4. David informs Nabal of an opportunity to express grace, and invites him to redeem that opportunity for Nabal's own benefit (1st Sam. 25:5-8).
- 5. Nabal rejects David's emissaries, and sends them away with tremendous scorn (1st Sam. 25:9-12).
- 6. David responds to the insult with carnal anger, and intends to take his own vengeance (1st Sam. 25:13,21,22).
- 7. Nabal's servants are not fools, however, and they take the matter to Abigail (1st Sam. 25:14-20).
- 8. Abigail's gentle answer turns away the wrath of David, and serves to keep him from a great evil (1st Sam. 25:23-31).
- 9. David gives praise to God for overruling his near evil, and praises Abigail for being the Lord's instrument of blessing (1st Sam. 25:32-35).
- 10. Nabal's enjoyment of the passing pleasures of this world comes to a sad conclusion (1st Sam. 25:36-38).
- 11. David marries Abigail, as a second wife to Ahinoam of Jezreel (1st Sam. 25:39-42,43).
- 12. The author of 1st Samuel informs us that King Saul has by this time annulled David's marriage to Michal, and married her to another man (1st Sam. 25:44).

Psalm 141

- 1. David worships the Lord through prayer (Ps. 141:1,2).
 - a. He cannot offer the required sacrifices at the tabernacle.
 - b. He understands the spiritual significance of prayer as the reality behind the ritual.
- 2. David asks the Lord to protect him from sins of the tongue, mental attitude sins, and overt sins (Ps. 141:3,4a).
- 3. Wicked associates need to be avoided (Ps. 141:4b), and godly friends need to be listened to when they reprove him (Ps. 141:5a).
- 4. David looks to the Lord to deliver him from the traps and snares the Adversary sets against him (Ps. 141:8-10).

- 1. The Ziphites betray David's location to King Saul yet again (1st Sam. 26:1; cf. 23:19ff.).
- 2. David's spies keep him informed of Saul's movements, and his forces are able to shadow Saul's forces (1st Sam. 26:2-5).
- 3. David sneaks into Saul's camp in order to obtain evidence of his own innocence.
 - a. He invites a companion to go with him, and Abishai steps forward (1st Sam. 26:6).
 - b. Abishai does not know David's intent, and volunteers to assassinate Saul (1st Sam. 26:7,8).
 - c. David has to teach Bible class once again about not striking the Lord's anointed (1st Sam. 26:9-11; cf. 24:6,7).
 - d. David takes Saul's spear, and the jug of water by his head, and returns to his hideout (1st Sam. 26:12a).
 - e. The Lord had provided for this opportunity for David & Abishai through a Divine sleep upon Saul's soldiers (1st Sam. 26:12b).

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- 4. David calls out a challenge to Abner, and highlights Abner's faithlessness to protect the king (1st Sam. 26:13-16).
- 5. Saul then understands David's faithfulness in not taking his life (1st Sam. 26:17-24).
- 6. David departs from Saul's presence, at peace with Saul (1st Sam. 26:25), but not returning to Saul's service as formerly (cf. 1st Sam. 19:7).

- 1. A period of time comes in David's life when his life as a fugitive produces a carnal mental attitude (1st Sam. 27:1).
 - a. He mentally accepts his eventual death at the hands of Saul.
 - b. He views a number of possible temporal-life circumstances, and selects what he believes to be the "best."
- 2. David's second sojourn in the land of the Philistines comes as the Captain of an elite mercenary force (1st Sam. 27:2,3,5-7).
 - a. Achish, king of Gath, accepts David's mercenary service.
 - b. Achish appoints David as the Philistine Prince of Ziklag.
- 3. David has to lie to Achish in order to prove his loyalty to Achish (1st Sam. 27:8-12). He has to massacre all the witnesses to his activity, though, to cover his tracks.

1 Samuel 28

- 1. The Philistines unite their city-states once again for a combined war against Israel (1st Sam. 28:1a).
- 2. Achish makes it clear to David that he will be a participant in the war against his own people, and David eagerly consents (1st Sam. 28:1b,2).
- 3. Saul is so desperate for Divine guidance that he uses Satanic methods in an attempt to obtain it (1st Sam. 28:3-7).
- 4. The Lord actually allows for a communications channel to be opened with Samuel in Sheol, and Samuel delivers one final Bible class after his physical death (1st Sam. 28:8-19).
- 5. Saul responds to his Divine rebuke with fear & trembling, and then he enjoys the witch's hospitality (1st Sam. 28:20-25).

1 Samuel 29

- 1. The Lord steps in and overrules David's negative volition.
 - a. The other Philistine Lords are displeased with David's presence, and order Achish to dismiss David from the pending war (1st Sam. 29:3-5).
 - b. Achish defended David to the Philistine commanders, and lamented having to relieve David of duty (1st Sam. 29:3,6-10).
 - c. David protests his dismissal, and desires to serve Achish in battle.
- 2. The Lord's timing, however, is perfect for David, because it returns David to Ziklag in time to pursue the Amalekites (1st Sam. 30).

- 1. During David's absence, the Amalekites raided Ziklag, and took the Hebrew & Philistine wives and children captive (1st Sam. 30:1-5).
- 2. This was the Lord's Divine discipline in David's life, designed to bring David to repentance.
- 3. David and his men come through their emotional trauma in two opposite directions (1st Sam. 30:6).

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- a. The people's grief produced a bitter soul that was intent on murder.
 - P₁=Personal loyalty will be overcome by personal interests (Matt. 16:23).
 - P₂=Divine loyalty is maintained by Divine interests (Matt. 26:39).
- b. David's grief produced great pressure that was strengthened in the Lord.
- 4. David goes to the Father in prayer for the first time in a long time (1st Sam. 30:7,8; cp. 1st Sam. 23:2.4.6.9-12).
 - a. He asks of the Lord.
 - b. The Lord answers him (Jms. 1:5).
- 5. The Lord's next instrument for David's instruction is an anonymous Egyptian (1st Sam. 30:11-15).
 - a. The Egyptian was a foreign lackey of the Amalekites, who was no longer of any benefit to his former masters.
 - b. David undoubtedly made the connection with himself, as a foreign lackey of the Philistines, and how they had summarily dismissed him.
- 6. The Lord provides a great victory for David, and in His grace, provides for the restoration of all the families of Ziklag (1st Sam. 30:16-20).
- 7. David's restoration to fellowship with God is marked by his spiritual capacity to instruct his men in God's revealed will for the distribution of booty (1st Sam. 30:21-31).

- 1. By the grace of God, David is spared from observing, or even participating in, the death of Saul & Jonathan.
- 2. Saul's three oldest sons were slain on Mt. Gilboa (1st Sam. 31:1,2). Ish-bosheth is not present for this battle, and will shortly succeed his father on the throne of Israel (2nd Sam. 2:8-10).
- 3. Saul is wounded, and asks his armor bearer to put him to death (1st Sam. 31:3,4a).
- 4. When the armor bearer won't do it, Saul takes his own life, becoming one of only five recorded suicides in Scripture (1st Sam. 31:4b).
- 5. The Philistines enjoyed their plundering of Israel, and displayed Saul's headless body for their enjoyment (1st Sam. 31:5-10).

The men of Jabesh-gilead repaid their debt to Saul by rescuing his body, and burying him at Jabesh (1st Sam. 31:11-13; cf. 1st Sam. 11:1-13).

Second Samuel Basileiwn B b lawnv

As noted in the introduction to First Samuel, our 1st & 2nd Samuel were originally one book. The story of David continues after the death of Saul.

David reigns in Judah for 7 ½ years, and then from Jerusalem for an additional 33 years.

The Book of 2^{nd} Samuel contains the beautiful, unconditional Davidic Covenant (ch. 7). The Book of 2^{nd} Samuel also contains the tragic failure of David with Bathsheba.

[See the introduction to First Samuel for comment on Author and Title.]

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Focus	David's Triumphs		David's Transgressions		David's Troubles				
	1:1		10:19	11:1	11:27	12:1			24:25
Divisions	Political Triumphs	Spiritual Triumphs	Military Triumphs	Sine of Adultery and	Murder		Trouble in David's House	Trouble in David's	Kingdom
	1:1 5:25	6:1 7:29	8:1 10:19	11:1	11:27	12:1	13:36	13:37	24:25
oics		Success		,	Sin		Fail	lure	
Topics		Obedience Disobedience		Obedience Disobedience Judgment			ment		
Place	David in Hebron	David in Teriisalem							
Time	7½ Years	33 Years							

- 1. Upon David's return to Ziklag, he receives a report on the Philistine-Israel war (2nd Sam. 1:1-16).
 - a. Since it is a three day journey from the battlefront to Ziklag (1st Sam. 30:1), David comes to know that the death of Saul & Jonathan occurred on the same day as the rescue of Abigail & Ahinoam.
 - b. It was an Egyptian refugee that gave David good news (1st Sam. 30:13ff.), but it is an Amalekite refugee that gives David the bad news about Saul & Jonathan (2nd Sam. 1:8).
 - c. The Amalekite lies about his role in Saul's death, in a worldly attempt to find favor in David's eyes (2nd Sam. 1:6-10).
 - d. David executes the Amalekite for his confessed role in Saul's death (2nd Sam. 1:14-16).
- 2. David composed a lament for Saul & Jonathan (2nd Sam. 1:17-27).
 - a. He intended the sons of Judah to learn the song (2nd Sam. 1:18a).
 - b. It was recorded in the Book of Jashar (2nd Sam. 1:18b; cf. Josh. 10:13).
 - c. He desired that this song not be made known to the Philistines (2nd Sam. 1:20).
 - d. He curses the location of their death (2nd Sam. 1:21).
 - e. He praises the life and union of Saul & Jonathan (2nd Sam. 1:22-24).
 - f. He laments Jonathan especially in his conclusion (2nd Sam. 1:25-27).

- 1. David becomes the King of Judah (2nd Sam. 2:1-7).
- 2. Ish-Bosheth becomes the King of Israel (2nd Sam. 2:8-11).
- 3. The time-frame is established (2nd Sam. 2:10,11).

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- a. Ish-Bosheth reigned for two years.
- b. David reigned in Judah for seven and one-half years.
- c. The likely harmonization fixes 5½ years for Abner to reclaim Israel from the Philistines and install Ish-Bosheth as the king (cf. 1st Sam. 31:7).
- 4. Civil war erupted between Judah & Israel (2nd Sam. 2:12-17).
 - a. The opposing generals met at the pool of Gibeon, and initiated a contest for the rule of the twelve tribes (2nd Sam. 2:12-15).
 - 1) Joab is David's nephew (1st Chr. 2:15,16), and the General of David's armies (2nd Sam. 2:13,14).
 - a) Joab has only been referred to one prior time in Scripture (1st Sam. 26:6), in a passing reference as the brother of Abishai.
 - b) Joab will later solidify his position as General of the Armies through personal valor at Jerusalem (1st Chr. 11:4-9).
 - c) Joab will never be listed as one of David's mighty men (2nd Sam. 23:8-39; 1st Chr. 11:10-47).
 - 2) Abner is Ish-Bosheth's great-uncle, and the General of Saul's armies (1st Sam. 14:50.51).
 - b. The twelve on twelve gladiatorial combat resulted in all twenty-four participants being killed (2nd Sam. 2:16).
 - c. General battle then erupted with David's men smashing Ish-Bosheth's men (2nd Sam. 2:17,30,31).
 - 1) David's forces lost twenty men.
 - 2) Ish-Bosheth lost 360 men.
- 5. After the battle, Asahel (the brother of Joab & Abishai) continued to pursue Abner, who unwillingly had to kill him for his own self-defense (2nd Sam. 2:18-32).

Thoughts & Notes on Psalm 101

- 1. Psalm 101 can be thought of as David's inaugural prayer when he takes office as King of Israel.
- 2. David intends to conduct his reign, as he conducts his life—according to the integrity of his heart (Ps. 101:1,2,6-8).
- 3. David understands that this life of integrity will require a removal of evil things (Ps. 101:3,4), and evil people (Ps. 101:5).

- 1. David's house increases in his early reign through multiple marriages, and multiple children (2nd Sam. 3:1-5).
 - a. Amnon, "Faithful." Ama amnown #550. Ama aman #539: to confirm, support. Son of Ahinoam the Jezreelitess. Amnon is featured primarily in 2nd Sam. 13.
 - b. Chileab, "Like his father." bal Kikil'ab **3609.

 K + I + ba; ab **1. In 1st Chr. 3:1, he is known as Daniel, "God is my judge." Son of Abigail the Carmelitess, widow of foolish Nabal (1st Sam. 25:3ff.). Chileab is not prominently featured in Scripture.
 - c. Absalom, "My father is peace." μ/l vyba} abiyshalowm **53: ba;ab **1 + μ/l v;shalowm **7695: peace. Son of Maacah, daughter of Talmai, King of Geshur. Absalom is primarily featured in 2nd Sam. 13-19.
 d. Adonijah, "My Lord is YHWH." \hat{\text{WhYnd@}} adoniyyahu **138. \dar{\text{da}};adown **113: \lord + h\hat{\text{why YHWH **3068}}. Son
 - d. Adonijah, "My Lord is YHWH." \\hat{\text{M\fin}}\\delta\text{0}\\delta\\delta\text{aloniyyahu}\\\delta^{138}\). \\delta\text{da;adown}\\\delta^{113}\): \lord + \hat{\text{Why YHWH}}\\\delta^{3068}\). Son of Haggith. Adonijah is primarily featured in 1st Kgs. 1&2.
 - e. Shephatiah, "YHWH has judged." hyf by shephatyah **8203. fpV;shaphat **8199: to judge, govern + hwhy YHWH **3068. Son of Abital. Shephatiah is not featured elsewhere.
 - f. Ithream, "Profit of the people." $\mu[\Gamma]$ yithre am "3507. Γ yether "3499": remainder, excess + $\mu[$ am "5971": people. Son of Eglah. Ithream is not featured elsewhere.

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- 2. The House of Saul, under Ish-Bosheth was getting weaker, as Abner increased his personal influence (2nd Sam. 3:1,6-11).
 - a. During the Davidic/Saulide War, Abner's position in the house of Saul greatly improved (2nd Sam. 3:6).
 - b. Abner claimed Saul's concubine for himself (2nd Sam. 3:7).
 - c. This could be seen as a claim for the throne (2nd Sam. 12:8; 16:21).
 - d. When Ish-Bosheth challenged Abner's right to Rizpah, Abner voiced his intention to give the Kingdom of Israel to Daivd (2nd Sam. 3:8-11).
- 3. The divided kingdom is nearly united when Abner defects to David (2nd Sam. 3:12-21).
 - a. David agrees to Abner's offer, conditional upon his return of Michal to David (2nd Sam. 3:12-16).
 - b. Abner engaged in political campaigning on behalf of David, with the elders of Israel, & the tribe of Benjamin, and then reported favorably back to David (2nd Sam. 3:17-19).
 - c. David gives a feast for Abner and his twenty men, and commissions him to finish the work of unification (2nd Sam. 3:20,21).
- 4. The sons of Zeruiah murder Abner (2nd Sam. 3:22-39).
- 5. David laments the news of Abner's death (2nd Sam. 3:28,29,31-39; cf. 1st Kgs. 2:5,6).

- 1. The death of Abner was a terrifying event for Ish-Bosheth, and the Kingdom of Israel (2nd Sam. 4:1).
- 2. Ish-Bosheth is assassinated by his (Beerothite/Gibeonite) military commanders (2nd Sam. 4:2,3,5,6), probably as revenge for Saul's abuse of the Gibeonites (2nd Sam. 21:1-6).
- 3. The two assassins go to David, anticipating a reward (2nd Sam. 4:8).
- 4. The two assassins receive the same reward the Amalekite received (2nd Sam. 4:9-12; cp. 1:14-16).

2 Samuel 5

- 1. All the tribes of Israel came to David and submitted to his rule (2nd Sam. 5:1-5).
- 2. David conquers Jerusalem (in Benjamite territory), and makes it his capital (2nd Sam. 5:6-10; 1st Chr. 11:4-9).
- 3. David enjoyed a peaceful relationship with Tyre (2nd Sam. 5:11,12).
- 4. David added wives, concubines, and many children in Jerusalem (2nd Sam. 5:13-16; 1st Chr. 3:5-9; 14:3-7).
- 5. David's united kingdom was tested by two Philistine invasions (2nd Sam. 5:17-25).
 - a. Invasion #1 was destroyed at Baal-perazim (2nd Sam. 5:20), and great financial blessings were reaped for Israel (2nd Sam. 5:21, cf. Job 27:16,17; Prov. 13:22; 28:8; Ecc. 2:26).
 - b. Invasion #2 was destroyed when the Lord went forth and drove the Philistines into David's trap to their rear (2nd Sam. 5:22-25, cf. 2nd Kgs. 7:6), providing a crushing victory over the united Philistine armies (2nd Sam. 5:25).
 - c. Total domination of the Philistine nation will shortly come (2nd Sam. 8:1), although they will revolt again near the end of David's life (2nd Sam. 21:15-22).

Psalm 139

- 1. Psalm 139 consists of four stanzas of six verses each.
- 2. David celebrates God's omniscience (Ps. 139:1-6).
- 3. David celebrates God's omnipresence (Ps. 139:7-12).

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4. David celebrates God's omnipotence (Ps. 139:13-18).

David celebrates God's preeminence (Ps. 139:19-24).

- 1. David desired to bring the Ark of the Covenant to his new capital of Jerusalem (2nd Sam. 6:1,2).
- 2. The Ark had been at Kiriath-Jearim since 1st Sam. 7:1,2 (perhaps 100 years).
- 3. David & his men utilize Philistine methodology for the transportation of the Ark (2nd Sam. 6:3,4; cf. 1st Sam. 6:7).
- 4. David & all Israel celebrated in the parade (2nd Sam. 6:5; 1st Chr. 13:8). qj c;sachaq ^{#7832}: *to laugh, play, dance, mock.* (Jdg. 16:25,27; 1st Sam. 18:7; 2nd Sam. 2:14; 6:5,21; 1st Chr. 13:8; 15:29; Ps. 2:4; 37:13; 52:6; 59:8; 104:26; Prov. 8:30,31; 26:19; 31:25; Ecc. 3:4; Zech. 8:5).
- 5. Uzzah is struck dead for touching the Ark (2nd Sam. 6:6,7; 1st Chr. 13:9,10). This is an issue of irreverence, or negligence.
- 6. David becomes angry, afraid, and adamant (2nd Sam. 6:8,9,10; 1st Chr. 13:11,12,13).
- 7. David entrusts the Ark into Obed-Edom's care, and three months later makes a second attempt to bring the Ark to Jerusalem (2nd Sam. 6:11,12).
 - a. This time, he was careful to observe Levitical procedures for the transportation of the Ark $(1^{st}$ Chr. 15:1-28).
 - b. David presided, not as a priest, but as a Prophet-King (2nd Sam. 6:14; 1st Chr. 15:27 cp. 1st Sam. 2:18).
- 8. Michal reacts with disapproval over David's public image (2nd Sam. 6:20-23; 1st Chr. 15:29).