

Key Characters in 2 Samuel

Name	Relation	Position/Story
Joab	David's Nephew	Commander of David's Armies
Abishai	David's Nephew	One of David's Mighty Men
Asahel	David's Nephew	A Mighty Man, murdered by Abner
Abner	Saul's Cousin	Saul's commander, Set Ishbosheth up as king. Murdered by Joab & Abishai
Ishbosheth	Saul's Youngest Son	Ruled 11 Northern tribes as king for 7 years before being assassinated by his own commanders
Mephibosheth	Jonathon's Son	Lame in both feet, but was invited to eat at David's table as one of his sons

Questions:

- Initially only the tribe of _____ recognized David as king, and his capital city was in _____.
- Abner set up _____ as king of the other 11 tribes of Israel, and their capital city was _____.
- Who were the three nephews of David that were mighty men in his army?

- What did David do to the men that killed Ish-Bosheth? _____
- How many years did David reign over just one tribe? _____
How many years did David reign over all Israel? _____
- List the six kingdoms conquered by David:
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
- Who was the prophet that rebuked David for his sin with Bathsheba? _____
- What was the other, or "second" name given to Solomon? _____

"That You May Grow Thereby..."

A weekly Bible reading plan



2 Samuel 1-12

The Reign of King David: Part 1

Overview

Israel's first king had died. Saul and his sons were slain in a terrible battle with the Philistines. Now what would become of the nation? For the past several years David had been chased by Saul until he finally sought refuge with the Philistine enemies. Second Samuel tells the tale of what comes next for the nation of Israel—a tale of perhaps the world's greatest king. David returned to his homeland, but things didn't start off perfectly. Only his familial tribe of Judah recognized him as king. The other 11 tribes followed Saul's remaining son, Ishbosheth. For seven years the nation was divided, but ultimately David ruled all of Israel. David's rule was initially marked by great success, but a terrible sin caused David's later years to be full of trouble and pain. Even still, throughout David's life we see a remarkable example of a man who loved the Lord and the Lord's people. He would set the standard for ruling the nation, and go down in history as Israel's greatest king.

Suggested Reading Schedule

Monday: 2 Samuel 1-2

Tuesday: 2 Samuel 3-5

Wednesday: 2 Samuel 6-7

Thursday: 2 Samuel 8-10

Friday: 2 Samuel 11-12

The Eternal Throne

David was a man who truly loved the Lord, and wanted to show his love. His conscience was guilty because he dwelt in a beautiful house, but the Ark of the Covenant was in a tent. We would do well to learn from David's attitude. Many are concerned more about their comforts and pleasures than pleasing God or serving His kingdom. While David purposed to build a temple for God, it was not to be. God declared through Nathan the prophet that David's son would build the temple. Couched within this message, however, was a far greater blessing for David, and one of the most important promises of the Bible. In 2 Samuel 7:12-14 God says to David,

"... I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his Father, and he shall be My son..." In the immediate context, God is speaking of Solomon. There is a greater promise here, however, for God promises to establish his throne forever. Solomon died, and his kingdom was given to his son. Moreover, there came a day when a descendant of David no longer sat on the physical throne of Israel. This promise pointed to a greater throne—the Messiah's throne. In this passage, God's scheme of redemption comes into clearer focus. He's already promised a savior from the seed of woman, the lineage of Abraham, and from the tribe of Judah. Now we learn He will be a descendant of David. Of course, the fulfillment of this promise is Jesus, and His ascension to the right hand of the Father, from where He reigns over His everlasting kingdom!



Outline

2 Samuel is all about the reign of David. The book can be divided into 2 primary sections.

I. The Success of David (ch. 1-10)

- David Rules over Judah (1-4)
- David Rules over all Israel (5-10)

II. David's Woes (ch. 11-24)

- David's Sin (Ch. 11-12)
- Consequences of David's Sin (13-24)

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