

Bible Reading Notes  
**2 SAMUEL**

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## 2 Samuel 1

The context of this chapter is 1 Samuel 30-31 – David rescuing his wives and Saul's death.

**1:13-16** – The young man lied to David about killing Saul. Now he will pay the price for his lie.

**1:18** – **Book of Jashar** is a book that is no longer in existence. It seems to have recorded the exploits of the heroes of Israel.

**1:19** – **How the mighty have fallen** is the theme of David's song for Saul and Jonathan (vv. 19, 25, 27).

## 2 Samuel 2

David's ascension to the throne is a process. Judah recognizes him immediately as king but others, especially Benjamin, the tribe of Saul, will not do so. This division will last for 7 ½ years (v. 11).

## 2 Samuel 3

2 Samuel 3-4 give a brief summary of the events of the 7 ½ years the kingdom was divided.

**3:7** – To take a king's concubine is to claim to be his successor. This was why this was such an affront to Ish-bosheth.

**3:8** – It is interesting that Abner does not deny the charge.

**3:29** – **holds a spindle** – would be viewed as work appropriate for a woman.

## 2 Samuel 4

- 4:1** – The sovereign Lord used Joab’s sin for good in uniting the kingdom under David.
- 4:9-12** – David is referring to his action in 2 Samuel 1:13-16.

## 2 Samuel 5

- 5:5** - The events of this chapter are now 7 ½ years after David began his reign as king over Judah in 2 Samuel 2.
- 5:13-16** – Often in Scripture, the response to success is to fall into sin. Having concubines and multiple wives is clearly contrary to God’s Word in Deuteronomy 17:17.

## 2 Samuel 6

This chapter gives us another perspective on the process of bringing the ark of God to the City of David.

- 6:3** – Putting the ark on a cart was completely contrary to Numbers 7:4-9.
- 6:10** – In 1 Chronicles we are told that Obed-edom was a Levite.
- 6:13 – six steps** – Just to be sure that the wrath of God was not going to be poured out again.
- 6:21** – David’s response to Michal indicates that he understands her real issue to be anger or jealousy that David is king in place of her father’s house.

## 2 Samuel 7

The Lord's view of David is presented in this chapter in contrast to Michal's opinion in the previous chapter.

The Lord makes a covenant with David and promises him that his descendants will continue to rule over Israel

**7: 11** – Instead of David building the Lord a house, the Lord will build a house for David by establishing his family line as kings over Israel.

**7:12-17** – The first application of this promise is Solomon. But it's greater fulfillment will be seen in Christ, the king in the line of David (Matthew 1:1).

**7:26** – **LORD of hosts** = the Lord who controls and reigns over the angels, the heavenly hosts.

**7:27** – David has courage to pray a bold prayer because it is based on the promises that the Lord has given him. We too can pray boldly when our prayers are based on Scripture.

## 2 Samuel 8

**2 Samuel 8** is the fulfillment of the Lord's promise in 7:10-11 that David and Israel would have peace from their enemies.

**8:1** – This time of David's life is referred to in Psalm 60.

**8:6, 14** – Summary statements of the section.

## 2 Samuel 9

**9:1** – David and Jonathan had made a covenant with each other (1 Sam. 20:15-17), and David's concern here is a result of that commitment.

## 2 Samuel 10

**2 Samuel 10-12** is a summary of David's military conflicts with the Ammonites.

**10:1 – Ammonites** – They were the descendants of Lot.

**10:3** – It is not uncommon that young rulers often receive bad advice from their peers.

**10:12** – Note the balance in this verse – They were responsible to be courageous and fight, but the end is determined by the Lord.

## 2 Samuel 11

**11:1 – when kings go out to fight** – David should never have been home.

**11:3** – Uriah was one of David's mighty men, a man who had been loyal to David for many years.

**11:10-11** – Uriah is far more honorable than David in this situation.

**11:21 – Abimelech** – The account of Abimelech's death is recorded in Judges 9:53-54.

## 2 Samuel 12

**12:10-11** – These things will be fulfilled in chapters 13 and 16.

**12:20** – David accepted the Lord's providence even though it was not the answer to his prayer that he desired.

**12:23 – I shall go to him** - This is the confident hope we have in the covenant when a covenant child dies in infancy – we shall go and join that child in glory.

## 2 Samuel 13

This begins the first of the ongoing consequences of David's sin with Bathsheba and Uriah.

**13:21** – David heard and was angry but apparently did nothing. This seems to be a pattern in his parenting to not deal with issues related to his children.

**13:32** – Jonadab seems to have had prior knowledge to what Absalom's plans.

## 2 Samuel 14

**14:1** – A three-year period has passed since Absalom murdered his brother Ammon (13:38).

**14:14** – **will not remain an outcast** – This is what God has done for us in Christ.

**14:26** – **two-hundred shekels** = almost 5 pounds.

**14:30** – **set it on fire** - Another sign of Absalom's wickedness, in addition to killing his brother.

## 2 Samuel 15

The rebellion of Absalom is another consequence of David's own sin (12:11).

**15:7** – It has now been nine years since Absalom killed Ammon.

## 2 Samuel 16

**16:1** – **Mephibosheth** – Jonathan's one living son.

**16:3** - 19:24-30 will show that this is a lie on Ziba's part.

**16:22** – **went in to his father's concubines** – Just as God said would be done (2 Samuel 12:11).

## 2 Samuel 17

**17:14** – This is the answer to David's prayer in 15:31.

**17:27-29** – David's state of mind this night before battle is seen in Psalm 3.

## 2 Samuel 18

18:5 – David refuses to recognize that Absalom has committed treason.

18:31-33 – David’s grief is inappropriate under the circumstances, and Joab will rebuke him in the next chapter.

## 2 Samuel 19

19:1-8 – As the leader, David made the mistake of allowing his personal feelings for his son to take priority over thanksgiving for the sacrifice his men had made for him.

19:13 – **Amasa** had been the commander of Absalom’s army (17:25). By appointing him, David hoped to secure the allegiance of those who had followed Absalom.

19:29 – **divide the land** – David was uncertain as to whom to believe.

19:32 – **very aged** – 80 years old was considered very aged. I have no comment.

19:16ff – Shimei will later be killed by Solomon (1 Kings 2:36-46).

19:41-43 – This division between Judah and Israel will finally culminate around 50 years later when the kingdom is divided.

## 2 Samuel 20

20:1 – **Benjaminite** – Sheba was from the tribe of Saul and wanted to take the opportunity of the chaos at the time to attempt to reinstate a Benjaminite on the throne.

20:9-10 – Joab must have heard that David was going to promote Amasa to Joab’s position (19:13).



## 2 Samuel 21

**21:1 – Gibeonites to death** – Israel had made a covenant with the Gibeonites (Joshua 9), but Saul had disregarded it and sought to wipe them out.

**21:3-6** – This is a hard passage to understand. Note that the passage never indicates that the Lord commands that the descendants of Saul be killed.

## 2 Samuel 22

David's song is almost identical with Psalm 18.

**22:2-4** – Notice how David piles up names for God.

David was in great distress at times (vv. 5-7), but the Lord rescued him and displayed his greatness (vv. 8-20).

**22:21-28** – These verses give the reason why the Lord saved David from his enemies. David is not claiming to be sinless, but rather is blameless in terms of the accusations of Saul and his other enemies.

**22:50** – Paul quotes this verse in Romans 15:9.

## 2 Samuel 23

**23:2 – speaks by me** – David recognized that his songs were inspired by the Holy Spirit.

**23:5 – everlasting covenant** – This is the covenant the Lord made with David in 2 Samuel 7.

## 2 Samuel 24

**2 Samuel 24** – This incident is also recorded in 1 Chronicles 21.

**24:1 – he incited David** – 1 Chronicles 21:1 says that “Satan rose up.” God sovereignly used Satan and David’s sin to bring punishment on his people for their sins.

**24:10 – heart struck him** – This is the work of the Holy Spirit convicting the believer of sin. David’s sin was trusting in the size of his army rather than in the Lord.

**24:23-24** – We are told in 1 Chronicles 21 that David purchased the whole piece of land that would be used by Solomon as the location of the temple.



