

FINAL STUDY NOTES – 2 Samuel Chapters 3-5 10/13-14/2025

CLASSROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION:

Phil Twente: <https://www.ptwente.com> - Previous Audio/notes ptwente@gmail.com cell 714 425 9221

NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM DAYLIGHT SAVING Time (US and Canada)
THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING ON ZOOM ONLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!

MEETING ID - 878 5864 4763 Passcode: 087484

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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM DAYLIGHT SAVING Time (US and Canada).

TUES MORNING MTG PLACE: 1201 KEY WEST, CORONA DEL MAR (shown as 1201 KW, Corona del Mar, CA 92625) on Global Positioning System (GPS) in automobiles. For driving directions, suggest using (waze.com/live map) or *MapQuest* (mapquest.com), **AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!**

MEETING ID# - 853 0915 0746 - Passcode: 715340

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OPENING PRAYER

2 SAMUEL – Chapter 3 – Sons of David – (vs. 2-5); Abner Joins Forces with David (vs. 6-21); Joab Murders Abner – (vs. 22-30); David’s Mourning for Abner (vs. 31-39); Chapter 4 – Ishbosheth is Murdered – (vs. 1-12); Chapter 5 – David Reigns over All Israel – (vs. 1-5); The Conquest of Jerusalem (vs. 6-16); The Philistines Defeated – (vs. 17-25).

Abner Joins David

2Sa 3:1 *Now there was a long war between the house of Saul and the house of David. But David grew stronger and stronger, and the house of Saul grew weaker and weaker.*

- There was this rivalry conflict, but David continued to increase in strength. He waxed stronger and stronger, and the house of Saul weaker and weaker. Ishbosheth was not a strong ruler. Abner, his general was more the authority and power behind the throne.

2Sa 3:2 *Sons were born to David in Hebron: His firstborn was Amnon by Ahinoam the Jezreelitess;*

- David reigned in Hebron for seven years before moving the capital and throne to Jerusalem. He began a practice of gathering many wives, contrary to the law of God. Solomon takes that practice totally out of proportion. David began to bear many children during this period in Hebron.

- *The first born was Amnon, of Ahinoam the Jezreelitess.* He met a very tragic fate, later being murdered by his half-brother, Absalom. The different wives with different children created all kinds of problems, which are really magnified when you have different mothers.

2Sa 3:3 *his second, Chileab, by Abigail the widow of Nabal the Carmelite; the third, Absalom the son of Maacah, the daughter of Talmai, king of Geshur;*

- **We know nothing about Chileab.** He evidently died early.
- *The daughter of Talmai, king of Geshur.* For the first time in Israel's history, we see a political marriage among the kings of Israel, marrying for the purpose of establishing a relationship with a neighboring kingdom. David began that, which was a fault. (*Deu 17:17a*) Neither shall he multiply wives for himself, lest his heart turn away. God wanted Israel to depend upon Him for their protection!

2Sa 3:4 *the fourth, Adonijah the son of Haggith; the fifth, Shephatiah the son of Abital;*

- **Adonijah was the oldest son alive at the death of David.** He attempted to take the throne at the death of David. However, Solomon came into power and Adonijah submitted unto Solomon. Solomon offered him amnesty as long as he behaved himself. Later Adonijah came to Solomon requesting one of David's concubines. As a result, Solomon had him put to death.

2Sa 3:5 *and the sixth, Ithream, by David's wife Eglah. These were born to David in Hebron.*

- **Now, six wives, and six sons cannot be anything but trouble.** God had said in Deuteronomy, chapter 17, when you come into the land and you choose a king, that king shall not multiply wives unto himself. Now, Solomon, (*1Ki 11:3*) *And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines; and his wives turned away his heart.* David thinks he's adding, not multiplying. Solomon, multiplication.
- **The Holy Spirit is taking note of a weakness in David's life.** This is a very human man whose heart is after God. This is a man who is very human. This is a man whom the Lord loves and who loves the Lord. This is a man that God is going to use greatly, but this is a man who's going to fail. A part of that failure will be attached right there. Here David is adding wife upon wife and will not be satisfied, eventually he will take another man's wife, Bathsheba.
- **The one thing about the Bible is its total honesty.** It does not seek to gloss over the sins of heroes. The Bible gives us the weaknesses of the heroes to prevent hero-worship; also, to encourage us, realizing that God uses imperfect people to do His work.
- **Just keep your eyes off of men and keep your eyes upon our Lord, Jesus Christ.** Men will disappoint you. Men will fail. But Jesus will never fail! So, keep your eyes upon the Lord.

2Sa 3:6 *Now it was so, while there was war between the house of Saul and the house of David, that Abner was strengthening his hold on the house of Saul.*

- **In the Northern kingdom** where Ishbosheth, Saul's son was reigning, Abner, the military leader, was strengthening his hold. Abner had put Ishbosheth on the throne. Abner began moving to take the throne.

2Sa 3:7-8 *And Saul had a concubine, whose name was Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah. So Ishbosheth said to Abner, "Why have you gone in to my father's concubine?" [8] Then Abner became very angry at the words of Ishbosheth, and said, "Am I a dog's head that belongs to Judah? Today I show loyalty to the house of Saul your father, to his brothers, and to his friends, and have not delivered you into the hand of David; and you charge me today with a fault concerning this woman?"*

- **The Scripture does not indicate whether or not it was a fault or true charge.** Abner had likely gone in and is now being rebuked by Ishbosheth. It was a common practice for the new king that came in to take into his house, the concubines of the previous king.
- **When Absalom rebelled against David** and David fled out of the city of Jerusalem, Absalom took the concubines of David and went in unto them before the people which was declaring of his ascension to the throne.
- **Ishbosheth is rebuking him for it, but Abner says,** "I am the one that set you up. Who do you think you are, rebuking me?" And it created a tremendous schism.

2Sa 3:9-10 *May God do so to Abner, and more also, if I do not do for David as the LORD has sworn to him (Abner will repeat this below in v. 18) [10] to transfer the kingdom from the house of Saul, and set up the throne of David over Israel and over Judah, from Dan to Beersheba."*

- **So, Abner acknowledges his allegiance of that time to David.** God has sworn that David is going to be the king; and I joined with him. I am going to throw my lot in with David. So having set Ishbosheth on the throne, Abner now deserts him and turns to bring all of Israel, under David's reign.

2Sa 3:11 *And he could not answer Abner another word, because he feared him.*

- The power was in the military, Ishbosheth was just a puppet king. He was afraid of Abner.
- 2Sa 3:12** *Then Abner sent messengers on his behalf to David, saying, "Whose is the land?" saying also, "Make your covenant with me, and indeed my hand shall be with you to bring all Israel to you."*
- Abner, being a traitor to Ishbosheth, sends a messenger to David, I am done with Ishbosheth. I want to line up with you now. If you will make a covenant with me, I will deliver all eleven tribes to you so that you will be king over all of the whole nation.
- 2Sa 3:13** *And David said, "Good, I will make a covenant with you. But one thing I require of you: you shall not see my face unless you first bring Michal, Saul's daughter, when you come to see my face."*
- David requested Michal for at least two reasons. One, it would right the wrong Saul had committed toward David by having given Michal, who was David's wife and who loved him to another man. Secondly, it would politically serve to strengthen David's claim to the throne of all Israel by inclining some of Saul's house to be favorable to his cause.
- 2Sa 3:14** *So David sent messengers to Ishbosheth, Saul's son, saying, "Give me my wife Michal, whom I betrothed to myself for a hundred foreskins of the Philistines."*
- David reminded Ishbosheth that he had not only paid the dowry to Saul for his daughter, 100 foreskins of the Philistines, but had delivered double the asking price. Thus, Michal rightfully belonged to David.
- 2Sa 3:15** *And Ishbosheth sent and took her from her husband, from Paltiel the son of Laish.*
- Ishbosheth sent Abner to Gallim to go and get Michal from her husband Paltiel, and take her back to David. The husband was obliged to consent to this separation.
- 2Sa 3:16** *Then her husband went along with her to Bahurim, weeping behind her. So Abner said to him, "Go, return!" And he returned.*
- It is sort of a tragic and pathetic side, now David certainly did not need Michal as another wife. He had married all these other women. David had been defrauded by Saul giving Michal to another man. But two wrongs do not make a right. This other fellow evidently did love her. He walked along weeping all the way until they came to border of Judah. Then Abner told Paltiel to go home, and he did.
- 2Sa 3:17** *Now Abner had communicated with the elders of Israel, saying, "In time past you were seeking for David to be king over you.*
- Elders of Israel. These men were the recognized leaders of the people serving as Ishbosheth's advisers who would have been consulted when important decisions needed to be made.
- 2Sa 3:18** *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 the hand of all their enemies.'"*
- My servant David. David is called "the LORD's servant" more than thirty times in the OT. Abner's words to the elders of Israel clearly recognized David as the servant of the LORD, thus having the right to the throne according to God's sovereign will. We see that indeed Abner has God's message!
- 2Sa 3:19-20** *And Abner also spoke in the hearing of Benjamin. Then Abner also went to speak in the hearing of David in Hebron all that seemed good to Israel and the whole house of Benjamin. [20] So 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.*
- Ishbosheth being a weak king was not able really to defend a nation against the Philistines. David in the meanwhile was stronger and stronger in Hebron. The tribe of Judah was dwelling safely, the other tribes were still being invaded by the Philistines because of the weakness of Ishbosheth. When Abner said, "Look, let's join with David; make him the king." They all pretty well consented to it, and they came, twenty of them with Abner, no doubt, the leaders of the other tribes to inaugurate David as to acknowledge this kingdom to be passed today.
 - David made a feast! (1Ch 12:23,39) *Now these were the numbers of the divisions that were equipped for war, and came to David at Hebron to turn over the kingdom of Saul to him, according to the word of the LORD: [39] And they were there with David three days, eating and drinking, for their brethren had prepared for them.*
- 2Sa 3:21** *Then Abner said to David, "I will arise and go, and gather all Israel to my lord the king, that they may make a covenant with you, and that you may reign over all that your heart desires." So David sent Abner away, and he went in peace.*
- The expression "in peace" serves to prepare the way for what follows. It is not stated that David sent him away in peace (without avenging himself upon him), but "David sent him away, and he went in peace."

2Sa 3:22 *At that moment 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.*

- Now, Joab in the meantime, who has had this fight with Abner and in the battle, had killed Asahel, Joab's younger brother, Joab had this feeling of revenge against Abner! At the time that Abner came down, Joab was gone, perhaps he had been sent by David on a mission as they went out against the Amalekites and took great spoil.

2Sa 3:23 *When Joab and all the troops that were with him had come, they told Joab, saying, "Abner the son of Ner came to the king, and he sent him away, and he has gone in peace."*

2Sa 3:24 *Then Joab came to the king and said, "What have you done? Look, Abner came to you; why is it that you sent him away, and he has already gone?"*

2Sa 3:25 *Surely you realize that Abner the son of Ner came to deceive you, to know your going out and your coming in, and to know all that you are doing."*

- **What have you done?** Notice that in Joab's fit of anger and revenge toward Abner, that Joab totally loses respect and honor for David, his king!
- **In going through the toughest of circumstances, have I ever or would I ever say to my King, my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, "What have You done?" God forbid!**
- **Joab is livid over David's actions with Joab.** He questions David's decision-making. What have you done? Look, Abner came to you. In essence, this was a perfect opportunity to kill him. Why did he even escape us alive? You sent him away and he is already gone?
- **It appears that Joab is really wanting to kill Abner in revenge** to his killing Asahel, Joab's brother. Joab is trying to make it appear that his concern is that Abner came to David as an endangering spy!

Joab Murders Abner

2Sa 3:26 *And when Joab had gone from David's presence, he (treacherously) sent messengers after Abner, who brought him back from the well of Sirah. But David did not know it.*

- Joab sent messengers to Abner, likely saying to him " Oh, by the way, you know, David's got one more thing to say to you."

2Sa 3:27 *Now when Abner had returned to Hebron, Joab took him aside in the gate to speak with him privately, and there stabbed him in the stomach, so that he died for the blood of Asahel his brother.*

- **We remember they had the avenge type of killings.** These avenge killings are something that is a problem in Lebanon today. If you killed one of my family, then my sons will kill one from your family as a revenge kind of a killing. Joab's brother Asahel was killed by Abner. Joab took it upon himself to kill Abner in revenge for his brother, which made David's life absolutely miserable here. It completely jeopardizes the uniting of the nation under David!

2Sa 3:28 *Afterward, when David heard it, he said, "My kingdom and I are guiltless before the LORD forever of the blood of Abner the son of Ner.*

- **David totally washed his hands of the incident** and claimed his innocence. He openly declares his innocence that he had absolutely nothing to do with this death.

2Sa 3:29 *Let it rest on the head of Joab and on all his father's house; and let there never fail to be in the house of Joab one who has a discharge or is a leper, who leans on a staff or falls by the sword, or who lacks bread."*

- **David really viscerously cursed the house of Joab!** Of his descendants, let them be poor, let them fall in battle or die of deadly diseases as leprosy, which is powerfully saying, may the complete guilt of this act land rest upon Joab and his family!
- **Now Joab was strong.** He was tough. David was fearful of Joab. He needed him but he could not control him. At this point however, David curses him and his house. He stripped him from his rank. Joab was no longer the general, but five years later, David came to Jerusalem to establish that as the center for the kingdom, he said, "Whatever man (it was Joab) will deliver the city shall be the general over my armies.

2Sa 3:30 *So Joab and Abishai his brother killed Abner, because he had killed their brother Asahel at Gibeon in the battle.*

- **That was their justification**, but there was no biblical justification for it.

- For though it was only Joab that gave him the thrust of which he died, Abishai was in the secret, and was consenting and advising to his death, and so an accessory to it; and might be present, ready to assist in it, if occasion required. Josephus says, that Abishai his brother was with him when he drew his sword, and smote him.

David Mourns Abner

2Sa 3:31 Then David said to Joab and to all the people who were with him, "Tear your clothes, gird yourselves with sackcloth, and mourn for Abner." And King David followed the coffin (giving great honor and respect to Abner).

2Sa 3:32 So they buried Abner in Hebron; and the king lifted up his voice and wept at the grave of Abner, and all the people wept.

- It broke David's heart that a man like this would be blindsided and murdered in cold blood. It was a waste of a life to David.

2Sa 3:33-34 And the king sang a lament over Abner and said: "Should Abner die as a fool dies? [34] Your hands were not bound (Abner was not a criminal), Nor your feet put into fetters; As a man falls before wicked men, so you fell." Then all the people wept over him again.

- David declares this lament at the funeral, which is a diplomatic way of saying Abner was murdered. These words must have stung Joab and Abishai. Everyone listening to it understood exactly what David was saying. David is distancing himself from any responsibility or involvement in the death of Abner!

2Sa 3:35 And when all the people came to persuade David to eat food while it was still day, David took an oath, saying, "God do so to me, and more also, if I taste bread or anything else till the sun goes down!"

- In order to show his grief, David fasted until evening. No, I am mourning this day for Abner. I am not going to eat. I am pouring on my heart.
- David longs to see Israel and Judah united. He longs to see one kingdom, under the LORD's care. David was just delighted that Abner came, a known warrior, and realized we're all the children of Israel, we are one nation, and longed to see them united. David now broken, is weeping over a man that had long been his enemy! What a great example for us!

2Sa 3:36 -37 Now all the people took note of it, and it pleased them, since whatever the king did pleased all the people. [37] For all the people and all Israel understood that day that it had not been the king's intent to kill Abner the son of Ner.

- David's popularity in Judah was growing. It seems that the death of Abner caused and ended to the movement for the time being of making David the king. It was five years before David was actually inaugurated king over all of Israel. Joab no doubt postponed David's being inaugurated as king over all the land.

2Sa 3:38 Then the king said to his servants, "Do you not know that a prince and a great man has fallen this day in Israel?

- David demonstrates again that he was the kind of guy that could forget ten years of a person doing wrong to him! He could get on the right side of the guy, establish a relationship, and let bygones be bygones. David had a great capacity for that! He was now in a new season of a relationship here with Abner, holding him in high regard!

2Sa 3:39 And I (David) am weak today, though anointed king; and these men, the sons of Zeruiah, are too harsh for me. The LORD shall repay the evildoer according to his wickedness."

- These guys are too tough for me. I cannot handle it. But the LORD will take care of them." That is a good thing to know. There are situations which are too tough for you to handle. You just have to turn them over to Him, "LORD, You take care of this." What a wise thing when we realize that our power is limited. It's just committing the thing to the LORD. The LORD will have to take care of this. Good lesson to learn! That lesson of commitment to the LORD. Let Him take care of these things.
- When David was dying, he gave Solomon the charge over the kingdom, saying, "Solomon, I want you to execute Joab. Get rid of him. He caused me a lot of pain, a lot of problem." Joab was actually put to death by Solomon when he took over the kingdom. Solomon had the strength and now Joab is an older man. David ordered his execution which was carried out by Solomon.
- Do you have a Joab or an Abishai, "too harsh" for you to handle. Do as David did, Let the LORD handle it. You cannot, He can and will bring that person down!

Ishbosheth Murdered

2Sa 4:1 When Saul's son (Ishbosheth) heard that Abner had died in Hebron, he lost heart, and all Israel was troubled.

- They really did not know what to do at this point.

2Sa 4:2-3 Now Saul's son had two men who were captains of troops. The name of one was Baanah and the name of the other Rechab, the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, of the children of Benjamin. (For Beeroth also was part of Benjamin, [3] because the Beerothites fled to Gittaim and have been sojourners there until this day.)

2Sa 4:4 Jonathan, Saul's son, had a son who was lame in his feet. He was five years old when the news about Saul and Jonathan came from Jezreel; and his nurse took him up and fled. And it happened, as she made haste to flee, that he fell and became lame. His name was Mephibosheth (it means exterminating the idol, destroying shame).

- Mephibosheth is introduced here. We will meet him in chapter nine.

2Sa 4:5 Then the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, Rechab and Baanah, set out and came at about the heat of the day to the house of Ishbosheth, who was lying on his bed at noon.

2Sa 4:6 And they came there, all the way into the house, as though to get wheat, and they stabbed him in the stomach. Then Rechab and Baanah his brother escaped.

- They pretended that they were coming into the inner portion of the house to get wheat. Nobody would have been suspicious of this. These were high officials in the army. It would not have been unusual for these men to come in, get wheat in order to feed their soldiers. All of this looked normal.
- They probably sensed the swing of momentum in terms of the leadership of Israel toward David and away from Ishbosheth. So, they figured to help David out eliminating him.

2Sa 4:7 For when they came into the house, he was lying on his bed in his bedroom (innocent and vulnerable); then they struck him and killed him, beheaded him and took his head, and were all night escaping through the plain.

- As they are making their way to David in Hebron, they are probably talking about how David will receive this news and give them a position of power. They assume that David is like them. They are going to painfully find out that David is nothing like them.

2Sa 4:8 And they brought the head of Ishbosheth to David at Hebron, and said to the king, "Here is the head of Ishbosheth, the son of Saul your enemy, who sought your life; and the LORD has avenged my lord the king this day of Saul and his descendants."

- They present the evidence of the head to him, trying to gain a position of leadership, thinking that David is going to become the most powerful man in Israel very soon

2Sa 4:9 But David answered Rechab and Baanah his brother, the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, and said to them, "As the LORD lives, who has redeemed my life from all adversity,

- The LORD has redeemed my soul out of all adversity! I like that. David had learned a very important lesson and that was the commitment of his life to the LORD not to take things in his own hands.
- Oh, how I wish I could learn that lesson. I so often am trying to take things into my own hands, trying to help the LORD out. I am often guilty of just moving out on my own, doing what I feel needs to be done rather than committing it to the LORD and just leaving it in His hands.
- But David had learned this lesson. The LORD who has redeemed my life from all adversity. I do not need man. I have got the LORD working. These guys thought that they were going to be rewarded by David. They thought that David was going to exalt them and maybe make them generals in his armies.
- "The LORD has redeemed my life from all adversity!" Have I really considered how true this is for me? How thankful, how grateful am I to Him? How often do I thank my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ? Every day?

2Sa 4:10 when someone told me, saying, 'Look, Saul is dead,' thinking to have brought good news, I arrested him and had him executed in Ziklag—the one who thought I would give him a reward for his news.

- This verse gives us insight at the time of Saul's death why David had the Amalekite struck down in his camp. because this was his motive. He had taken and brought the crown and the bracelet of King Saul to David, bringing excitedly the news of Saul's death with the idea that he would be rewarded. David rewarded them but not like they thought.

2Sa 4:11 How much more, when wicked men have killed a righteous person in his own house on his bed? Therefore, shall I not now require his blood at your hand and remove you from the earth?"

- You murdered him, coming to me thinking I'm going to approve that when everything we have of Moses and God's law forbids that and tells us that it's wrong.

2Sa 4:12 So David commanded his young men, and they executed them, cut off their hands and feet (instruments used to commit this act), and hanged them by the pool in Hebron. But they took the head of Ishbosheth and buried it in the tomb of Abner in Hebron.

- David then said, "How much more, you are worse than this Amalekite. It is a bloody kind of a situation. These people were close to nature and very tough and crude.
- David is saying, "I am the king over the tribe of Judah. We do not reward cold-blooded murderers, promoting them in the kingdom that I oversee. What would be true of Judah would happen to all the tribes, when David ultimately became a king over all of it. Righteousness exalts a nation, and sin is a reproach to any people. He made that loud and clear. Whenever anyone would go to get water at the well in Sirah, wow, they would look at it, knowing that God believed in the deterrence value of all of this.
- David is finding out very early on, facing one test after another of his leadership and his character. He realizes, I need every bit of the godly character that God has built into my life over these years. This is true of every single one of us in our ministries and in our service to the Lord.

David Anointed King of Israel

2Sa 5:1 Then all the (leaders of the) tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and spoke, saying, "Indeed we are your bone and your flesh. (1Ch 11:1) Then all Israel came together to David at Hebron, saying, "Indeed we are your bone and your flesh.

- The nation was more or less divided into the various tribes, making a pretty strict division. As long as they were divided into tribes, they were weak. Their strength lay in unification under a singular leader. The representatives from the tribe now come to David, some five years later.
- They want him and are asking him to be the king on the basis of three things. First, "Indeed we are your bone and your flesh!" That David is a descendant of Jacob and a member of the twelve tribes of Israel, just as every descendant of Jacob was.

2Sa 5:2-3 Also, in time past, when Saul was king over us, you were the one who led Israel out and brought them in; and the LORD said to you, 'You shall shepherd My people Israel, and be ruler over Israel. " [3] Therefore all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the LORD. And they anointed (3rd time) David king over Israel.

- They also wanted him to be king because of his proven track record in terms of leadership and victory in battle. He was already a tested, proven military person, and you wanted a strong military person to be your king in Israel in those days. It was a dangerous world in those days, just as it is today.
- The third reason is that they acknowledged the fact that the LORD said to you, 'You shall shepherd My people Israel, and be ruler over Israel. " God had called him to be the king years ago. Here they finally acknowledge that. There is a great celebration that occurs here, (1Ch 12:38-39) All these men of war, who could keep ranks, came to Hebron with a loyal heart, to make David king over all Israel; and all the rest of Israel were of one mind to make David king. [39] And they were there with David three days, eating and drinking, for their brethren had prepared for them.
- Now God has done it years ago, you would remember with Samuel, who came down to the house of Jesse and anointed David, the king. This was years earlier. Often it takes us time to catch up with the plan on the purposes of God. Here man finally catches up with God, Who had already anointed David the king, and now they anoint him as king over all Israel.

2Sa 5:4 David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years.

- He was probably eighteen or nineteen years old when he killed Goliath. So, some eleven years from his victory over Goliath to be proclaimed king over all of the land, reigning forty years. David lived to be about seventy years old, having a hard life.

2Sa 5:5-6 In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months, and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty-three years over all Israel and Judah. [6] And the king and his men (hundreds of thousands) went to Jerusalem against the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land, who spoke to David, saying, "You shall not come in here; but the blind and the lame will repel you," thinking, "David cannot come in here."

- **David came and wanted to make the city of Jebusites, Jerusalem, the capital.** But these Jebusites said, “Hey, we are going to put the blind and the lame as guards, you know, you have no chance against us, man.” They really put David down.
- **They will be guarding, then you cannot even wipe them out.** So how do you think you are going to come in?” Thinking that David could not come into city then the city is probably one of the best defended cities for ancient warfare that could exist.

2Sa 5:7-9 Nevertheless! David took the stronghold of Zion (that is, the City of David). [8] Now David said on that day, “Whoever climbs up by way of the water shaft (possibly tunnel) and defeats the Jebusites (the lame and the blind, who are hated by David's soul), he shall be chief and captain (Joab is ultimately going to take David up on his plan, successfully climbing up the shaft.) Therefore they say, “The blind and the lame shall not come into the house.” [9] Then David dwelt in the stronghold, and called it the City of David. And David built all around from the Millo and inward.

- David began to increase the fortifications of the city so that it would become a capital city, kind of proper and able to defend it.

2Sa 5:10 So David went on and became great, and the LORD God of hosts was with him.

- Of course, that is a secret of his greatness!
- **As my life is a witness, can it be said of me that “the LORD God of hosts was (is) with him?”**

2Sa 5:11-12 Then Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, and cedar trees, and carpenters and masons (the best craftsmen in the world). And they built David a house (finest in all Israel). [12] So David knew that the LORD had established him as king over Israel, and that He had exalted His kingdom for the sake of His people Israel.

- Again, this shows David was this mixed kind of character. He had the bad side, but he also had this good side. He recognized that it was the LORD that He had done this. Not because the LORD loved David so much, but the LORD loved these people and David saw that. The LORD did this for Israel’s sake, not for David’s sake!

2Sa 5:13-16 And David took more concubines and wives from Jerusalem, after he had come from Hebron. Also 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] Ibhaz, Elishua, Nepheg, Japhia, [16] Elishama, Eliada, and Eliphelet.

- David continues to disobey God's Word on this whole issue of one man, one woman for life, adding more wives, more concubines, more children, even though it is absolutely prohibited in the law of Moses. He is following the example of all the pagan kings around him.
- **This is the kind of trap that he set himself into.** The interesting thing, and a very important lesson, because as David is doing that, on the one hand, you look at his life and you say, Look at how God is blessing him and blessing him. Yet, look what he is doing here in terms of willful disobedience in this area of his life, allowing an area of his life to swing completely out of control.
- **One day he is going to take a look at a woman (Bathsheba) that is bathing.** He is going to sin because he has set this whole course, not showing discipline or restraint. He is not learning what obedience to God's Word is in this area of his life and would produce in his life. He is headed for a train wreck. David had a checkered career. This is the reason he suffered He let sin enter his life. But above it all was a faith in God that never failed. He wanted more than all else to have a wonderful relationship with God.
- **David took more concubines and wives. What a lesson for us! May we, carefully consider if there is an area of open, or even minor willful disobedience to God's Word and we say, But God is continuing to bless me. May we never think, “I am different. I am special. His commandments do not really apply to me.” They do! If left unchecked, one day in the future, “Your sin will find you out!” God is not endorsing our sin because of His patience. God is giving David a lot of room to repent.**

David Defeats the Philistines

2Sa 5:17-18 Now when the Philistines heard that they had anointed David king over Israel, all the Philistines went up to search for David. And David heard of it and went down to the stronghold. [18] The Philistines also went and deployed themselves in the Valley of Rephaim.

- **When the Philistines saw the nation unite under David**, they recognize, this is getting serious because Israel under David can become more powerful than us. So, they launch an attack because they are threatened by what they are seeing.
- **Have you ever noticed that every time God does something wonderful** in your life, that there's always considerable warfare involved against that? We have an enemy too, don't we? It is good to remember, in his attack against us, that God is doing something right now that is a threat to the Devil.
- **I cannot wait to see what this turns into.** There is always going to be warfare. associated with the life of faith. It does not get easier as you grow old! The enemy is always going to attack us.

2Sa 5:19 So David inquired of the LORD, saying, "Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will You deliver them into my hand?" And the LORD said to David, "Go up, for I will doubtless deliver the Philistines into your hand!"

- **What does David do? He inquired of the LORD**, which is what we should all do. *Shall I go up against the Philistines?* Sometimes without prayer, sometimes we just think, this is a no-brainer. Just do it! Not with David. *Shall I go up against the Philistines?* Then, even more importantly, *Will You deliver them into my hand?* *And the LORD said to David, Go up, for I will doubtless* (wonderful to hear God say, doubtless! You can underline doubtless).
- **How wonderful to go into battle already having the promise of victory!** “We are more than conquerors!” Someone who is victorious before they enter the battle because of God's promises! Here is a picture! *I will doubtless deliver the Philistines into your hand*, the promise of victory!

2Sa 5:20 So David went to Baal Perazim, and David defeated them there; and he said, "The LORD has broken through my enemies before me, like a breakthrough of water." Therefore he called the name of that place Baal Perazim.

2Sa 5:21 And they left their images there, and David and his men carried them away.

- **It is a terrible thing when you have to carry your God** onto the battlefield and then he can be abandoned there, needing help getting off the battlefield!

2Sa 5:22 Then the Philistines went up once again and deployed themselves in the Valley of Rephaim.

- **Now God gave you victory once. Why pray? Let us go out and wipe them out.** You know, that is the mistake we so often make. Because God did it this way once, we think God has established a pattern. You know, we do not have to pray, let us just duplicate what we did the last time! We can get in ruts so easily. God does a thing one way, one time and we think about that this is the way God does it.
- **But the truth is that God will not be limited to a pattern.** God reserves the privilege of being free, the work as He wants. We should not be guilty of trying to formulate the pattern by which God works. Isn't it interesting how we always like to put things to formulas? So that we can then have seminars and sell our formula of success.
- **Now David has the wisdom!** When the second time, the Philistines come up to the same valley, rather than just saying, “OK, guys, you know we know how to do it. We did it before. Let us do it again.” He inquired of the LORD!
- **Such an important lesson here! In repeat situations where I have had a previous victory in praying and following the LORD's instructions, do I fall into the trap, like Joshua at Ai, and this situation here with the Philistines, of thinking, there is no need to pray. This is a no-brainer! No! may I always pray as the Spirit will remind me in such situations!**

2Sa 5:23-24 Therefore David inquired of the LORD, and He said, "You shall not go up; circle around behind them, and come upon them in front of the mulberry trees. [24] And it shall be, when you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the mulberry trees, then you shall advance quickly. For then the LORD will go out before you to strike the camp of the Philistines."

- **Now again it shows you the diversity the way God works in similar situations**, but He works in diverse ways. We cannot confine God to one particular way. This business of searching for the formula for success is just silly because God does not work by this same pattern every time He does His work.
- **Now, discover God's plan. Seek to find how and where the spirit is moving, and move with the spirit.** Rather than trying to formulate the plan, say now, “God, here is our plan, bless it!” It may not be His program at all. So, our prayer is really wasted!
- **Learn what God wants to do. Discover the plan of God.** Do not try to get God on your side, get on His side! Discover the will and the way of God, and move with God rather than trying to get God to move with you. So, God gave them a whole different battle plan,

2Sa 5:25 And David did so, as the LORD commanded him; and he drove back the Philistines from Geba as far as Gezer.

- He really went down and really smote then! The Philistines never again would be strong enough to attack David or Israel. Their power was permanently broken at this point!
- Oh, How great is our God, who want to bless us and keep us! Who wants His face to shine on us and be gracious to us! Who lifts up His countenance upon us and gives us peace!!

SUMMARY

- ***In going through the toughest of circumstances, have I ever or would I ever say to my King, my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, “What have You done?” God forbid! (2Sa 3:25)***
- ***Do you have a Joab or an Abishai, “too harsh” for you to handle. Do as David did, Let the LORD handle it. You cannot, He can and will bring that person down! (2Sa 3:39)***
- ***“The LORD has redeemed my life from all adversity!” Have I really considered how true this is for me? How thankful, how grateful am I to Him? How often do I thank my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ? Every day? (2Sa 4:9)***
- ***As my life is a witness, can it be said of me that “the LORD God of hosts was (is) with him?” (2Sa 5:10)***
- ***David took more concubines and wives. What a lesson for us! May we, carefully consider if there is an area of open, or even minor willful disobedience to God's Word and we say, But God is continuing to bless me. May we never think, “I am different. I am special. His commandments do not really apply to me.” They do! If left unchecked, one day in the future, “Your sin will find you out!” God is not endorsing our sin because of His patience. God is giving David a lot of room to repent. (2Sa 5:13)***
- ***Such an important lesson here! In repeat situations where I have had a previous victory in praying and following the LORD's instructions, do I fall into the trap, like Joshua at Ai, and this situation here with the Philistines, of thinking, there is no need to pray. This is a no-brainer! No! may I always pray as the Spirit will remind me in such situations! (2Sa 5:22)***

THE BENEDICTION – Pastor Chuck Smith- (1:11/1:14)

(Num 6:24-26) The LORD bless thee, and keep thee: The LORD make his face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: and be gracious unto thee: The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.

CLOSING PRAYER

NEXT WEEK: Study 2 Samuel, Chapters 6-8!

Opening remarks of President Trump's speech to the Israel Knesset today:

“above all, a day to give our deepest thanks to the Almighty God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

After two harrowing years in darkness and captivity, 20 courageous hostages are returning to the glorious embrace of their families, and it is glorious. Twenty-eight more precious loved ones are coming home at last to rest in this sacred soil for all of time. And after so many years of unceasing war and endless danger, today, the skies are calm, the guns are silent, the sirens are still, and the sun rises on a holy land that is finally at peace. A land and a region that will live, God willing, in peace for all eternity.”

(Ezekiel says 29 times “they shall know” that I am the LORD!)