

FINAL STUDY NOTES – 2 Samuel Chapters 8-10 10/27-28/2025

CLASSROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION:

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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

Join Zoom Meeting -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87858644763?pwd=b25tUzhkaTE0UzIrSnpkVmZEWGJVQT09>

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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!**

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OPENING PRAYER

2 SAMUEL – Chapter 8 – David’s Further Conquests – (vs. 1-14); David’s Administration – (vs. 15-18); Chapter 9 – David’s Kindness to Mephibosheth – (vs. 1-13); Chapter 10 – The Ammonites and Syrians Defeated – (vs. 1-19).

David’s Victories - Preparing for the future temple, eliminating surrounding countries from attack; gathering gold, silver and bronze!

2Sa 8:1 After this it came to pass that David attacked the Philistines and subdued them. And David took Metheg Ammah from the hand of the Philistines.

- **Israel had rest from its enemies.** Now David goes after them, from the defensive to the offensive.
- **Metheg Ammah, we know as Gath.** It is the walled Philistines city, to which David had sought refuge. It was one of the most powerful Philistine cities. By the taking of Gath, he was pretty much in control over the Philistines. They were pretty well subdued by David, being a walled city, and one of the major cities of the Philistines. It speaks much of the power of David’s army, at this time. Walled cities usually were never taken by direct assault, but by a prolonged siege. It shows David’s prowess in war, to be able to take this walled city of Gath.

2Sa 8:2 Then he defeated Moab. Forcing them down to the ground, he measured them off with a line. With two lines he measured off those to be put to death, and with one full line those to be kept alive. So the Moabites became David's servants, and brought tribute.

- **David made them lie on the ground in lines.** One line was measured for death, and the other two were allowed to live. The Midrash (Hebrew writings) declared that the king of Moab, after David came into power, put his parents to death. That is their explanation why David was so cruel in killing the captives of war. David is really wiping out Moab for two generations of having men to fight!

2Sa 8:3 David also defeated Hadadezer the son of Rehob, king of Zobah, as he went to recover his territory at the River Euphrates. (see also 1Ch 18:3)

- **Hadadezer, is up in the area, that now is Syria.** David has moved to the south and east, conquering Moab. He is moved towards the west conquering the Philistines. Now he is moving northward in the conquering of the area of Syria. He expands his kingdom tremendously.

2Sa 8:4-5 David took from him one thousand chariots, seven hundred horsemen, and twenty thousand foot soldiers. Also David hamstrung all the chariot horses, except that he spared enough of them for one hundred chariots. [5] When the Syrians of Damascus came to help Hadadezer king of Zobah, David killed twenty-two thousands of the Syrians.

- **Zobah was one of the Syrian capitals at that time.**

2Sa 8:6 Then David put garrisons in Syria of Damascus; and the Syrians became David's servants, and brought tribute. So the LORD preserved David wherever he went.

- **We see the kingdom of Israel growing tremendously.** David is conquering and establishing the kingdom.

2Sa 8:7-8 And David took the shields of gold that had belonged to the servants of Hadadezer, and brought them to Jerusalem. [8] Also from Betah and from Berothai, cities of Hadadezer, King David took a large amount of bronze.

- **David is beginning to gather the wealth for the building of the temple.** God had said to David, "You can't build the temple, your son will rise to build it," but David, in his heart, said, "Well He didn't say I couldn't gather the material!" David started to gather the gold, the silver, and the brass. You remember that in the building of the temple, Solomon had this huge brass laver in which the priests were to bathe. Also, in the temple he had those two columns, those pillars of brass. So, David took this brass from the cities of Hadadezer.
- **Also knowing that the temple was to be built in the near future by one of his sons, David wanted to eliminate the surrounding countries from attacking it.**

2Sa 8:9-11 When Toi king of Hamath (about 100 miles north of Damascus) heard that David had defeated all the army of Hadadezer, [10] then Toi sent Joram his son to King David, to greet him and bless him, because he had fought against Hadadezer and defeated him (for Hadadezer had been at war with Toi); and Joram brought with him articles of silver, articles of gold, and articles of bronze. [11] King David also dedicated these to the LORD, along with the silver and gold that he had dedicated, from all the nations which he had subdued—

- **David is continuing to gather tremendous amounts of gold, silver, and brass.** Notice, *David also dedicated these to the LORD!* He is not taking the gold, silver, and the bounty as his own, but is dedicating it all to the LORD!
- **God had said to David, You cannot build the temple for Me.** Your son is going to build it. So what does David do? He does everything short of building it. He puts the plans together for it to be built. He accumulates all of the wealth, all of the gold, all of the silver, all of the bronze that will be needed in the building of that temple.

2Sa 8:12-14 from Syria, from Moab, from the people of Ammon, from the Philistines, from Amalek, and from the spoil of Hadadezer the son of Rehob, king of Zobah. [13] And David made himself a name when he returned from killing eighteen thousand Syrians in the Valley of Salt. [14] He also put garrisons in Edom; throughout all Edom he put garrisons, and all the Edomites became David's servants. And the LORD preserved David wherever he went.

- **David moved further south, and to the east in conquering Edom.**
- **And the LORD preserved David wherever he went.** We have heard this twice now.

David's Officials - An Overview of David's Administration

2Sa 8:15 *So David reigned over all Israel; and David administered judgment and justice to all his people.*

- Notice the shepherd's heart of David! Even though there are no battles or threats going on and Israel is at peace, David is administering judgment and justice to all his people! He was a shepherd at heart before he was a . Oh, how good it would be if this could be written of all political leaders, unto all the people!
- **As a believer, He has delivered me from all my enemies and threats! How sensitive and caring am I for the less fortunate? For unbelievers?**

2Sa 8:16-18 *Joab the son of Zeruiah was over the army; Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud was recorder; [17] Zadok the son of Ahitub and Ahimelech the son of Abiathar were the priests; Seraiah was the scribe (secretary of state); [18] Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over both the Cherethites and the Pelethites (David's royal guard); and David's sons were chief ministers.*

- We see now the kingdom coming to the zenith of its power, of its glory. David has conquered the enemies round about. He has now set things in order. Things are going great; they are going well. The kingdom is strong. Joab is over his armies. Jehoshaphat is the historian. The priesthood is established.

David's Kindness to Mephibosheth – A wonderful Christ-like example of David's heart and God's grace!

2Sa 9:1 *Now David said, "Is there still anyone who is left of the house of Saul, that I may show him kindness for Jonathan's sake?"*

- At this point, David remembered a covenant that he had made with Jonathan, the son of Saul. (1Sa 20:14-16) *And you shall not only show me the kindness of the LORD while I still live, that I may not die; [15] but you shall not cut off your kindness from my house forever, no, not when the LORD has cut off every one of the enemies of David from the face of the earth." [16] So Jonathan made a covenant with the house of David, saying, "Let the LORD require it at the hand of David's enemies."*
- Now this is the position David is in. God has cut off his enemies all around him. At this point this was the covenant that was made between Jonathan and David. That David would show kindness unto Jonathan. Even after his death, that David would never cease to show kindness to the house of Jonathan. David is strong, he is established, he remembers his covenant with his friend Jonathan.

2Sa 9:2-3 *And there was a servant of the house of Saul whose name was Ziba. So when they had called him to David, the king said to him, "Are you Ziba?" He said, "At your service!" [3] Then the king said, "Is there not still someone of the house of Saul, to whom I may show the kindness of God?" And Ziba said to the king, "There is still a son of Jonathan who is lame in his feet."*

- So Ziba said, "There's still this one son of Jonathan, Mephibosheth." (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. Several years have occurred in the interim.*

2Sa 9:4 *So the king said to him, "Where is he?" And Ziba said to the king, "Indeed he is in the house of Machir the son of Ammiel, in Lo Debar (without pasture)."*

- **Lo Debar** is over on the east side of the Jordan river, in the area of Gilead, where they often fled. It was sort of a place of protection. The tribes of Manasseh, Gad, and Reuben, had settled on the other side of the Jordan river. But they really were never unified strongly with Israel. Whenever anybody was in trouble, they would usually flee across the Jordan river, over into the area of Gilead. This is where the nurse took the child.
- Now this name Machir, which means to "be given over," is interesting, and it becomes significant. "*Machir, the son of Ammiel, in Lo Debar.*" He took Mephibosheth, and protected him, taking care of him, as he grew. No doubt there was a close and strong tie with Mephibosheth. Later on, when Absalom rebelled against David, and drove David out of the kingdom, David also fled to the area of Gilead with his people. We read that this same fellow, Machir, brought a lot of supplies to David, and to his people. He helped them, he supplied them. No doubt, in response to David's kindness to Mephibosheth.
- What David did, in helping Mephibosheth, actually came back to him later. It is this same man that helps David when he is fleeing from Absalom.

2Sa 9:5-6 *Then King David sent and brought him out of the house of Machir the son of Ammiel, from Lo Debar. [6] Now when Mephibosheth the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, had come to David, he fell on his face and prostrated himself. Then David said, "Mephibosheth?" And he answered, "Here is your servant!"*

- It is too bad that we cannot put expressions on the printed page, so that we could hear David saying, Mephibosheth. There was all kinds of love, David was thinking of Jonathan. He was thinking of how much he loved Jonathan. Here is the son of Jonathan. Oh, you know he can now fulfill his desire and vow to Jonathan, "Mephibosheth." You know, just the excitement, the love, and in the voice of David, is all of the comfort and though Mephibosheth may have been uncertain, may have been fearful, he did not know but what David's looking for the rest of Saul's descendants to exterminate them! To take away any threat of any uprising in the future.
- **Mephibosheth bows before David, he is fearful!** And David, I am sure just dispelled it all when he said, "Mephibosheth." Just the love, the warmth and all that was there!

2Sa 9:7 *So David said to him, "Do not fear, for I will surely show you kindness for Jonathan your father's sake, and will restore to you all the land of Saul your grandfather; and you shall eat bread at my table continually" (David mentions "table" four times!)"*

- Here we see David, in an allegory, in the likeness of Christ! Seeking the lost, showing kindness and grace to the lost, as he restores to him all that belonged to the family inheritance. David does it all for Jonathan's sake, because of his love for Jonathan.
- We see Jesus, coming from God, to seek and to save that which was lost. We see God reaching out to lost mankind. Drawing them to Himself, saying, "Do not be afraid, I will show you kindness. I will restore unto you all that has been lost! All that belonged to your father, and you will eat at My table continually." It is a beautiful, beautiful picture of God's love for us in Christ! It is all done for us, for Christ's sake! For His sake, God forgave my sins. For His sake, God called me to be His child. For His sake, I can come and sit at the table of God!
- Often people misunderstand and misread God, thinking that He is angry. They think that God is wanting to judge, or condemn, or wanting to destroy. But God is wanting to forgive, and bestow His grace and mercy upon you, for Jesus' sake! All that God does, and has given to us, is given for Jesus' sake. It is not that I deserve it! It is not that I am worthy. I would not presume to come to God upon that basis, because I might get what I deserve. I come in Jesus' name, to receive the grace of God that is extended to me, for Jesus' sake!
- I love that restoring, the work of Christ, the restoration. That is always the work of God. Restoring the years of sin can take their toll. A person can mess up his life, mess up his body. Mess up his family, but His restoring power! God said (**Joe 2:25**) *"So I will restore to you the years that the swarming locust has eaten, The crawling locust, The consuming locust, And the chewing locust, My great army which I sent among you. How glorious it is when we come to Christ! He restores those wasted years of our lives. It is beautiful to see God's work of restoration in a life.*
- We have the beautiful picture with David, as he brings Mephibosheth, he said, "I am going to restore to you all! All that was your father Saul's. But you, you are going to eat at my table continually!"

2Sa 9:8 *Then he (Mephibosheth) bowed himself, and said, "What is your servant, that you should look upon such a dead dog as I?"*

- You know, and there again you have it! "Who am I that God should bestow upon me such grace, such love, such goodness? Paul asked five pertinent questions at the end of Romans, chapter eight.
- First, (**Rom 8:31**) *What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?* God is for me, praise the Lord!
- Secondly, (**Rom 8:32**) *He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?* God is so willing, so ready to give to you anything you need, He has already given His Son! How much more will He freely give us anything, everything that we might need?
- Third, (**Rom 8:33**) *Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.* God is not laying any charges against you.
- Fourth, (**Rom 8:34**) *Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.* Not Jesus who condemns! He died, yes, rather is risen again, and is even at the right hand of the Father making intercession."

- **Fifth (Rom 8:35) Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? I mean God is for me! He has justified me!**
- **(Rom 8:36-39) As it is written: "FOR YOUR SAKE WE ARE KILLED ALL DAY LONG; WE ARE ACCOUNTED AS SHEEP FOR THE SLAUGHTER." [37] Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. [38] For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, [39] nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord!**
- **Jesus is interceding for me.** The Holy Spirit is strengthening me. Nothing can separate me from God's love. "What can you say, or what shall you say to these things?" I do not know what to say to these things. I do not have any words to say, all I can say is, "Wow!" but that is not much. You think of it, you say, "Wow!" It is just a word of awe, wonder! I am always standing in awe and wonder of God's grace to me, for Jesus' sake!
- **Here's poor Mephibosheth, not knowing** but what maybe he was going to be executed, and he finds, "Hey man! Look what has happened! You know everything is restored to me, and I am to sit at David's table! I have been made a part of David's family! Who am I that you would take note? I am just a dead dog, man! And yet look what you have done for me!"
- **Do I see myself as "a dead dog?" Totally undeserving and unworthy to be called His child forever? But how does He see you and me? (Jer 31:3b) Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; Therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you. You and I are so very special to Him!**

2Sa 9:9-11 And the king called to Ziba, Saul's servant, and said to him, "I have given to your master's son (Mephibosheth) all that belonged to Saul and to all his house. [10] You therefore, and your sons and your servants, shall work the land for him, and you shall bring in the harvest, that your master's son (Mephibosheth's family) may have food to eat. But Mephibosheth your master's son shall eat bread at my table always." Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants. [11] Then Ziba said to the king, "According to all that my lord the king has commanded his servant, so will your servant do." "As for Mephibosheth," said the king, "he shall eat at my table like one of the king's sons."

- **Now do not think that Ziba is a nice guy.** He is only obeying the king. But he turns out to be a rat. We will find out later when Absalom drives David from the kingdom. When David has been driven out of Jerusalem, Ziba comes to David without Mephibosheth saying, that he did not want to come. He said, Now Israel will put me on the throne and make me king again." It was an outright lie of Ziba, to David, to turn him against Mephibosheth. David said to Ziba, "All right then, you and your family can have it all," you know. "All that I gave to Mephibosheth. You can take it."
- **But then when David came back and Mephibosheth said,** "Oh David, I wanted to come but I'm lame, I couldn't run, and so I had to stay." David realized that he had been snookered, and Ziba got it, so anyhow he had to till the ground, take care of it.
- **As one of the king's sons! Mephibosheth is not only invited to sit at the king's table,** but David is giving him the special honor as to sit at his table as one of his sons! That is just like Jesus Christ, who has invited you to sit as a son at His Table!

2Sa 9:12-13 Mephibosheth had a young son whose name was Micha. And all who dwelt in the house of Ziba were servants of Mephibosheth. [13] So Mephibosheth dwelt in Jerusalem, for he ate continually at the king's table. And he was lame in both his feet.

- This became Mephibosheth's new life, just as Christ has brought us into a new life, making us a part of His family, making us one in His family, one of the great pictures in the Old Testament of Jesus Christ and how it speaks to him as a shadow of the greater realities that are ours in Christ.

David Defeats Ammon and Syria – War resulting from wrongfully judging another's motive and intent of heart!

2Sa 10:1 It happened after this that the king of the people of Ammon died, and Hanun his son reigned in his place. [2] Then David said, "I will show kindness to Hanun the son of Nahash, as his father showed kindness to me." So David sent by the hand of his servants to comfort him concerning his father. And David's servants came into the land of the people of Ammon.

- **It appears that David sends this group of ambassadors** to Ammon to accomplish three peaceful things: 1) To comfort Hanun in the loss of his father; 2) To congratulate him on his lofty position by virtue of his father's death; 3) To communicate that Israel desired to continue a peaceful relationship through the son, Hanun.
- **Even though Israel was now far more powerful than the Ammonites,** David would not use this time of transition and instability to attack them or to use it in any way to advance himself. This was what was being communicated in much the same way.

2Sa 10:3 And the princes of the people of Ammon said to Hanun their lord, "Do you think that David really honors your father because he has sent comforters to you? Has David not rather sent his servants to you to search the city, to spy it out, and to overthrow it?"

- **David's heart is completely innocent in what he has done.** The princes wrongly accuse him of sending these servants in order to spy out the land, being an advanced force for doing intelligence for a full-scale invasion.
- **Now they are judging David and they are judging his motive and his heart!** They are coming to the exact opposite conclusion concerning David that they ought to have come to. They could not be more wrong. Jesus said (Mat 7:1) *"Judge not, that you be not judged. We are free to judge another person's actions (and we should!); another person's words; the fruit that comes out of another person's life and to come to a conclusion about what kind of a person they are by virtue of that fruit.*
- **What is being forbidden is to judge a person's motives or thinking** behind an action because that is something that we cannot know. Only God can know that! So, He tells us that we are not to do this!
- **This is a great example in the Bible of what happens when people violate God's commandment not to judge hearts or motives in this way.** Because by the time this wrong judgment by these counselors to the king runs its full course, 50,000 men are going to be dead. Because a group of princes read something into it that did not exist there at all, and led entire nations to war over it. It makes you wonder how many wars have been started in human history over this kind of thing, and how many young men and other people's lives have been, and blood have been shed over this kind of judgment of one another. Hanun listens to their counsel and he believes their wrong judgment of David here and so he proceeds to shame these ambassadors. He is going to make an example of them.
- **How often have I violated Jesus' commandment not to judge, looking at a particular situation, reading additional things into it in terms of judging the person's motives and intent of heart? What was the outcome? It is something that is not to be done. Jesus forbids that!**

2Sa 10:4 Therefore Hanun took David's servants, shaved off half of their beards, cut off their garments in the middle, at their buttocks, and sent them away.

- **Shaved off half!** It means one side was shaved and the other left. In that culture and certainly among the Jews, a beard was something that only men could grow, women could not grow it. It was a symbol of a person's manhood. What he does by cutting half the beard off is it is an attack on their manhood. It infuriated these men! It is a terrible, terrible insult!
- **Cut off their garments in the middle!** Then as if it could not get any worse in shaming them, *He cut off their garments,* their wore robes in those days, cut them in the middle, *right at their buttocks, and then He sent them away.* It was a terrible, terrible thing that they do to them there.
- **What these men did to these ambassadors, they were doing to David.** They were doing to the entire nation of Israel. It was the equivalent of a declaration of war, and David understood it to be that. That was the provocation that they were making here.
- **This incident instructs us about how careful we need to be about who we make as our counselors and influencers** in life, with whom we surround ourselves! If you allow them to be an influencer and a counselor in your life. Paul said, (1Co 15:33) *Do not be deceived: "Evil company corrupts good habits."* Translation, if you do not think the people that you surround yourself with influence you, you are kidding yourself. You are fooling yourself.
- **This does not just apply to people.** We live in a time where we have to be careful because now we are able to be influenced by electronic means, people who are writing books, communicating online, on radio, through music, through television.
- **We need to sit down and to run that through a grid and say,** Do I have influencers in my life that produce a gracious spirit in me in terms of processing the motives and the hearts of people? Or are there influencers that produce a hypercritical spirit in me where I am able to read mountains into a

situation, into a sentence, into a gesture that has no basis in reality? It is a warning to each of us that are surrounded with those kinds of people, or even have one or two of them in their life. We must be very careful of that influence.

2Sa 10:5-6 *When they told David, he sent to meet them, because the men were greatly ashamed (humiliated). And the king said, "Wait at Jericho until your beards have grown, and then return." [6] When the people of Ammon saw that they had made themselves repulsive (stink) to David, the people of Ammon sent and hired the Syrians of Beth Rehob and the Syrians of Zoba, twenty thousand foot soldiers; and from the king of Maacah (near Dan) one thousand men, and from Ish-Tob twelve thousand*

- Thirty-three thousand mercenaries, professional soldiers, were hired by this young man Hanun, that has taken over the throne of his father, Nahash, in Ammon.

2Sa 10:7 *Now when David heard of it, he sent Joab and all the army of the mighty men.*

- David does not initiate war with them, but he does not have long to wait before he realizes what is on their heart because they begin to gather allies to themselves, hiring mercenary armies to then take on Israel.

2Sa 10:8 *Then the people of Ammon came out and put themselves in battle array at the entrance of the gate. And the Syrians of Zoba, Beth Rehob, Ish-Tob, and Maacah were by themselves in the field.*

- Here is Israel, their whole army is here, and they have got the Ammonites on one side and they have got the Syrians behind them. In other words, there is no front. They are fighting a battle with two fronts opened. They are in a very hazardous position!

2Sa 10:9 *When Joab saw that the battle line was against him before and behind, he chose some of Israel's best and put them in battle array against the Syrians.*

- These guys were the mercenaries, the toughest ones.

2Sa 10:10 *And the rest of the people he put under the command of Abishai his brother, that he might set them in battle array against the people of Ammon.*

- They are facing the two forces. Those of Ammon, and those of the Syrians. Joab divides the troops. He takes the finest of the troops to face the Syrians, knowing that they are the stronger of the two, but more likely to flee when defeated, while he puts his brother Abishai against the Ammonites.

2Sa 10:11-12 *Then he said, "If the Syrians are too strong for me, then you shall help me; but if the people of Ammon are too strong for you, then I will come and help you. [12] Be of good courage, and let us be strong for our people and for the cities of our God. And may the LORD do what is good in His sight."*

- Notice, Joab commits the entire battle to the **LORD**! We do not see a lot of marks of spirituality in Joab's life as we follow him through as David's general. So, there can be the tendency to think that he was just purely this carnal guy, making a lot of bad decisions. But there is a little something that is happening between him and God here! We get a little glimpse of it there in verse 12! It is wonderful!
- **How this speaks to my tendency to over-emphasize the negatives in the lives of others and have a critical attitude which overshadows their need for prayer! How wonderful to see Joab trusting in the LORD, turning the outcome of the battle to that of "may the LORD do what is good in His sight!"**

2Sa 10:13-14 *So Joab and the people who were with him drew near for the battle against the Syrians, and they fled before him. [14] When the people of Ammon saw that the Syrians were fleeing, they also fled before Abishai, and entered the city. So Joab returned from the people of Ammon and went to Jerusalem.*

- They were pretty near their city, they saw the Syrians splitting, and so they went running back within the shelter of the walled city of Ammon. Joab did not try to take Ammon, but he just returned back to Jerusalem.

2Sa 10:15-17 *When the Syrians saw that they had been defeated by Israel, they gathered together. [16] Then Hadadezer sent and brought out the Syrians who were beyond the (Jordan) River, and they came to Helam (Penial). And Shobach the commander of Hadadezer's army went before them. [17] When it was*



told David, he gathered all Israel, crossed over the Jordan, and came to Helam. And the Syrians set themselves in battle array against David and fought with him.

- David takes charge of this battle. He was a brilliant general. Fabulous in warfare!

2Sa 10:18-19 Then the Syrians fled before Israel; and David killed seven hundred charioteers and forty thousand horsemen of the Syrians, and struck Shobach the commander of their army, who died there. [19] And when all the kings who were servants to Hadadezer saw that they were defeated by Israel, they made peace with Israel and served them. So the Syrians were afraid to help the people of Ammon anymore.

- Israel has now come to the apex. This is it! The greatest time of strength in the nation. David is well established. He is strong. It is interesting that it is at this place of greatest strength, that David gets wiped out.
- You know, there's probably greater danger in success, than almost anything else. When you finally are very successful. Everybody is singing your praises, everybody is just hailing the chief, and how great you are. Watch out for success, because that is a place of extreme danger, as we will discover in the next chapter! We will see how David fell at the place of greatest strength! Read ahead!
- Now may the Lord be with you and keep you in His love. May He watch over you, and may you enjoy the kindness and the goodness of God, given to us through Jesus Christ, and for His sake. May you enjoy sitting at His table this week, and just partaking of the richness and the fullness, of God's grace, mercy, and love towards you, in Christ.

SUMMARY

- **As a believer, He has delivered me from all my enemies and threats! How sensitive and caring am I for the less fortunate? For unbelievers? (2Sa 8:15)**
- **Do I see myself as "a dead dog?" Totally undeserving and unworthy to be called His child forever? But how does He see you and me? (Jer 31:3b) "Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; Therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you. You and I are so very special to Him! (2Sa 9:8)**
- **How often have I violated Jesus' commandment not to judge, looking at a particular situation, reading additional things into it in terms of judging the person's motives and intent of heart? What was the outcome? It is something that is not to be done. Jesus forbids that! (2Sa 10:3)**
- **How this speaks to my tendency to over-emphasize the negatives in the lives of others and have a critical attitude which overshadows their need for prayer! How wonderful to see Joab trusting in the LORD, turning the outcome of the battle to that of "may the LORD do what is good in His sight!" (2Sa 10:12)**
- (2Sa 9:11c) *As for Mephibosheth," said the king, "he shall eat at my table like one of the king's sons."*

SURELY GOODNESS AND MERCY – J. Petersen, A. Smith – Graham Crusade Choir (2:56/59)

A pilgrim was I, and a wandering, In the cold night of sin I did roam,

When Jesus the kind Shepherd found me, And now I am on my way home.

(Chorus): Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days, all the days of my life;

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days, all the days of my life.

He restoreth my soul when I'm weary, He giveth me strength day by day;

He leads me beside the still waters, He guards me each step of the way. (Chorus)

And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever, And I shall feast at the table spread for me; Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days, all the days of my life.

All the days, all the days of my life.

CLOSING PRAYER

NEXT WEEK'S STUDY – Second Samuel Chapters 11&12