



CAPITOL COMMISSION™

King David – One After God's Heart (2Samuel 2:4)

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Dave DePue, Pastor / Kansas Capitol Commission / dave.depue@capitolcom.org

Chosen by God, King David rose to greatness through many tests, trials, and temptations. His story starts in the 2nd Book of Samuel, continues through 1st Chronicles, and concludes with 1st Kings. The Bible is very candid in reporting the successes and failures of God's champions. Israel's greatest king also failed greatly. At those failings, David repented and sought forgiveness. How are you striving to earn God's favor and a place in His heart?

INTRODUCTION

The events in this study take place between 1025 – 1011 B.C. During this period, Israel was transitioning from a loosely organized group of tribes in a theocracy with judges to a united nation under a monarchy. Israel's first king, Saul, was talented, handsome, and had a pleasing personality. These are great leadership traits even today. However, Saul proved to be unstable, proud, jealous, and irresponsible. God chose Saul to serve Him by leading the people. Saul was rejected when he began rejecting God's word and spurning the warnings brought by God's priest. God sent Priest Samuel to Bethlehem to anoint a teen-age shepherd boy as the next king. **What signs have you seen when a leader began to lose favor with God and the people?**

A CHALLENGE IS GIVEN

1 Samuel 17: 10-11 Again the Philistine said, "I defy the ranks of Israel this day; give me a man that we may fight together." When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid. (NASB)

Young David killed the giant warrior with a sling and a small stone. As a shepherd in the wilderness, David developed a close relationship with God. As a protector, David learned to trust God as he fought a lion and a bear. Now a national hero, David, entered the king's army as one of the generals. David was obedient and loyal to Saul. He was humble in expression and loved by all (18:5). Most importantly, both friend and enemy recognized that God was with David (18:12, 14, 28, 30). **How has God's presence been recognized in you?**

UNJUST SUFFERING IN GOD'S SERVICE

1 Samuel 18:12 And Saul was afraid of David, because the LORD was with him, and was departed from Saul. (KJV)

King Saul was envious, even jealous of David. He saw David as a personal threat, rather than a blessing to Israel. Saul persecuted, even throwing his spear at David three times. The king ordered him to be assassinated, forced him to live in exile, and chased him and his band of followers for more than fourteen years. **How has God championed you while protecting you?**

DAVID MADE KING OVER JUDAH

2 Samuel 2:4 The men of Judah came to Hebron and appointed David King. (NIV)

Israel's army was defeated by the Philistines on Mount Gilboa. Saul and three of his sons were killed. David and his band of 600 men settled in Hebron and mourned for Saul. David was appointed king of all Israel after seven years of strife and civil war. **What personal or national blessing have you seen through a period of great strife?**

DAVID SINS AND IS REBUKED

2 Samuel 11:2 One evening David got up from his bed and strolled around the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing- a very beautiful woman. So, David sent someone to inquire about her, and he reported, "This is Bathsheba, daughter of Eliam, wife of Uriah the Hittite." (CSB)

David got her pregnant and conspired to have Uriah killed in battle. God sent Nathan, the priest, to confront the king (12:1). Nathan responded to David's confession and repentance but shared that disaster would come upon his family and the child would die. The disasters certainly came. However, David took Bathsheba as his wife and her second son was named Solomon, who became the next king of Israel. **What personal or national disaster have you seen which may have been the result of sin?**

A PRAYER

LORD, please trust me to be used for Your eternal purpose. Help me avoid sin and give me grace when I fail. Let me see past the years of my life to my eternal reward. I pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen!