

## OT-OV

### Lesson 83

1. Last week we completed our study of the book of 1st Samuel and then I started teaching the book of 2nd Samuel. I am going to review some of that learned and then we will pick up with new material at point seven below.

2. The Book of 2nd Samuel was written at least in part by Nathan and an unknown writer around 1020-950 B.C. Some think Abiathar may have been one of the contributing authors.

3. The Book is a story of David and his Kingdom, a scenario replete with successes and failures, triumphs and defeats.

4. Like first Samuel where we found a study of Samuel and Saul was the best way to review the Book, I think a study of David will best suit our overview.

5. David was the second king of Israel and the founder of the united monarchy. (1000-960 B.C.)

6. David more than likely began his reign of the tribe of Judah and parts of several tribes of the south in 1000 B.C. from where he fought these seven plus year civil war and then in 993 B.C., after a negotiated victory over Abner and Ishbosheth, he began to rule over the united Kingdom.

6.1 After the death of Saul and Jonathan, Abner became leader of Israel and made Ishbosheth king, succeeding his father Saul.

6.2 When offended by Ishbosheth (Saul's son and heir to the throne) Abner decided to support David as king over all Israel.

6.3 Incensed by David's acceptance of this allegiance, David's promotion of Abner to chief of staff, and his anger over Abner killing his brother Asahel, Joab murdered Abner at the gate of Hebron.

6.4 David was about 30 when he took over as ruler of both the north and south of Israel; he died at the age of 70 some ten years after his defeat of Absalom in the last major rebellion against his rulership.

### 7. Sources

7.1 The main source for the life and times of David is the material found in the books of I and II Samuel and 1Ki 1-2.

7.2 First Chronicles Chapters 11-29 also contains an account of his reign.

7.2.1 These chapters contain a fuller account than the books of Samuel and Kings with reference to the details of the Temple arrangement, lineage, lists of royal officers, military heroes etc.

8. Numerous references to David are also found in other OT and NT books. David is mentioned 858 times in the Bible and 53 times in the NT.

8.1 Secondary sources concerning David can be found in the Talmud, Koran, and in the Rabbinic and Christian traditions of David. These add to the luster of one of Israel's most beloved figures. David was and is considered by orthodox Israel as equal to Abraham, Moses, Jesus, etc.

## 9. Name and Family

9.1 David was born in Bethlehem of Judah, a city about six miles south of Jerusalem. A famous city no doubt.

Mic 5:2 But thou, Bethlehem, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

9.2 This was the home of Boaz and Ruth, and became best known as the birthplace of Jesus, the son of David, the Messiah of Israel.

9.2.1 David's ancestry is summarized in Ruth 4:17-22:

Rth 4:17 And the women her neighbors gave it a name, saying, There is a son born to Naomi; and they called his name Obed: he is the father of Jesse, the father of David.

Rth 4:18 Now these are the generations of Pharez: Pharez begat Hezron,

Rth 4:19 And Hezron begat Ram, and Ram begat Amminadab,

Rth 4:20 And Amminadab begat Nahshon, and Nahshon begat Salmon,

Rth 4:21 And Salmon begat Boaz, and Boaz begat Obed,

Rth 4:22 And Obed begat Jesse, and Jesse begat David.

9.3 David was the youngest child of a family of ten children. (1Sa 16:10-11). There were seven brothers and two sisters.

1Sa 16:10 Again, Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said unto Jesse, The LORD hath not chosen these.

1Sa 16:11 And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all thy children? And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he keepeth the sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he come hither.

9.3.1 1Ch 2:13-16 lists only nine; perhaps one child died young.

1Ch 2:13 And Jesse begat his firstborn Eliab, and Abinadab the second, and Shimma the third,

1Ch 2:14 Nethaneel the fourth, Raddai the fifth,

1Ch 2:15 Ozem the sixth, David the seventh:

1Ch 2:16 Whose sisters were Zeruiah, and Abigail. And the sons of Zeruiah; Abishai, and Joab, and Asahel, three.

9.4 His brothers' names were Eliab, Abinadab, Shimma, Nethaneel, Raddai, and Ozem. His sisters' names were Abigail and Zeruiah. Abigail was the mother of Amasa. Zeruiah was the mother of Joab, Abishai, and Asahel.

9.4.1 Actually, Zeruiah and Abigail were half-sisters to David being daughters of Nahash the King of Ammon and not Jesse. Jesse may have traded David's mother in on "a new model."

2Sa 17:25 And Absalom made Amasa captain of the host instead of Joab: which Amasa was a man's son, whose name was Ithra an Israelite, that went in to Abigail the daughter of Nahash, sister to Zeruiah Joab's mother.

1Ch 2:17 And Abigail bare Amasa: and the father of Amasa was Jether the Ishmeelite.

9.4.2 Jether is a form of Ithra says Strong; it means an Israelite.

9.5 The name of David's mother is unknown. His father, Jesse, is a well-to-do, respected elder in Bethlehem. David was a son of Jesse's old age. (1Sa 17:12).

1Sa 17:12 Now David was the son of an Ephrathite named Jesse, who was from Bethlehem in Judah. Jesse had eight sons ... he was old and well advanced in years.

## 10. Early Life

10.1 The first mention of David occurs in the account of the visit of the prophet Samuel to Bethlehem to select a successor to King Saul. Jesse was always pushing the careers of David's brother, particularly Eliab to the seeming neglect of David.

10.2 At the sacrifice to which Jesse was especially invited, Samuel began to interview his sons as possible candidates for the kingship. Jesse was more interested in seeing to it that the first seven boys be evaluated by Samuel. (1Sam 16:6-11)

1Sa 16:5 Samuel replied, "Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me." Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

1Sa 16:6 When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD'S anointed stands here before the LORD."

1Sa 16:7 But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

1Sa 16:8 Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, "The LORD has not chosen this one either."

1Sa 16:9 Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, "Nor has the LORD chosen this one."

10.3 One by one Jesse presented his boys, but none seemed to meet the divine specifications.

10.3.1 Finally, Samuel asked Jesse to present his youngest son; whereupon David was summoned from his chores of sheep tending and won the approval of the prophet as God's man for the nation.

10.4 Although David was anointed in the presence of his brethren (1Sa 16:13), the exact purpose of the anointing was not made known to all present.

1Sa 16:13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah.

10.5 It is thought by many scholars that those at the feast interpreted the ritual act as Samuel's choice of David to succeed him in the prophetic office, as Elijah the prophet had anointed Elisha, the young man to succeed him.

10.5.1 This would be more in keeping with what his father and brothers thought of his inclination for he was often communing with God while tending the sheep.

10.6 1Sa 16:12 states that David was ruddy ('admoni, "red," also used of Esau, causing many to believe David to be redheaded), had beautiful eyes, and was handsome.

1Sa 16:12 And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. And the LORD said, Arise, anoint him: for this is he.

10.7 Far more important to Samuel and to Israel was the assurance that "the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward."

10.8 He was the choice of the prophet and of God for the task which faced the nation. He was to become the people's choice at a later time.

10.9 David came to public attention in Israel through two important events, one related to music, the other to physical prowess.

10.10 In the search for a skilled musician to soothe the melancholia of Saul, David was recommended by a member of the court for the position of aide-de-camp.

10.11 1Sa 16:18 (RSV) lists among his qualifications "skilled in playing, a man of valor, a man of war, prudent in speech, and a man of good presence."

1Sa 16:18 One of the servants answered, "I have seen a son of Jesse of Bethlehem who knows how to play the harp. He is a brave man and a warrior. He speaks well and is a fine-looking man. And the LORD is with him."

10.12 In addition to good looks and excellent musical talent, he came from a good family background, could fight if called upon, knew how to ease difficult situations with the right word; David possessed a special charm.

10.13 It seemed that David possessed all the requisites of a young man destined for greatness. David as a shepherd had spent a great deal of time alone communing with God.

10.13.1 He had acquired a great deal of doctrine in an age when God spoke directly to people. He was full of doctrine and thus had tremendous capacity for service and prosperity.

10.13.2 Like all young men of that day David had completed his military training. David had in fact graduated with honors.

10.13.3 At the approximate age of 21 David is summoned to the palace because one of Saul's advisors suggests his name as a candidate for special service. David is summoned by Saul primarily because:

a. He is a great musician and Saul is suffering from psychosis and needs music as therapy.

1Sa 16:14 Now the Spirit of the LORD had departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD tormented him.

1Sa 16:15 Saul's attendants said to him, "See, an evil spirit from God is tormenting you.

1Sa 16:16 Let our lord command his servants here to search for someone who can play the harp. He will play when the evil spirit from God comes upon you, and you will feel better."

1Sa 16:17 So Saul said to his attendants, "Find someone who plays well and bring him to me."

1Sa 16:18 One of the servants answered, "I have seen a son of Jesse of Bethlehem who knows how to play the harp. He is a brave man and a warrior. He speaks well and is a fine-looking man. And the LORD is with him."

1Sa 16:19 Then Saul sent messengers to Jesse and said, "Send me your son David, who is with the sheep."

b. A skilled soldier who has passed his compulsory training David is recognized as a brave warrior; he is a courageous young man who has apparently demonstrated his bravery and skill.

c. He is bright and possessed with a good personality with few mental hang-ups.

d. David is handsome, well-built although average in size having a ruddy complexion and red hair.

e. Again recall he is full of doctrine a man after God's own heart.

f. He must also have been a hero of one or more battles given the fact that a high ranking officer in the court knew he was courageous.

g. As an officer in the army of Saul, he serves the king for approximately three years.

h. Important is it to emphasize all this occurred before David slays Goliath thus dispelling the denominational heresy that David was a little boy when he slew Goliath.

10.14 Again it is noted that "the Lord is with him." David's versatility commanded the attention of Saul, and David quickly attained a dual role in the royal court, King's armor bearer and private musician to the king.

10.15 Since Bethlehem was but a day's journey from Gibeah, the house of King Saul, it is believed that David returned often making certain his father's flocks were being properly attended.

10.16 His prestige grew in both Benjamin and Judah by leaps and bounds.

10.17 The other event in David's early life that commanded national attention was his victory over Goliath, the Philistine giant, in the battle that took place in the valley of Elah (a valley some 25 miles west of Bethlehem).

10.18 When Saul and his army moves to the valley of Elah to fight the army of Philistia David has no reason to remain in the palace, a place in which he apparently took little pleasure so he returns to his home.

1Sa 17:13 Jesse's three oldest sons had followed Saul to the war: The firstborn was Eliab; the second, Abinadab; and the third, Shammah.

1Sa 17:14 David was the youngest. The three oldest followed Saul,

1Sa 17:15 but David went back and forth from Saul to tend his father's sheep at Bethlehem.

10.19 God uses a crisis to introduce David to Israel, a 21 year old warrior who had completed his basic training and infantry school and had from all indication demonstrated his military talent with valor in one or more hostile engagements.

End Lesson Taught