

OT-OV

Lesson 84

1. Last week 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 on page three.
2. The Book of 2nd Samuel was written at least in part by Nathan and an unknown writer around 1020-950 B.C.
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 in the south in 1000 B.C. from where he fought the seven plus year civil war and then in 993 B.C., after a negotiated victory over Abner and Ishbosheth, he began to rule the united Kingdom.
7. The main source for the life and times of David is the material found in the books of I and II Samuel and 1King chapters one and two.
8. Numerous references to David are also found in other Old Testament and New Testament books. David is mentioned 858 times in the Bible and 53 times in the New Testament.
9. David was born in Bethlehem of Judah, a city about six miles south of Jerusalem.
 - 9.1 Bethlehem also 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 David's ancestry is summarized in Ruth 4:17-22:
 - 9.3 David was the youngest child of a family of ten children (1Sa 16:10-11). There were seven brothers and two sisters.
10. 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.

10.1 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)

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

10.3 1Sa 16:12 states that David was ruddy ('admoni " is also used of Esau, causing many to believe David to be redheaded), with beautiful eyes. He is described as a handsome man.

10.4 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."

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

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

10.7 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. Among David's qualifications he was said to be "skilled in playing, a man of valor, a man of war, prudent in speech, and a man of good presence."

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

10.9 Like all young men of that day David had completed his military training. David had in fact graduated with honors and served valiantly in combat.

10.10 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.

10.11 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. He was the King's armor bearer and private musician.

10.12 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. (See Map of Benjamin for Gibeah)

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

10.14 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).

10.15 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.

10.16 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.

10.16.1 The Philistines had marched on the army of Israel in the Valley of Elah, a large valley sufficient in size to permit the armies to maneuver.

1Sa 17:19 They are with Saul and all the men of Israel in the Valley of Elah, fighting against the Philistines.

10.16.2 The valley is also called Ephesdammim; it is located between two major Philistine cities on the edge of Judah.

1Sa 17:1 Now the Philistines gathered together their armies to battle, and were gathered together at Shochoh, which belongeth to Judah, and pitched between Shochoh and Azekah, in Ephesdammim.

10.16.3 Elah as it is also called lies at the foot of Mt. Baalah near Ekron and Ashdod two of the five major Philistine cities. (See Map of Philistia for Ekron and Ashdod)

10.17 Goliath as was the custom among the Greeks/Philistines challenges anyone in the army of Israel to battle individually, winner take all.

10.18 Achilles and Hector settled the Trojan War by such a duel. Since the Philistines controlled the metal industry and were skilled warriors from their youth, the army of Israel was at a serious disadvantage.

10.19 For 40 days the insidious and blasphemous challenge goes unanswered by the cowards of the army of Israel.

10.20 No one wants to take on the 9'9" Goliath who is so large that his breast plate weighs 125 pounds.

10.21 David has been sent to check on his brothers and when he hears the challenge of Goliath the young 24 year old warrior/shepherd becomes greatly offended.

1Sa 17:16 For forty days the Philistine came forward every morning and evening and took his stand.

1Sa 17:17 Now Jesse said to his son David, "Take this ephah of roasted grain and these ten loaves of bread for your brothers and hurry to their camp.

1Sa 17:18 Take along these ten cheeses to the commander of their unit. See how your brothers are and bring back some assurance from them.

1Sa 17:19 They are with Saul and all the men of Israel in the Valley of Elah, fighting against the Philistines."

1Sa 17:20 Early in the morning David left the flock with a shepherd, loaded up and set out, as Jesse had directed. He reached the camp as the army was going out to its battle positions, shouting the war cry.

1Sa 17:21 Israel and the Philistines were drawing up their lines facing each other.

1Sa 17:22 David left his things with the keeper of supplies, ran to the battle lines and greeted his brothers.

1Sa 17:23 As he was talking with them, Goliath, the Philistine champion from Gath, stepped out from his lines and shouted his usual defiance, and David heard it.

1Sa 17:24 When the Israelites saw the man, they all ran from him in great fear.

1Sa 17:25 Now the Israelites had been saying, "Do you see how this man keeps coming out? He comes out to defy Israel. The king will give great wealth to the man who kills him. He will also give him his daughter in marriage and will exempt his father's family from taxes in Israel."

1Sa 17:26 David asked the men standing near him, "What will be done for the man who kills this Philistine and removes this disgrace from Israel? Who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?"

10.22 Saul knew the odds of winning and offered high stakes to anyone who would volunteer: freedom from taxation for his father's house, and the hand of Saul's daughter in marriage.

10.23 David had no doubt earlier met Michal who may very well have been his right woman it is perhaps a stretch to think that David was motivated by the prospect of marrying Michal but then again who knows.

10.24 David offered to accept Goliath's challenge and Saul gave him the best military equipment the Army of Israel could muster, his very own.

10.25 Saul being a head taller than any man in Israel made for a comedic picture of David standing under the large helmet and breastplate of Saul.

10.26 David refused the armor as being unwieldy and chose his own weapons, the weapons of a shepherd.

10.27 With his slingshot he had protected the sheep of his father's flock; with it he would attempt to protect the people of his Father's flock. The mission of David, to bring food to his brothers and his brother's battalion commander was about to change.

10.27.1 The predicament of the Army of Israel was bleak but God's man had arrived on the scene.

1Sa 17:20 Early in the morning David left the flock with a shepherd, loaded up and set out, as Jesse had directed. He reached the camp as the army was going out to its battle positions, shouting the war cry.

10.28 David accepted the offer of Goliath with a heroic expression of his faith in God and his desire to deliver the nation from the hand of the Philistine infidels.

1Sa 17:45 David said to the Philistine, "You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.

1Sa 17:46 This day the LORD will hand you over to me, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head. Today I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds of the air and the beasts of the earth, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel.

1Sa 17:47 All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves; for the battle is the LORD'S, and he will give all of you into our hands."

10.29 Goliath was defeated by the shepherd boy, his head was taken to Jerusalem as a trophy of war, and his armor placed in David's tent.

10.30 David's attitude toward Goliath is summarized in Psa 23:1-6.

Psa 23:1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Psa 23:2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

Psa 23:3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Psa 23:4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Psa 23:5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Psa 23:6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

10.31 His outrage, faith rest application and opposition from his brothers are described in 1Sa 17:21-30:

1Sa 17:21 Israel and the Philistines were drawing up their lines facing each other.

1Sa 17:22 David left his things with the keeper of supplies, ran to the battle lines and greeted his brothers.

1Sa 17:23 As he was talking with them, Goliath, the Philistine champion from Gath, stepped out from his lines and shouted his usual defiance, and David heard it.

1Sa 17:24 When the Israelites saw the man, they all ran from him in great fear ...

1Sa 17:28 When Eliab, David's oldest brother, heard him speaking with the men, he burned with anger at him and asked, "Why have you come down here? And with whom did you leave those few sheep in the desert? I know how conceited you are and how wicked your heart is; you came down only to watch the battle."

1Sa 17:29 "Now what have I done?" said David. "Can't I even speak?"

1Sa 17:30 He then turned away to someone else and brought up the same matter, and the men answered him as before.

10.32 David slays what he rightfully considers an infidel unbeliever and receives from Saul the earlier promised reward for the man who slays the giant.

1Sa 17:25 Now the Israelites had been saying, "Do you see how this man keeps coming out? He comes out to defy Israel. The king will give great wealth to the man who kills him. He will also give him his daughter in marriage and will exempt his father's family from taxes in Israel."

1Sa 17:26 David asked the men standing near him, "What will be done for the man who kills this Philistine and removes this disgrace from Israel? Who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?"

1Sa 17:27 They repeated to him what they had been saying and told him, "This is what will be done for the man who kills him."

10.33 The victory of David over Goliath brought him more permanently into the court of Saul for he had been promised the hand of the King's daughter.

10.34 There he became the husband of Michal and he also develops a strong bond with Prince Jonathan, son of Saul.

10.35 The story of their friendship and loyalty to each other is a masterpiece in biblical literature.

10.36 The bond which united Jonathan to David was neither mere admiration for his heroic courage and extraordinary military skills, nor was it their love of country and common hatred of the uncircumcised Philistines, but rather it was mainly their common love for the Lord God of Israel.

10.37 This unity of spirit won Jonathan to David, and he made with him a covenant of friendship and exchanged gifts as a seal of that friendship.

1Sa 18:1 After David had finished talking with Saul, Jonathan became one in spirit with David, and he loved him as himself.

1Sa 18:2 From that day Saul kept David with him and did not let him return to his father's house.

1Sa 18:3 And Jonathan made a covenant with David because he loved him as himself.

10.38 David served Saul displaying great loyalty and expertise especially in the field of military science slaughtering great numbers of gentile enemies.

1Sa 18:5 Whatever Saul sent him to do, David did it so successfully that Saul gave him a high rank in the army. This pleased all the people, and Saul's officers as well.

1Sa 18:6 When the men were returning home after David had killed the Philistine, the women came out from all the towns of Israel to meet King Saul with singing and dancing, with joyful songs and with tambourines and lutes.

1Sa 18:7 As they danced, they sang: "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his tens of thousands."

10.39 Saul was unable to enjoy his subordinates loyalty and success as he was under the control of his OSN and was perhaps suffering from some form of psychosis.

1Sa 18:8 Saul was very angry; this refrain galled him. "They have credited David with tens of thousands," he thought, "but me with only thousands. What more can he get but the kingdom?"

1Sa 18:9 And from that time on Saul kept a jealous eye on David.

10.40 Saul soon was overtaken by psychotic arrogance and, under the permissive will of God, he is led to attempt the murder of David.

1Sa 18:10 The next day an evil spirit from God came forcefully upon Saul. He was prophesying in his house, while David was playing the harp, as he usually did. Saul had a spear in his hand

1Sa 18:11 and he hurled it, saying to himself, "I'll pin David to the wall." But David eluded him twice.

1Sa 18:12 Saul was afraid of David, because the LORD was with David but had left Saul.

10.41 Saul hoped David would be killed in battle but the Lord was with David and his military success continued.

1Sa 18:13 So he sent David away from him and gave him command over a thousand men, and David led the troops in their campaigns.

1Sa 18:14 In everything he did he had great success, because the LORD was with him.

1Sa 18:15 When Saul saw how successful he was, he was afraid of him.

End Lesson