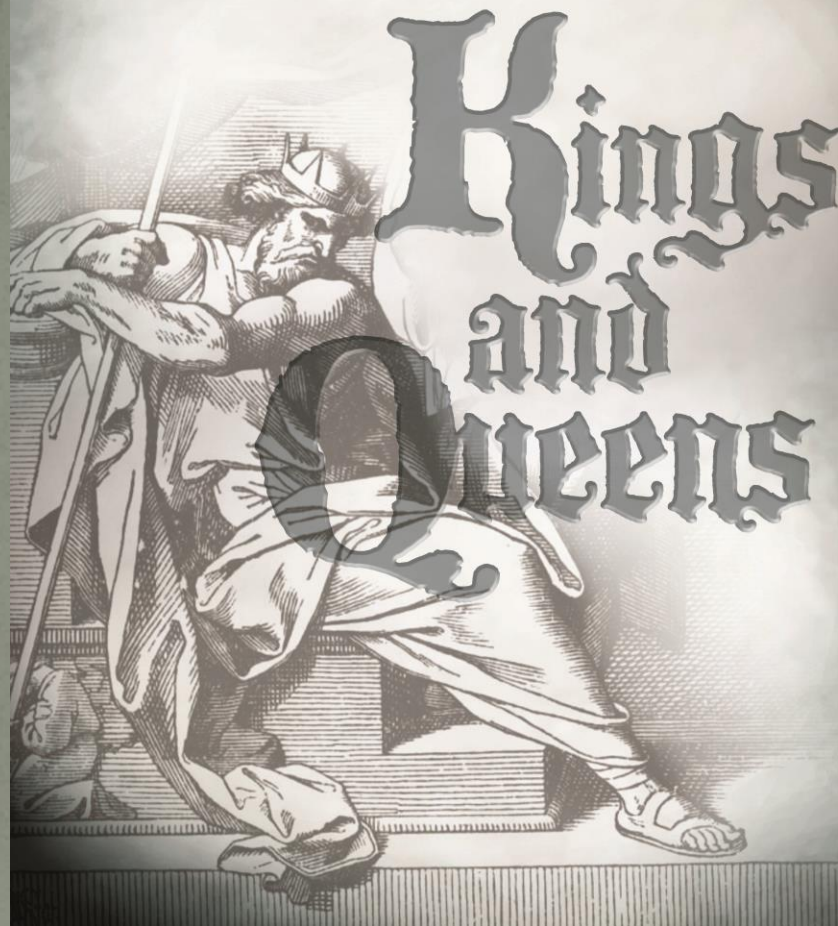


The Rise and Fall of Israel's Monarchs



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# King David

## Part I

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A King in Training

*“Now therefore, thus you shall say to My servant David, thus says the Lord of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be ruler over My people Israel. I have been with you wherever you have gone and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make you a great name, like the names of the great men on earth ” (II Samuel 7:8-9)*



# David's Beginnings (I Samuel 16:1-13)

“And Samuel said to Jesse, are these all the children? And he said there remains yet the youngest, and behold he is tending sheep. Then Samuel said to Jesse, send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here. So he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy with beautiful eyes and a handsome appearance. And the Lord said, Arise, anoint him, for this is he”

(I Samuel 16:11-12)

## David's Beginnings (I Samuel 16:1-13)

We don't have the luxury of any commentary about David's birth (i.e. Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Samuel) but we do know about his family lineage (Matt. 1:1-17, Luke 3:22-38) which is filled with all sorts of spiritual influence.

# David's Beginnings (I Samuel 16:1-13)

- 1) I have always believed that the lives of Ruth and Boaz (David's great grandparents) probably played a significant role in influencing David's father and grandfather - thus passing on a strong spiritual heritage to David.
- 2) In addition to that, God knew of David before he was even born, so his development into a "man after God's heart" (I Samuel 13:14) was already in the hands of the One who could mold and shape him the best - The Lord God!



# David's Beginnings (I Samuel 16:1-13)

Our introduction to David comes  
when he is a young lad

Although we are not completely  
sure he was probably just entering  
his teenage years.

## David's Beginnings (I Samuel 16:1-13)

“Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. And Samuel arose and went to Ramah.”  
(I Samuel 16:13)



# David's Beginnings (I Samuel 16:1-13)

- The anointing of David was simple but sure, as Samuel obediently acknowledged David's as King since this was the Lord's will since eternity past. This anointing did not appear to boost David's ego or pride as he went right back to tending the sheep. (I Samuel 16:17-19)
- The glory belonged to God and not to David as this was a supernatural authentication of His will.

## David vs. Goliath (I Samuel 17)

*“So David arose early in the morning and left the flock with a keeper and took the supplies and went as Jesse had commanded him. And he came to the circle of the camp while the army was going out in battle array shouting the war cry. Israel and the Philistines drew up in battle array, army against army.” (I Samuel 17:20-21)*

# David vs. Goliath (I Samuel 17)

- The stage was set as told in I Samuel 17 where two great armies were poised to do battle at the bottom of a canyon known as the Valley of Elah.
- The location was just a few miles southwest of Jerusalem
- Each side selected their choicest warrior to do battle against one another to determine the victor – this was a common method used in Eastern warfare.



# David vs. Goliath (I Samuel 17)

- 1) **Goliath** was earmarked to represent the Philistines
- 2) The one chosen (*actually he volunteered and I think we can conclude this was directed by the Lord*) to represent the Israelites was **David**.
- 3) *From a **human standpoint** the one best suited to battle Goliath was Saul himself as most conclude he was a tall man (stood head and shoulders above men). He might have matched up well against Goliath in size, strength, and skill. **This however was not God's choice.***

# David vs. Goliath (I Samuel 17)

*“Then David left his baggage in care of the baggage keeper and ran to the battle line and entered in order to greet his brothers. As he was talking with them, behold, the champion, the **Philistine from Gath named Goliath**, was coming up from the army of the Philistines, and he spoke these same words; and David heard them. When all the men of Israel saw the man, they fled from him and were greatly afraid” (I Samuel 17:22-24)*

# David vs. Goliath (I Samuel 17)

- In order to grasp the size of Goliath we need to translate “cubits and span” into feet and inches. This would mean he was **9’9” tall**.
  - 1) His body armor (“coat of mail”) alone weighed some 175-200 pounds!
  - 2) He also wore bronze leggings, a bronze helmet, carried a massive spear and his shield was the size of a full grown man!
  - 3) This guy was the equivalent of a tank verses a hand grenade in modern warfare! He was massive and intimidating!



## David vs. Goliath (I Samuel 17)

We are told that the Israelites were “greatly afraid” – but true faith (as we will see in the life of David) would have been for them to fear God and not Goliath!

## David vs. Goliath (I Samuel 17)

*“Then David spoke to the men who were standing by him, saying, what will be done for the man who kills this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should taunt the armies of the living God” (I Samuel 17:26)*

# David vs. Goliath (I Samuel 17)

- It would appear that David did not understand what all of the fuss was about and why the Israelites were so intimidated by Goliath.
- Goliath did not strike fear in David's heart as he knew full well who was in control.
- David clearly trusted God and he never wavered from that belief.
- It would also seem to me that David was actually bothered that the Israelite army would allow a wicked and vile enemy of God to humiliate them so.



## David vs. Goliath (I Samuel 17)

“And David said, the Lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion, and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said to David, go and may the Lord be with you” (I Samuel 17:36-37)

## David vs. Goliath (I Samuel 17)

“He (David) took his stick in his hand and chose for himself five smooth stones from the brook and put them in the shepherd’s bag which he had, even in his pouch, and his sling was in his hand and he approached the Philistine.” (I Samuel 17:40)

# David vs. Goliath (I Samuel 17)

- These weapons (a sling and staff) were actually David's weapons of choice but it is also a perfect example as to how God operates through what we might consider unconventional means yet clearly designed to bring glory to God.
- The fact that David did not use Saul's armor is evidence to the fact that David wanted nothing to weigh him down or hold him back from accomplishing the will of the Lord which was not just to defeat Goliath, but also to defeat fear itself and show the Israelites that any enemy that opposes the Lord could not prevail against Him.



# David vs. Goliath (I Samuel 17)

At the end of the day; faith is what

David relied on to defeat and overcome the enemy (in this case - Goliath) **“For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world – our faith”**

(I John 5:4)

## David vs. Goliath (I Samuel 17)

“When the Philistine looked and saw David, he disdained him; for he was but a youth, and ruddy, with a handsome appearance. The Philistine said to David, am I a dog that you come to me with sticks? And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. The Philistine also said to David, come to me and I will give your flesh to the birds of the sky and the beasts of the fields” (I Samuel 17:42-44)

# David vs. Goliath (I Samuel 17)

- This overconfidence showed by Goliath is the epitome of pride and arrogance and the same attributes embodied in Satan and those who follow him.
- The fact that Goliath was so sure of himself should come as no surprise and his complete ignorance of the God who created him was evidenced in his continual taunts even to the point of cursing David in the name of his own false gods.
- Goliath represents evil and wickedness and his fate should serve as a reminder that one should not underestimate the power of the One True God!



# David vs. Goliath (I Samuel 17)

“Then David said to the Philistine, you come to me with a sword, a spear and a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have taunted. This day the Lord will deliver you up into my hands and I will strike you down and remove your head from you. And I will give the dead bodies of the army of the Philistines this day to the birds of the sky and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel and that all this assembly may know that the Lord does not deliver by sword or by spear; for the battle is the Lord’s and He will give you into our hands”

(I Samuel 17:45-47)

# David vs. Goliath (I Samuel 17)

- David makes a clear declaration that the outcome of this battle has already been decided and that the victory belongs to the Lord of hosts.
- All that remains is how the Lord chose for David to defeat Goliath and that too is completely in the hands and will of the Lord.

# David vs. Goliath (I Samuel 17)

“Then it happened when the Philistine rose and came and drew near to meet David, that David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet the Philistine. And David put his hand into his bag and took from it a stone and slung it, and struck the Philistine on his forehead. And the stone sunk in his forehead, so that he fell on his face to the ground.”

(I Samuel 17:48-49)



# David vs. Goliath (I Samuel 17)

“Thus David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone, and he struck and killed the Philistine and killed him; but there was no sword in David’s hand. Then David ran and stood over the Philistine and took his sword and drew it out of its sheath and killed him, and cut off his head with it. When the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they fled” (I Samuel 17:50-51)

# David vs. Goliath (I Samuel 17)

- David wasted no time in advancing against Goliath and did so with complete confidence because his faith was not in his sling and stones but in the *Spirit* of God who would guide him in defeating this giant.
- The use of a sling and stone against a sword and spear was not at all foolish or ineffective as we see by the results. In fact this method of warfare was common among the tribes of Israel (especially the tribe of Benjamin) and quite effective.
- With Goliath now dead - the Philistines quickly retreated in *defeat*

# David vs. Goliath (I Samuel 17)

David's defeat of Goliath brings great confidence to the people of Israel but it will soon bring jealousy and resentment toward him from King Saul.



# David's Dominance and Saul's Demise (I Samuel 18-31)

“So David went out wherever Saul sent him, and prospered; and Saul set him over the men of war. And it was pleasing in the sight of all the people and also in the sight of Saul's servants.” (I Samuel 18:5)

# David's Dominance and Saul's Demise (I Samuel 18-31)

- The fact that Samuel had already anointed David and the Spirit of God was upon him, and along with his defeating Goliath; it is easy to see how David's popularity had risen to such a high level among the people.
- It is good to pause and see that the Lord's providence in all of these events surrounding David's life:

# David's Dominance and Saul's Demise

## (I Samuel 18-31)

- 1) David was a shepherd and learned the value of love, discipline and protection
- 2) David was a musician (he played the harp) which provide him with the attributes needed to compose so many of the Psalms that described his exploits, his sensitive heart, his challenges, his victories, his love for the Lord and his declaration and praise that the Lord is sovereign.
- 3) David's connection to Saul and Jonathan put him in a place to understand and learn not just how to be a warrior but also to best to govern and represent the interests of the people he would one day rule.



# David's Dominance and Saul's Demise (I Samuel 18-31)

It would be some 15 years between David's anointing by Samuel and his actual coronation, but these events leading up to his eventual declaration as King would prepare him and evidence him as the **man after God's own heart.**

# David's Dominance and Saul's Demise

## (I Samuel 18-31)

“It happened as they were coming, when David returned from killing the Philistine, that the women came out of all the cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet King Saul, with tambourines, with joy and with musical instruments. The women sang as they played and said, Saul has slain his thousands and David his ten thousand” (I Sam. 18:6-7)

- David had been already named as the commander of Saul's army and it put him in a strong leadership position as he continually battled and defeated the Philistines.
- David's military victories gained him immediate notoriety and praise

# David's Dominance and Saul's Demise (I Samuel 18-31)

“Then Saul became very angry, for this saying displeased him; and he said, they have ascribed to David ten thousands, but to me they have ascribed thousands. Now what more can he have but the kingdom? Saul looked at David with suspicion from that day on.”

(I Samuel 18:8-9)



# David's Dominance and Saul's Demise (I Samuel 18-31)

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- Saul's position as king had been in jeopardy ever since his act of disobedience in attempting to usurp Samuel's position as priest and also not obeying the Lord in relation to the Amalekites.

# David's Dominance and Saul's Demise

## (I Samuel 18-31)

“Then Saul became very angry, for this saying displeased him; and he said, they have ascribed to David ten thousands, but to me they have ascribed thousands. Now what more can he have but the kingdom? Saul looked at David with suspicion from that day on.”

- In this passage we see that Saul now recognizes that it is David who will replace him and because of this he will make every effort to keep that from happening.
- At a later time Saul will reveal to his son Jonathan (also David's close friend) that he plans to pursue David and have him killed. “For as long as the son of Jess lives on the earth, neither you nor your kingdom will be established. Therefore now, send and bring him to me, for he must surely die” (I Samuel 20:31)

# David's Dominance and Saul's Demise

## (I Samuel 18-31)

4. David takes up residence in a cave rather than a castle (I Samuel 22)

“So David departed from there and escaped to the cave of Adullam; and when his brothers and all his father’s household heard of it, they went down there to him. **Everyone who was in distress, and everyone who was in debt, and everyone who was discontented gathered to him; and he became captain over them.** Now there were about four hundred men with him” (I Samuel 22:1-2)



# David's Dominance and Saul's Demise

## (I Samuel 18-31)

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- 1) As Saul was in pursuit of David, the need to be on the move was critical to avoid an unnecessary confrontation.
- 2) This passage reveals the following that David receives from not just his own family but also those that were unhappy with Saul's leadership.

## David's Dominance and Saul's Demise (I Samuel 18-31)

“Now David went from there to Mizpah of Moab; and he said to the king of Moab, please let my father and my mother come and stay with you until I know what God will do for me. Then he left them with the king of Moab; and they stayed with him all the time that David was in the stronghold. The prophet Gad said to David, do not stay in the stronghold; depart, and go into the land of Judah. So David departed and went into the forest of Hereth”

(I Samuel 22:3-5)

# David's Dominance and Saul's Demise (I Samuel 18-31)

## 5. David in the wilderness (I Samuel 23-24)

“David stayed in the wilderness in the strongholds, and remained in the hill country in the wilderness of Ziph. And Saul sought him every day, but God did not deliver him into his hand.” (I Samuel 23:14)



# David's Dominance and Saul's Demise

## (I Samuel 18-31)

- A situation arose in which Saul had discovered where David was located and pursued him. (I Samuel 24:1-5)
  - 1) David and his men were hunkered down in a cave where Saul had entered but he was unaware they were there.
  - 2) Somehow David had managed to sneak upon Saul and cut off a portion of his robe without Saul being aware but later felt this was inappropriate behavior.
  - 3) David had concluded that it was either not his place to kill Saul or it was not the right time and as such withdrew himself and instructed his men to refrain from killing the Lord's anointed.

## David's Dominance and Saul's Demise (I Samuel 18-31)

“So he said to his men, far be it from me because of the Lord that I should do this thing to my lord, the Lord's anointed, to stretch out my hand against him, since he is the Lord's anointed. David persuaded his men with these words and did not allow them to rise up against Saul. And Saul arose, left the cave, and went on his way”

(I Samuel 24:6-7)

# David's Dominance and Saul's Demise

## (I Samuel 18-31)

- 1) The jealousy and animosity that Saul held toward David never ceased during the remainder of Saul's reign as king and it completely consumed him.
- 2) David remained faithful to his word not to bring harm to the king, and Saul's death will actually come later at the hands of the Philistines.
- 3) It is believed that David may have written Psalm 57 and Psalm 142 during this time in the cave hiding from Saul; "I cried out to You, O Lord; I said, You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living. Give heed to my cry, for I am brought very low; deliver me from my persecutors, for they are too strong for me. (Psalm 142:5-6)



Samuel's death and Saul's final pursuit of David  
(I Samuel 25-26)

“Then Samuel died; and all Israel gather together and mourned for him and buried him at his house in Ramah. And David arose and went down to the wilderness of Paran” (I Samuel 25:1)

# Samuel's death and Saul's final pursuit of David (I Samuel 25-26)

- 1) The death of Samuel marks an end of a significant era in the history of the people of Israel - he was the only man of God to lead the people from the unique position of prophet, priest and judge.
- 2) As Israel now moves into this new direction; the position of the king as ruler and the one whom the Lord directs will clearly come to the forefront and this will begin with David and continue with his descendants.
- 3) The Lord will continue to use the prophet and the priest to direct and guide the affairs of the king and the people of Israel – some of the kings will obey and listen, and they will be blessed, while others will not, and they will face the consequence of disobedience.

## Samuel's death and Saul's final pursuit of David (I Samuel 25-26)

“So Saul arose and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, having with him three thousand chosen men of Israel, to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph. Saul camped in the hill of Hachilah, which is before Jeshimon, beside the road, and David was staying in the wilderness. When he saw that Saul came after him into the wilderness, David sent out spies, and he knew that Saul was definitely coming. David then arose and came to the place where Saul had camped. And David saw the place where Saul lay, and Abner the son of Ner, the commander of his army; and Saul was lying in the circle of the camp, and the people were camped around him” (I Samuel 26:2-5)



## Samuel's death and Saul's final pursuit of David (I Samuel 25-26)

- David was in a position to kill Saul and take control of the throne of Israel but instead he chose not to be the one to take his life and would not permit any of his soldiers to kill Saul either. This no doubt took great restraint on David's part but it was the Lord's command that David was to follow. (I Sam. 26:7-11)
- David instead removed Saul's spear and water jug to make Saul aware of what he could have done and this resulted in Saul ceasing from pursuing David any longer and will bring a quasi-peace agreement between them both. (I Samuel 26:12-25)

## David's victories & Saul's death (I Samuel 27-31)

- Although Saul had ceased from pursuing David to kill him, there was no doubt in David's mind that he could not fully trust Saul and they remained estranged.
  - 1) David subsequently moved his family and those loyal soldiers who followed him to the area of Gath where he maintained a somewhat loose military arrangement with the Philistine ruler named Achish.
  - 2) David was given the town of Ziklag (a frontier area between Gaza and Beersheba) to live in and while there he conducted a number of raids and attacks against the **Geshurites** and the **Amalekites**.  
(I Samuel 27:8-9)

# David's victories & Saul's death (I Samuel 27-31)

- 1) There was a great deal of mistrust that the Philistines commanders had toward David as they believed that David was supposed to be helping them fight against Saul but in actuality David was fighting the enemies of Israel – the **Amalekites**. (I Samuel 29)
- 2) The continual battles between David and the Amalekites became pretty intense and eventually David successfully defeated most of their main army and re-captured all of the spoils that the Amalekites had stolen in their previous raids against David and his family. (I Samuel 30)
- 3) David's accomplishments and fame were becoming well known while Saul was losing ground and would soon be killed in battle.



“Now the Philistines were fighting against Israel, and the men of Israel fled from before the Philistines and fell slain on Mount Giboah. **The Philistines overtook Saul and his sons; and the Philistines killed Jonathan and Abinadab and Malchi-shua the sons of Saul.** The battle went heavy against Saul and the archers hit him; and he was badly wounded by the archers. Then Saul said to his armor bearer, draw your sword and pierce me through with it, otherwise these uncircumcised will come and pierce me through and make sport of me. But his armor bearer would not, for he was greatly afraid. So **Saul took his sword and fell on it.** When his armor bearer saw that Saul was dead, he also fell on his sword and died with him. **Thus Saul died with his three sons,** his armor bearer and all his men on that day together” (I Samuel 31:1-5)