

King David

Selected Scriptures

"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)

1. "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)
 - 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.
 - 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!
 - 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.

2. “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)

- 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)

1. *“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)

- 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.

- 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.***

2. *"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)

- In order to grasp the size of Goliath we need to translate "cubits and span" into feet and inches. Let's trust the commentators on this one and say 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!
- 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!

3. *"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)

- 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.

4. “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)
5. “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)
 - 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 of any enemy that opposes the Lord could not prevail against Him.
 - 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)
6. “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, and 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)
 - 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!

7. “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 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**.

8. “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. 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 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**
9. 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)

1. "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)
 - 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:
 - 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.
 - 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**.
2. "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

3. “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)
 - 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.
 - 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)
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)
 - 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.
 - “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)

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)
- 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.
- “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)
 - 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)

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)
 - 1) The death of Samuel marks an end of a significant era in the history of the people of Israel and 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.
- “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)
- 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 Samuel 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)

7. 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)
 - 3) 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)
 - 4) 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)
 - 5) 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)

David as King

1. After the death of Saul there was division among the Tribes of Israel as to which King they would follow:
 - David will be declared King over the tribes of **Judah** (II Samuel 2:1-7)
 - 1) “And David brought up his men who were with him, each with his household; and they lived in the cities of Hebron. Then the men of Judah came and there anointed David king over the house of Judah” (II Samuel 2:3-4)
 - 2) David had already been anointed as king by Samuel (I Samuel 16:11-13) but now after the death of Saul he is recognized as the king the over Judah.
 - 3) An important consideration that is worth noting here is that during his final remarks and comments to his sons, Jacob makes this claim to his son Judah; **“The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until Shiloh comes, and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples”** (Genesis 49:10)
 - 4) David is from the lineage of Judah and he will begin a dynasty of kings from which the Messiah, The King of Kings, Jesus Christ Himself will come.

Genealogy of Jesus according to Luke

1. God	14. Cainan	27. Hezron	40. Eliakim	53. Addi	66. Hesli
2. Adam	15. Shelah	28. Ram	41. Jonam	54. Melchi	67. Nahum
3. Seth	16. Eber	29. Amminadab	42. Joseph	55. Neri	68. Amos
4. Enosh	17. Peleg	30. Nahshon	43. Judah	56. Shealtiel	69. Mattathias
5. Kenan	18. Reu	31. Salmon	44. Simeon	57. Zerubbabel	70. Joseph
6. Mahalalel	19. Serug	32. Boaz	45. Levi	58. Rhesa	71. Jannai
7. Jared	20. Nahor	33. Obed	46. Matthat	59. Joanan	72. Melchi
8. Enoch	21. Terah	34. Jesse	47. Jorim	60. Joda	73. Levi
9. Methuselah	22. Abraham	35. David	48. Eliezer	61. Josech	74. Matthat
10. Lamech	23. Isaac	36. Nathan	49. Joshua	62. Semein	75. Heli
11. Noah	24. Jacob	37. Mattatha	50. Er	63. Mattathias	76. Mary ^[5] & Joseph*
12. Shem	25. Judah	38. Menna	51. Elmadam	64. Mahath	77. Jesus
13. Arphaxad	26. Perez	39. Melea	52. Cosam	65. Naggai	

- Ish-bosheth will be declared King over **Israel** (II Samuel 2:8-11)
 - 1) He is Saul's son from one of Saul's concubines
 - 2) He will rule over the tribes of Israel for **2** years

2. Because of the division that existed between the tribes and Israel and Judah and the unwillingness of some to follow David (their divinely chosen leader), a civil war will take place between the house of David and the house of Saul. (II Samuel 2-4)

- “Now there was a long war between the house of Saul and the house of David; and David grew steadily stronger but the house of Saul grew weaker continually”. (II Samuel 3:1)
- This civil war will continue between these two groups (the house of David and the house of Saul) and much **bloodshed** will occur.
 - 1) This warfare and bloodshed is neither sanctioned by David nor is it something that the Lord required or directed.
 - 2) The actions of the military leaders and other who participated in the various betrayals and murderous behavior were **self-serving** and it will show itself later in their own personal character.
 - 3) **The murder of an innocent life** is always considered **sin** and to do so goes against all that the Scriptures teach and all the Lord commands.
- This war will come to an end but ironically these same divisions will resurface for different reasons after the death of King Solomon (David’s son) and once again the people of God (the Israelites) will divide pretty much along these same lines.

3. David is made King over all Israel (II Samuel 5)

- “Then all the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said, Behold, we are your bone and your flesh. Previously when Saul was king over us, you were the one who led Israel out and in. And the Lord said to you, you will shepherd My people Israel and you will be a ruler over Israel” (II Samuel 5:1-2)
- “So all of the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a covenant with them before the Lord at Hebron; then they anointed David King over Israel” (II Samuel 5:3)

4. “David was thirty years old when he became king and he reigned 40 years. At Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months, and in Jerusalem he reigned 33 years over all Israel and Judah” (II Samuel 5:3-4)

- This summarizes the overall extent of David’s reign as king over Israel and during this time he experienced a number of successful endeavors and triumphs.

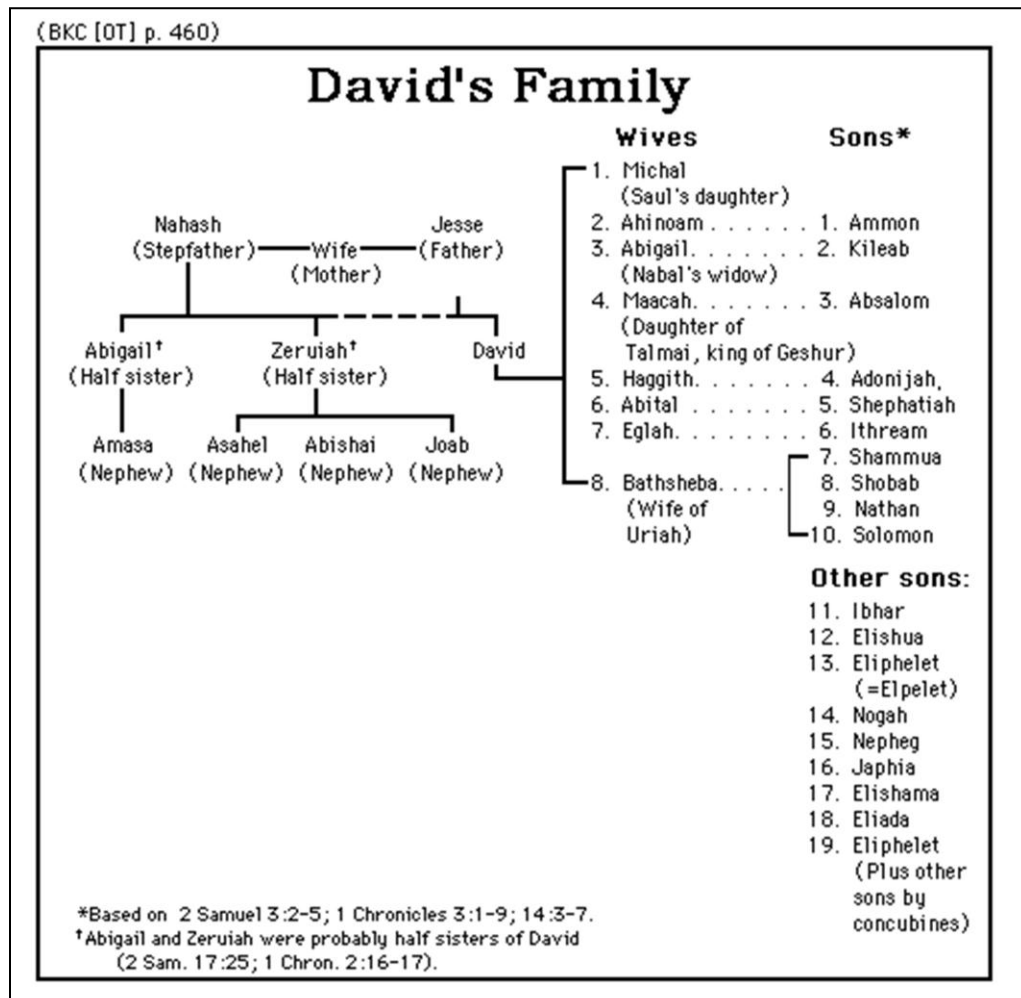
- 1) During his reign as King, David successfully expanded the territories and borders of Israel to their largest ever as a nation or empire.
- 2) David wrote a large percentage of the Psalms, many of which express his own personal triumphs and failures, but often the primary focus of his writings were on the Lord God and His provisions, blessings, grace and love.
- 3) It will be David, who will be known as the “**man after God’s own heart**” (I Sam. 13:14, Acts 13:22), and the Lord will make a **covenant** with David; in which the Lord will promise that He will make the name of David great, and that his house and his kingdom will be established forever. (II Sam 7:8-29)

- During this time Davis also experienced a number of challenges and personal failures, some of which were outside of his control while many of them were the result of bad choices and decisions.

- 1) David’s lust will drive him to commit adultery with Bathsheba
- 2) David’s sin with Bathsheba will drive him further and deeper into sin by having her husband Uriah murdered in order to have her as his wife since she was pregnant with his child.
- 3) David’s family will be both a blessing and a curse as he had many wives and concubines and many offspring in which some were good and some bad.
- 4) David’s relationship with his son Absalom will become estranged because Absalom kills one of his brothers (Amnon) who raped his sister (Tamar).
- 5) Absalom’s rebellion and attempt to overthrow his father will be some of the low points of David’s life but David will repent and be restored.

David's Family

1. One important thing to point out is the vastness of David's family as this will play itself out during David's life and the continuation of the kingdom. So here is a chart that I found in The Bible Knowledge Commentary that I have found to be useful:



2. After looking at this "family tree"....what sort of problems do you see?
Having multiple spouses is not a biblical concept and is wrought with all sorts of problems. This was a pagan practice and never encouraged in scripture as something to pursue.
3. After looking at this family tree.....what sort of blessings do you see?
Clearly the blessing is the lineage continues that will one day lead to the birth of Christ.

The Expansion of the Kingdom during the Reign of David

1. David makes **Jerusalem** the new headquarters! (II Samuel 5:1-25)
 - “Now the king and his men went to **Jerusalem** against the **Jebusites**, the inhabitants of the land, and they said to David, you shall not come in here but the blind and the lame will turn you away, thinking, David cannot enter here. Nevertheless, **David captured the stronghold of Zion that is the city of David.**” (II Samuel 5:6-7)
 - “So David lived in the stronghold and called it the **city of David**. And David built all around from Millo and inward. **David became greater and greater** for the Lord God of hosts was with him” (II Samuel 5:9-10)
2. The major powers of Western Asia (Hittites, Egyptians, Philistines, and even Tyre) were either diminished/destroyed or they sought friendly alliances with David.
3. The enemies that continually attacked Israel (**Edomites, Moabites, and Ammonites**) were either routed by David or at least brought under submission to his rule during his reign.
4. During the reign of David; major trade routes were opened up to the neighboring countries/territories of **Phoenicia, Damascus, Assyria, Arabia, Egypt** and even the distant lands of the up and coming Persians.
5. “And David had realized that the Lord had established him as king over Israel, and that He had exalted his kingdom for the sake of His people Israel” (II Samuel 5:12)
 - The territorial boundaries of the kingdom were said to have expanded from 6,000 Sq. miles to 60,000 sq. miles.
 - David emphasized the importance of the **priesthood** and made the teachings of (what would later be called) **Judaism**, universal throughout the kingdom and outlying areas.
 - In addition, David sought to destroy all **idols** and the **altars** of idol worship throughout his kingdom.

God's Covenant with David (II Samuel 7)

1. David's **obedience** brought rest to him and the kingdom which allowed him to focus his attention on internal matters.
 - "Then the fame of David went out into all the lands; and the Lord brought the fear of him on all the nations" (I Chronicles 14:17)
 - "Now it came about when the king lived in his house, and the Lord had given him rest on every side from all his enemies, that the king said to Nathan the prophet, see now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells within tent curtains. Nathan said to the king, go, do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you" (II Samuel 7:1)
 - Here are a couple of parallel texts to this period of David's life (especially during the time of the relocation of the ark of God to its proper place). Give them a read and then see if you are able to see the genuine heart felt **love** that David had for his Lord. (**II Chronicles 16:8-36, Psalm 105, Psalm 106**)
2. David desired to build a "**house**" (permanent dwelling) for God. (II Samuel 7:1-7)
 - This continues to speak of David's heart and clearly his intentions were admirable as he may have felt guilty that he resided in a pretty nice place while the dwelling for the Lord (The Tabernacle) was something much less permanent and elaborate.
 - David wanted to build a house for God, but it was actually God's plan to build a house for David. (II Samuel 7:11)
 - 1) This went beyond just the physical structure of his grand palace but was actually to be a **royal house, a dynasty of kings!**
 - 2) The kingdom and his throne would be **permanent** and over something David would reign **forever**. (II Samuel 23:5)
 - It may have been the heart of David to build a permanent dwelling for the Lord but that responsibility and opportunity will fall on David's son Solomon who will construct the grand and majestic Temple David dreamed of. (II Samuel 7:12-13)

3. The Covenant that the Lord makes with David is what sets the course of not just David's immediate future, but also lays out a future for his descendants - **forever**.
- “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 the earth**” (II Samuel 7:8-9)
 - **“Your house and your kingdom shall endure before Me forever; your throne shall be established forever.** In accordance to these words and all this vision, so Nathan spoke to David” (II Samuel 7:16-17)
 - *David prays to the Lord and concludes his prayer with these words;* “For You, O Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, **have made a revelation** to Your servant, saying, **I will build you a house;** therefore Your servant has found courage to pray this prayer to You. Now, O Lord God, you are God, and Your words are truth, and **You have promised this good thing to Your servant.** Now therefore may it please You to bless the house of Your servant that it **may continue forever before You.** For You, O Lord God, have spoken; and with Your blessing **may the house of Your servant be blessed forever**” (II Samuel 7:27-29)
 - I will sing of the lovingkindness of the Lord forever; to all generations I will make known Your faithfulness with my mouth. For I have said, Lovingkindness will be built up forever; in the heavens You have establish Your faithfulness. **I have made a covenant with My chosen; I have sworn to David My servant, I will establish your seed forever** and build up your throne to all generations.” (Psalm 89:1-4)
4. This is an **everlasting** covenant and the obvious connection is to the **Lord Jesus Christ**; “For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; and the government will rest on His shoulders; and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, on the **throne of David** and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness from then on and **forevermore**. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will accomplish this” (Isaiah 9:6-7, see also Luke 2:1-20)

David's Continued Successful Military Campaigns

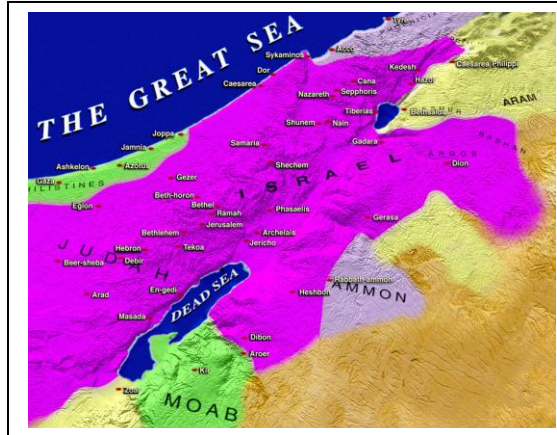
1. The fulfillment of the promise the Lord made David to bring rest from all of his enemies (II Samuel 7:8-11) comes true as **David is given military victories over 3 significant adversarial groups** of people who continually attacked Israel:
 - The **Philistines** – enemies of Israel for over 125 years (II Samuel 8:1)
 - The **Moabites** – descendants of Lot and a continual thorn in the side of the Israelites since the days of Moses. (II Samuel 8:2)
 - The **Arameans** – A people group that formed as a rather loose confederation of “city states” to the north with their headquarters near Damascus. They too were a continual problem for the Israelites and David subdued them. (II Samuel 8:3-8)
2. David's victories stretched all the way to the south and to the east in which he also subdued and brought under control these groups:
 - **Amalekites** – descendants of Esau (II Samuel 8:12)
 - **Edomites** – also descendants of Esau (II Samuel 8:14)
 - **Ammonites** – also descendants of Lot (II Samuel 10)
3. “So David made a name for himself when he returned from killing 18,000 Arameans in the Valley of Salt. He put garrisons in Edom. In all Edom he put garrisons, and all the Edomites became servants to David. And the Lord helped David wherever he went. So David reigned over all Israel; and David administered justice and righteousness for all his people” (II Samuel 8:13-15)
4. “When all the kings, servants of Hadadezer, saw that they were defeated by Israel, they made peace with Israel and served them. So the Arameans feared to help the sons of Ammon anymore” (I Chronicles 18:14)
5. As David defeated each of these nations and people groups, he brought them under control and in turn peace treaties were made allowing warfare to subside and this allowed him to focus a little more on some domestic affairs.

David's Sin with Bathsheba (II Samuel 11)

1. Most of us know this story pretty well but let's get the context of what is going on:

- David would have probably been somewhere between **50-55** years old by this time and served as King for about **20** years or so.
 - 1) David experienced many successes during this time, built a prosperous kingdom, and caused many surrounding nations to fear him.
 - 2) As the kingdom began to grow, the surrounding vassal states (non-Israelites people groups/nations under the authority of David), as well as other subdued nations and enemies, made treaties with David. These treaties often resulted in marriages or the receiving of women into David's harem (concubines) which instead of satisfying his sexual desires....only made them worse!
 - 3) During David's first 20 years he continued to fight many battles and was away from home often. This resulted in all sorts of domestic failures at home, both for the nation, as well as in his personal family.
 - 4) It is concluded by many scholars that this neglect of things at home, along with not completely following the teachings of scripture (Deut. 17:14-17), are what drove David into a cycle of sin that he struggled to break free from.
 - 5) David's decisions to be **unaccountable** made him vulnerable to the very thing that made him such a notable person. His pursuit of righteousness (a man after God's own heart), and integrity was blindsided by **pride** and **arrogance** because he didn't allow himself to keep it in check!
- Three very notable Proverbs come to mind at this time (Prov. 11:2, 16:18, 29:23)
 - 1) "When pride comes, then comes dishonor, but with the humble is wisdom"
 - 2) "Pride goes before destruction and a haughty spirit before stumbling"
 - 3) "A man's pride will bring him low, but a humble spirit will obtain honor"

- What was David doing in bed instead of being on the battlefield?
- 1) David had decided that it was time to resume the battle against the Ammonites
 - 2) “Then it happened in the spring, at the time when kings go out to battle, that David sent Joab and his servants with him and all Israel, and they destroyed the sons of Ammon and besieged Rabbah. **But David stayed at Jerusalem.**” (II Samuel 11:1).



- 3) The decision to do battle in the **spring** would have been consistent with the military operations of the day. The kings of that era often **waited for the “latter rains” to cease** before attacking one another. They didn’t have some of the modern tools for “foul weather” that are at our disposal today.
- 4) Instead of going into battle himself, David sent Joab to lead the troops against the city of Rabbah (the capitol of Ammon). It would have been an unusual decision on David’s part not to lead the charge. We are not told the reasons why he remained in Jerusalem, but he may have had ulterior motives of lust.
- 5) “Now when evening came David arose from his bed and walked around on the roof of the king’s house, and from the roof he saw a woman bathing; and the woman was very beautiful in appearance” (II Samuel 11:2)
- 6) We don’t know the motives of Bathsheba’s heart but many conclude from the text that she was not an innocent party either and may well have desired to entice David.....we don’t know for sure. What we do know is that David wasted no time in satisfying his lust and he sleeps with Bathsheba, thus committing adultery with her. (II Samuel 11:3-5)

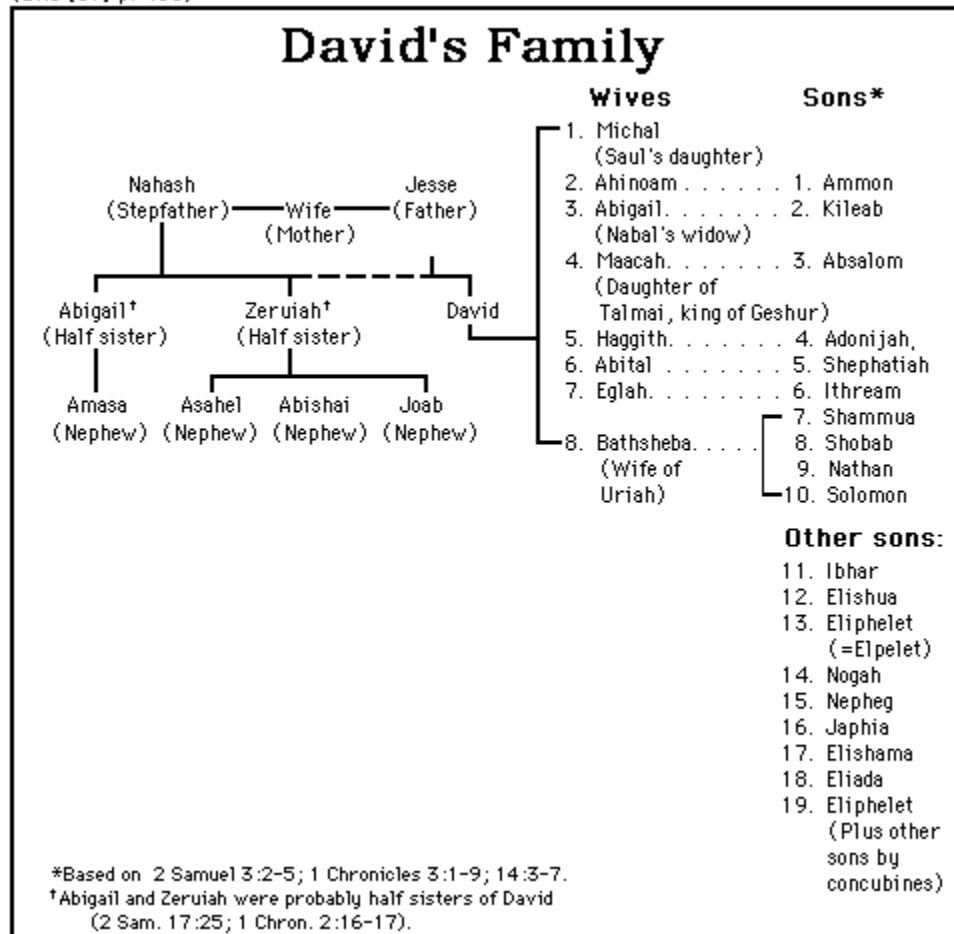
2. The cover up (II Samuel 11:6-27)

- David's act of **adultery** (sleeping with another man's wife) with Bathsheba brought about serious consequences – as Bathsheba becomes pregnant.
- Instead of **confessing** his sin, **repenting** before the Lord and taking **responsibility** for his actions, David makes even further unwise decisions.
 - 1) David initially attempts to bring Uriah (Bathsheba's husband) home from battle in the hopes that Uriah would sleep with Bathsheba and when the child was born he would just assume the child was his. (II Samuel 11:6-13)
 - 2) Uriah (ethnically – a Hittite), was honored that the King of Israel had extended such favor to him, but as a loyal soldier he was unwilling to accept special treatment and chose not to return home and sleep with his wife.
 - 3) David even attempted to get Uriah drunk to go home and be with his wife. That plan failed which then caused David to put Uriah in harm's way on the battlefield so that he would be killed making David complicit in his death.
 - 4) The death of Uriah on the battlefield allowed David to marry Bathsheba and thus cover up their act of infidelity and in turn attempt to remove any suspicion that the child was not his.
- The actions of David were **displeasing** in the sight of the Lord and **David would experience a number of challenges and consequences resulting from his sin.** He would also fall under judgment from the Lord.
 - 1) “Now when the wife of Uriah the Hittite heard that Uriah her husband was dead, she mourned for her husband. When the time of mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house and she became his wife; then she bore him a son. But the thing that David had done was evil in the sight of the Lord” (II Samuel 11:26-27)
 - 2) The child conceived as a result of David and Bathsheba's sin becomes terminally ill and dies. As tragic as this was there was more pain and challenges to come in David's life. (II Samuel 12:15-23)

David's Challenges with Absalom

1. David's multiple wives and multiple concubines will allow him to have several children but this will continue to be a source of challenge for him.

(BKC [OT] p. 460)



- Bathsheba will give birth to **Solomon** (II Samuel 12 :24-25)
- David's son **Amnon** will sleep with David's daughter **Tamar** the sister of **Absalom**. (II Samuel 13:1-20)
- This will create animosity and hatred between **Absalom** and **Amnon**
- David's lack of action against Amnon for raping and defiling his half-sister will cause Absalom to take matters into his own hands. Absalom will kill Amnon causing great division between himself and David.

2. After a period of time passes (approx. 3 years), David will allow Absalom to return from exile to Jerusalem but his estrangement from his father lasted for another 2 years which only continued to foster resentment between Absalom and his father.
- “Then the king said to Joab, behold now, I will surely do this thing; go therefore, bring back the young man Absalom. Joab fell on his face to the ground, prostrated himself and blessed the king; then Joab said, today your servant knows that I have found favor in your sight, O my lord, the king, in that the king has performed the request of his servant. So Joab arose and went to Geshur and brought Absalom to Jerusalem. However the king said, let him turn to his own house, and let him not see my face. So Absalom turned to his own house and did not see the king’s face” (II Samuel 14:21-24)
 - “Now Absalom lived two full years in Jerusalem and did not see the king’s face. Then Absalom sent for Joab, to send him to the king, but he would not come to him. So he sent again a second time, but he would not come” (II Samuel 14:28)
 - Absalom was persistent in wanting to be reconciled to his father although his ultimate motivation was to put himself back in a position of favor with his father and the people, with the ultimate goal of taking control of the throne of Israel.
 - This temporary repentance by Absalom allowed him to gain the trust of his father and he began to build his loyal following of the people and his military might.
 - 1) “So when Joab came to the king and told him, he called for Absalom. Thus he came to the king and prostrated himself on his face to the ground before the king, and the king kissed Absalom” (II Samuel 14:33)
 - 2) “Moreover Absalom would say, Oh that one would appoint me judge in the land, then every man who has a suit or cause could come to me for justice. And when a man came near to prostrate himself before him, he would put out his hand and take hold of him and kiss him.” (II Samuel 15:4-5)
 - 3) **In this manner Absalom dealt with all Israel who came to the king for judgment; so Absalom stole away the hearts of the men of Israel” (II Samuel 15:6)**

3. Absalom continues his deceitful actions he is able to build a loyal enough following that allows him to stage a coup-de-tat (an overthrow of David and his government) and he will seize control of the throne for a season of time.
- **“But Absalom sent spies throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, as soon as you hear the sound of the trumpet, then you shall say, Absalom is king in Hebron” (II Samuel 15:10)**
 - Then a messenger came to David saying, the hearts of the men of Israel are with Absalom. David said to all his servants who were with him at Jerusalem, arise and let us flee, for otherwise none of us will escape from Absalom. Go in haste, or he will overtake us quickly and bring down calamity on us and strike the city with the edge of the sword.” (II Samuel 15:13-14)
 - This departure by David from Jerusalem not only allowed Absalom to briefly gain control but it also created a power vacuum and revived the former contentions and divisions that existed with the house of Saul and will lay the ground work for future clashes and divisions between the Northern Tribes of Israel and the Southern Tribes of Judah. (II Samuel 16:1-14)
 - Absalom will continue to drive the wedge even further between himself and his father by **sleeping** with David’s concubines. (II Samuel 16:21-23)
 - Absalom will gather his military forces together and sets out to **hunt** down his father and **kill** him. (II Samuel 17)
4. During the time that David is on the run from Absalom he writes a number of **Psalms** that describe his own agony and pain as well as his personal repentance to the Lord.
- **“I lay down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord sustains me. I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people who have set themselves against me round about” (Ps. 3:5-6)**
 - **“My soul, wait in silence for God only, for my hope is from Him. He only is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold; I shall not be shaken. On God my salvation and my glory rest; the rock of my strength, my refuge is God. Trust in Him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us” (Psalm 62:5-8)**

5. Absalom's Final Demise (II Samuel 18)

- In spite of Absalom's sudden rise to power – his military forces and military leaders were no match for those who commanded David's army. (II Sam. 18:1-8)
 - Ironically as Absalom was attempting to flee (on a mule no less), his beautiful head of hair apparently became caught up in the branches of a tree. His mule kept on going which left him in an unusual predicament being suspended in midair with no way to defend himself or cut himself down.
 - It will be Joab (one of David's supreme commanders) who will put an end to Absalom's life and his continued rebellion by thrusting 3 spears into him.
6. The loss of David's two sons (Amnon and Absalom) to a violent death serves as a reminder that the consequences of David's sin became an enormous source of grief and agony in his remaining years as King of Israel. (II Samuel 18:33)

David Restored As King (II Samuel 19-24)

1. After the death of Absalom, David works quickly to shore up any remaining divisions within the tribes of Judah and also sets out to win the hearts back of those who chose to follow Absalom.
2. David also will make assurances to Mephibosheth (Saul's grandson) and will restore the land that was in question to him and his family. This helped to rebuild trust with the house of Saul.
3. A delicate balance of trust (II Samuel 19:39-43) was created between the 10 northern tribes of Israel (the house of Saul) and the 2 southern tribes of Judah (the house of David) but it would once again fracture after the later death of David's son Solomon.
4. Due to the turmoil brought on by Absalom, it became necessary for David to suppress a couple of revolts, strengthen the borders, and squelch any attempts by the neighboring Philistines and Ammonite who tried to regain their military strength.
5. David (a man of war), desired to hand the kingdom over to Solomon with all disputes with its neighbors settled, and allow his son to build the **Temple** to the Lord.

6. The balance of David's reign will be spent in preparation for his son Solomon to succeed him as King of a united Israel.
 - David will continue to write ***Psalms*** and various ***poetic*** pieces
 - David will conduct a ***census*** (something for which he suffers judgment and wrath from the Lord for doing) to probably establish an accurate count of the military strength that he would be handing off to his son. (I Chron. 21:1-17, II Sam. 24)
 - David will also gather most of the necessary supplies needed for the construction of the Temple that Solomon would later build for the Lord. (I Chronicles 22:1-5)

David Passes the Throne to His Son Solomon

1. David will give this charge to Solomon in regard to the construction of the Temple:
 - “David said to Solomon, My son, I had intended to build a house to the name of the Lord my God. But the word of the Lord came to me, saying, you have shed much blood and waged great wars; you shall not build a house to My name, because you have shed so much blood on the earth before Me.” (I Chron. 22:7-8)
 - “Behold, a son will be born to you, who shall be **a man of rest**; and I will give him rest from all his enemies on every side; for his name shall be **Solomon**, and I will give peace and quiet to Israel in his days. **He shall build a house** for My name, and he shall be My son and I will be his father; and **I will establish the throne of his kingdom over Israel forever**” (II Chronicles 22:9-10)
2. “Then King David said, call to me Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada. And they came into the king's presence. The king said to them, take with you the servants of your lord, and have my son Solomon ride on my own mule and bring him down to Gihon. Let Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet anoint him there as king over Israel, and blow the trumpet and say **Long live King Solomon!** (I Kings 1:32-34)
3. “Then David slept with his fathers and was buried in City of David. The days that David reigned over Israel were forty years: seven years he reigned in Hebron and thirty three years he reigned in Jerusalem” (I Kings 2:10-11)