

God's Providence in God's People

Contra Costa Gospel Church
Adult Sunday School

DAVID (Part 4)

The Son of David will be the Son of God. This is what we learned from 2 Samuel 7, one of the most important chapters in the entire Bible (let alone the Book of Samuel). David, out of an obedient heart, was experiencing peace from his enemies and wanted to give thanks by building a house for the Lord. Instead, the Lord turned the tables, promising to build an everlasting house (that is, dynasty) for David and his future descendants. And one day, David's son would be God's son, a promise that generations who followed understood to be a promise of the coming Messiah who would rule Israel. What more can we say about David? How proud Israel must have been with David on the throne! Until...

- 1) After the Lord promises to establish the Davidic dynasty over Israel forever, and before David's sin with Bathsheba, there are three intervening chapters.
 - Chapter 8 - David defeats the armies of the Philistines, Moabites, and Edomites
 - Chapter 9 - David shows kindness to Jonathan's son, Mephibosheth
 - Chapter 10 - David defeats the armies of Arameans and Ammonites

Based on these events and the summary statement of 2 Samuel 8:14-15, how would you describe David's reign during this time? Does the author portray him in a positive light or a negative one?

- 2) The sin of David does not begin when he sees Bathsheba and lusts after her. The author seems to suggest that his sinful downfall comes earlier than that. Where do you see this downfall? How would you describe his mistake?
- 3) David's sin against Bathsheba and her husband Uriah is contrasted throughout this chapter with the faithful and righteous actions of others. What actions did others do in this chapter that are particularly righteous?
 - a. 11:3
 - b. 11:4
 - c. 11:8-11
 - d. 11:13
 - e. 11:19-21

- 4) What follows after David's sin with Bathsheba is the complete upside down flipping of the narrative. Whatever peace David once enjoyed is completely gone. All that is left is turmoil for the rest of his reign. He fears for his life (yet again), this time at the hand of his son, Absalom. This results in Absalom's death, which is the third of David's sons to die (see 12:15-18; 13:28-29; 18:14-15). This leads to another summary statement of David's reign found in 20:23-26. Why do you think the author included these summary statements in the places that he did? What is the author's point?

- 5) Read 2 Samuel 24:1-25. This is how the Book of Samuel ends.
 - a. What was David's great sin in this chapter?

 - b. How does the author portray David as the scene "fades to black"?

By all accounts and measures, David was the greatest king Israel had ever known, second only to the eternal Messiah Himself. He was a man after God's own heart who valiantly fought to defend the honor of the Lord and led God's people on the path of righteousness. He determined in his heart to build the Lord a house after realizing that much of his life was spent fighting battles for his own kingdom and building his wealth. And although that desire was not fulfilled, it showed us the kind of man he was. Until... he wasn't. For David was but a man - a man who could not be as good of a king as Israel needed or deserved. She needed better and the author of the Book of Samuel knew that one day the Lord would provide for Israel the One who was better. He would be of the line of David, a Son of God, be as pure in heart as David was, but never falter or waver. This is the One we are still waiting for today.