Bible Study: The Life of David

Part I

A Shepherd, Servant, Servant Leader, and a Psalmist.

Parents: father is Jesse and mother is not mentioned in the bible; however according to Jewish tradition her name was Nitzeveh.

Siblings: Eliab, Abinadab, Shimma, Nethaneel, Radai, Ozem, David, Zeruiah, and Abigail. (1st Chronicles 2:12-16.)

Wives: Michal, Ahinoan, Maacah, Haggirth, Bathsheba, many other unnamed concubines.


Books David wrote: Seventy five of the psalms, and he is the main character in 1st Samuel 16:10- 1st Kings 1 and 1st Chronicles 1-3.

Introduction

David is one of the most beloved characters in the bible, and second to Jesus, David is the most mentioned person in the bible. We can learn a great deal from the life of David. The bible describes David as a man after God’s own heart. (1st Samuel 13: 13-14; Acts 13:22). David was the great grandson of Boaz and Ruth, and Jesus the Christ is direct ancestor of David. David was a shepherd boy who become king of Israel. David was a musician, a warrior, a giant slayer, but most importantly God used David in establishing his earthly kingdom in Jerusalem. This study on the life of David will address David’s life as a shepherd, a servant, a soldier, a servant leader, and a psalmist. Many times the aspects of David’s life overlapped, but we shall view his life as a Shepherd, a servant, a servant leader and a psalmist.

Lessons from David’s Life. The following list is but a few of the lessons we are able to glean from David’s life, so feel free to add other lessons you have learned from the life of David.

- Do not despise small beginnings. -Always take the high road.
- Do not judge by appearances. -Be who God made you to be.
- Just because something has never been done does it mean it can’t be done?
- Hold your friends close, but hold your enemies even closer.
- Don’t worry about what others say or think of you.
- Accept rebuke and move forward. -Don’t get stuck trying to undo the past.
- Use your resources wisely. -Be a loyal friend.
- God forgives and restores. -Worship is always appropriate.
An Overview of David’s life.

- Anointed King
  1st Samuel 16:13
- Joined King Saul’s staff
  1st Samuel 16:19-21
- Defeats Goliath
  1st Samuel 17
- David and Jonathan become friends
  1st Samuel 18:1-4; 23:16-18
- David’s response to King Saul’s jealousy.
  1st Samuel 18: 11-12
- How David protected himself.
  1st Samuel 21:2
- The Philistines welcome David.
  1st Samuel 21:10-15
- David’s ability to lead and motivate.
  1st Samuel 22:2
- David’s respect for King Saul
  1st Samuel 24:5-6
- David did not rejoice at King Saul’s death.
  2nd Samuel 1:17-27
- Why David made Hebron the capital.
  2nd Samuel 2:1-2
- David suffered heartache because of his wives
  2nd Samuel 3:2-4
- David was upset over Abner’s death.
  2nd Samuel 3:29
- David didn’t punish Joab for murder.
  2nd Samuel 3:39
- He showed patience and became king.
  2nd Samuel 5:4-5
- David’s covenant.
  2nd Samuel 7:1ff
- David prevented from building the Temple.
  2nd Samuel 7:5
- David, Bathsheba, and Uriah.
  2nd Samuel 12: 1ff
- Consequences for sin.
  2nd Samuel 12: 10-14
- David did not dwell in sin.
  2nd Samuel 12: 20-24
- Absalom, Tamar, Amnon.
  2nd Samuel 13
- David and Absalom.
  2nd Samuel 15
- David weeps for Absalom.
  2nd Samuel 18
- David’s mighty men.
  2nd Samuel 23:8-9
- David takes a census.
  2nd Samuel 24: 1-3
- David’s death.
  1st Kings 2:10-11
- David in Jesus’ genealogy
  Matthew 1:1
- Jesus the son of David.
  Matthew 9:27; 20:30
- Jesus used David to illustrate the law.
  Matthew 12:3-4
- Jesus quotes David.
  Luke 20:41-44

David's life as a shepherd.

1st Samuel 16: 1–17: 58

We are first introduced to David while King Saul was making one mistake after another, (1st Samuel 15: 7-14) and God sent the prophet Samuel to find His chosen shepherd, David, the son of Jesse. (1st Samuel 16: 1-23). It is believed that David was between the ages of twelve to sixteen years old when he was anointed as king of Israel.
Questions, Answers, and Discussion. 1st Samuel 16:1-23

A. What caused God to reject Saul as king, and what actions did God take to remedy the circumstances? Vvs. 1-4
B. What is sanctification? V5
C. Why did Samuel think Eliab was to be Israel's next king? V6
D. What is God's criteria for those who would serve Him? V7-11
E. What was different about David, and what was he anointed to do? V12
F. Symbolically what does oil mean in the bible? Describe how God's Spirit came upon a person in the Old Testament and how we are filled with God's Spirit today. V13.
G. Does God send the spirit of depression to trouble us today? V14
H. What was the remedy for King Saul's depression? Vvs. 16-18
I. List some of the qualities David possessed. V18
J. What is an armor-bearer? What is the requirement to be an armor-bearer? V21
K. What type of relationship existed between King Saul and David? 22-23?
L. What ministry did David perform towards Saul? V23

List at least 5 lessons you have learned from 1st Samuel 16.

1.__________________________________________________________
2.___________________________________________________________
3._______________________________________________________________
4._______________________________________________________________
5._______________________________________________________________
David’s life as a servant and a soldier

1st Samuel 17: 1-58

One of the most exciting narratives in the whole bible is the account of young David killing the Philistine giant named Goliath. As 1st Samuel 17 opens, the nation of Israel is at war with the Philistines; and the Philistines had a champion warrior called Goliath. Goliath taunted the army of Israel until young David defeated the giant.

Questions, Answers, and Discussion. 1st Samuel 17: 1-58

a. Describe Goliath’s appearance, and why Israel was afraid of him. Vvs. 4-8
b. What did Goliath suggest instead of both armies fighting? Vvs. 8-10
c. Why did David come to the battlefield? Vvs. 17-20
d. What was promised to the man who killed Goliath? V25
e. Why was David so confident? V26
f. Who did David’s brother respond to David’s courageous attitude? V28
g. Why was David not afraid to fight the giant? Vvs. 32, 34-37
h. Why was King Saul reluctant to allow David to fight Goliath? V33
i. Why did David refuse to wear King Saul’s armor? Vvs. 38-39
j. What weapon did David use in the battle against Goliath? V40
k. What tactics did Goliath use to attempt to frighten David? Vvs. 41-44
l. How did David respond to the treats of Goliath? Vvs. 45-47
m. Did the stone from David’s slingshot kill Goliath? Vvs. 49-50
n. Why did David use Goliath’s sword to kill him? V51
o. Why did David take Goliath’s head to Jerusalem? Vvs. 54-58

List at least 5 lessons you’ve learned from 1st Samuel 17.

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2.____________________________________________________________
3.____________________________________________________________
4.____________________________________________________________
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