

**PREPARATION FOR LESSON: read 2 Samuel 1, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 24****BACKGROUND****Author and Date:**

Events of both books were recorded by Samuel and other Levite **historians** c. 1125-975 BC, some 150 yrs.

Events of just 2 Samuel were recorded by Levite **historians** 1010 - 975 BC, some 40 years.

Levite **scribes** compiled the book from the historical records c. 960 BC in the days of Solomon.

**Theme:** The history of David as king

**Purpose:** To show the history of Israel from the last years of the judges to the leadership of the kings.

**OUTLINE****Achievements of David** 1 - 10

**Political** King over Judah and Israel for 40 years (7<sup>+</sup> years in Hebron; 33 years. in Jerusalem)

**Military** Defeats all the enemy and possesses the land as God intended.

**Spiritual** Brings the ark of the Lord's temple to Jerusalem to establish national worship.

Develops this worship with instruments, music, choirs and liturgy.

Is given God's unconditional promise: a descendant will have an eternal throne (Jesus)

**Failures of David** 11 - 20

Adultery with Bathsheba

Ignores the sins of his sons (rape, military coup)

**Additional facts about David** 21 - 24**EXPLANATIONS**

**Saul's death** has 2 conflicting accounts

1 Samuel 31 gives the true historical facts

2 Samuel 1 gives the story of a get-rich-quick scheme by an army deserter; it is a scam and a lie.

**David's development of music** 2 Chron. 7:6; 29:25-30

He invented **instruments**, organized **choirs** and wrote special antiphonal **music** in the form of:

question and answer in Psa. 24:8; responsorial psalms as Psa. 136; statement and paraphrase as in Psa. 27:1.

He created the responsorial Psalm and other liturgy as a basic part of worship that we still use today.

**David's sin of coveting, adultery and murder** 2 Samuel 11

**The reason** why this story is in the Bible - it shows ...

...the deceitfulness of human nature. see Jeremiah 17:9; 1 Corinthians 10:12

...that God is the author of Scripture; it is not just myth and legend to glamorize Jewish history.

...there is forgiveness and restoration.

*David's fall should put on guard all who have not fallen and save from despair all who have fallen.* Augustine

**The steps** that led to David's sin

He was in the wrong place; he was supposed to be with his army.

He saw Bathsheba; inquired who she was; sent for her; took her and slept with her.

**The consequences** of David's sin that could not be changed even tho he was forgiven.

There would be constant bloodshed in his family.

His son Absalom would sleep with his concubines.

The baby would die instead of David.

**The evidence** of David's repentance

He admits his action was wrong, evil and it was sin.

He agrees that God was fair to send the consequences. Psalm 51

He prays for purity and a desire to remain firm in his obedience.

He expresses the greatness and wonder of God's forgiveness in Psalm 32.



#### EXPLANATIONS *continued*

##### Jerusalem's History

Originally called **Salem** (*peace*), with Melchizekek as the godly king who met with Abraham. Gen 14:18

Called **Jeru-shalem** (*foundation of the god Shalem*) and controlled by the Canaanites for the next centuries. (Josh 10:1)

Conquered by Joshua and claimed by the tribes of Benjamin and Judah.

They burned it when they lost it. (Josh 18; Judg. 1)

Canaanite Jebusites reclaimed it and call it **Jebus** c. 1325 BC (Jdg. 19:11-12).

David conquers it for his capital and calls it **Jerusalem** (*foundation of peace*) or **City of David** c. 1003 BC (2 Sam. 5:6-9)

From then until now, it has been considered the Jewish capital when the Jews controlled all or part of the land.

#### PROBLEM PASSAGES

##### Death of the Levite who touched the ark

###### His knowledge

Uzzah is a Levite; the ark has been in his home for 70 years. 2 Sam. 6:3 cf. 1 Sam 7:1

He has been taught since childhood about the rules and holiness of the ark.

**His sin:** altho he has life-long knowledge about the ark, he does not use that knowledge.

He does not speak up to say the ark should be carried on the shoulders of the priests.

He touches the ark to keep it from falling.

People of that day believed if something represented God, it had the power of God. Judges 6:31

Because he reaches out to protect the ark, he shows his concept of God.

He thinks God is powerless and needs to be protected.

**His consequence:** he is killed because he is a spiritual leader that thinks God is powerless or like other gods.

This is blasphemy and the punishment for blasphemy was death.

##### Death of 70,000 when David counts the army sin of rebellion and pride

**24:1** says God incites; compare this with 1 Chron. 21:1 which says *Satan incites*

God's *anger* - God is responding to Israel's rebellion

The northern part of the nation rebelled against David to follow Absalom, his son.

This was rebellion against God, so God responds with consequences.

God is also responding to David's pride which is at the beginning stage.

David thinks he can handle the insurrection on his own.

God allows Satan to tempt David: *number the troops so you can be sure you have enough men.*

If David had been relying on God, he would have rejected the temptation in an instant.

Instead he finds it appealing that he will be able to handle this on his own.

**24:15** Seventy thousand people die in national punishment.

David says, *the Lord is right in all His ways...* Psa. 145:17

Since God sends the plague, He certainly can control who dies by the plague.

Those who die are the people who instigated and supported the rebellion against David.

#### APPLICATION: Even from Jewish history we can learn about God and how He works.

Because God is holy, He cannot accept our worship until there is holiness in our lives.

When we disobey, there will always be consequences. God is a God of justice.

If we genuinely repent (have a change of mind that produces a change of direction), there is forgiveness and restoration.

God is a God of mercy and grace.

If we abuse God's mercy and grace, God will forgive but we will have lasting wounds and scars.

There will be things that can never change because of the wrong choices we made.

No matter how godly we are or how much we love God, we are still capable of any sin in the book.

Satan will tempt us at our weakest point.

Our greatest protection is to know the weakness of human nature and how much we need God.

We have to not only read His Word, but also listen with the intention of obeying.

