

## The Book of 1 Samuel

**Author:** (Probably several)

- Samuel — “asked of God”
- Nathan, Gad, and others in the school of the prophets (I Chron. 29:29)

**Date:** Events cover 115 years — from the birth of Samuel to Saul’s death

- Compiled around 1000 B.C.

**Theme: “REJECTION’      *From Theocracy to Monarchy***

1. God rejects Eli and chooses Samuel. (1:11-14, 19-20)
2. The people reject God and choose a king. (8:7)
3. Saul rejects God and chooses self. (13:18-14; 15-17)
4. God rejects Saul and chooses David. (15:23-26; 16:11-14)

**Outline:**

- I. Samuel: Last of the Judges (Ch. 1-7)
- II. Saul: First of the Kings (Ch. 7-15)
- III. David: The Anointed Successor (Ch. 16-31)

**Key Words:** “kingdom”

**Key Verse: 1 Samuel 8:7** *“And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them. ”*

**Special Features:**

1. This book is a transition from...
  - Theocracy to Monarchy
  - Commonwealth of judges to the Crown
2. The man Samuel is transitional:
  - He is last of the judges
  - He marks the institution of the monarchy
  - He marks the institution of the prophetic office (Acts 3:24; 13:20; Heb. 11:32) First of the prophets
3. Lessons from Saul...
  - Natural abilities are a curse when not given to God.
    - a. Handsome (9:2) — Pride (18:28)
    - b. Initiative (11:7) - Rebellion (20:31)
    - c. Bravery (13:3) — Recklessness (14:24)
  - Incomplete obedience is full disobedience
  - Jealously will destroy your life.

**Christ In The Book:**

The ministry of Samuel:

- |                      |                  |                        |                    |
|----------------------|------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1) Prophet (2:27-35) | 2) Priest (2:35) | 3) Intercessor (7:5-8) | 4) Judge (7:15-17) |
|----------------------|------------------|------------------------|--------------------|

**Additional Outlines:****Chapters 1-7****Samuel**

- Birth & Youth
- Call & Office
- Times & Acts

**Chapters 8-15****Saul**

- Appointment as King
- Promising Start
- Folly & Sin

**Chapters 16-31****David**

- Anointed by Samuel
- Service before Saul
- Years as a Fugitive

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**The Story of Four Men:**

- Eli, the Failing High Priest
- Samuel, the Last of the Judges
- Saul, the First of the Kings
- David, the Greatest of the Kings

**Hannah**

- Barren she was unable to bare children for her husband, Elkanah
- Burdened by what she endured from Penninah, her adversary
- Broken completely humbled before the Lord
- Blessed God gave her the desire of her heart, a man-child

*"If we had more mothers like Hannah, we would have more sons like Samuel."*

## The Book of 2 Samuel

**Author:** The Book of 2 Samuel does not identify its author. It could not be the Prophet Samuel, since he died in 1 Samuel. Possible writers include Nathan and Gad (see 1 Chronicles 29:29-The Writings of Nathan and Gad)

- Originally, 1 and 2 Samuel were one book in the Hebrew O.T. - The book of Samuel

**Date:** The events of 1 Samuel span approximately 100 years, from c. 1100 B.C. to c. 1000 B.C. The events of 2 Samuel cover another 40 years. The date of writing, then, would be sometime after 960 B.C.

- This book covers 40 years — The reign of David (5:4-5)
- 7 yr. 6 months — reigning in Hebron over Judah
- 33 years — reigning in Jerusalem over all Israel

**Theme: "TRIUMPH AND TROUBLE"**

Triumph turns to trouble through sin.

1. **Triumph** is the result of faith.

- Ch. 1-10 David knows no defeat.
- He is a man after God's own heart.

2. **Trouble** is the result of sin.

- Ch. 11 — David experiences personal defeat.
- He is a man with a broken heart.
- All sin, whether in the king or the peasant, brings bitter suffering.

**Outline:** 2 Samuel is the record of King David's reign. This book places the Davidic Covenant in its historical context.

I. David's Triumphs (Ch. 1-12)

II. David's Troubles (Ch. 13-24)

**Key Words:** "king"                      "before the Lord"

**Key Verse: 2 Samuel 5:4-5** - *"David was thirty years old When he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months: and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty and three years over all Israel and Judah."*

**Special Features:**

- Lessons learned from David's sin:
  1. Beware of the day of prosperity
  2. Sin always leads to greater sin.
  3. A fall Without is preceded by a fall within.
  4. Sin yields a harvest of horrible things.
  5. One man's sin affects a multitude of lives.
- David is mentioned more than any other character in the Bible.
- Psalm 51 reveals David's broken and contrite heart over his sins.

**Christ In The Book:**

1. The promises of the Davidic Covenant to be fulfilled in the person of Christ. (Lk. 1:32-38)
2. David and Mephibosheth (Ch. 9)
  - A helpless cripple, an enemy by nature, is made a part of the king's family (Eph. 4:32 — "for Christ's sake")

**Purpose of Writing:**

2 Samuel is the record of King David's reign. This book places the Davidic Covenant in its historical context.

**The Davidic Covenant****2 Samuel 7:4-17**

This was given to King David, through Nathan the Prophet, at Jerusalem. It contains 3 promises.

1. **A House.** Vs. 13. That is the posterity of David shall never be destroyed.
2. **A Throne.** Vs. 13. The Kingdom of David shall never be destroyed. Since the "*Captivity*" but one King of the Davidic family has been crowned and He with "**thorns**" (Matt 27:29).
3. **A Kingdom.** David's **Son** is to have an earthly "sphere of rule." It will be over the Millennial Earth.

The "**Sign**" of this Covenant is a **Son**. (Luke 1:30-33; 2:12).  
This Covenant extends to the "*End of Time*."

**Brief Summary:** The book of 2 Samuel can be divided into two main sections—David's triumphs (chapters 1-10) and David's troubles (ch. 11-20). The last part of the book (ch. 21-24) is a non-chronological appendix which contains further details of David's reign.

The book begins with David receiving news of the death of Saul and his sons. He proclaims a time of mourning. Soon afterward, David is crowned king over Judah, while Ish-bosheth, one of Saul's surviving sons, is crowned king over Israel (chapter 2). A civil war follows, but Ish-bosheth is murdered, and the Israelites ask David to reign over them as well (chapters 4-5).

David moves the country's capital from Hebron to Jerusalem and later moves the Ark of the Covenant (chapters 5-6). David's plan to build a temple in Jerusalem is vetoed by God, who then promises David the following things: 1) David would have a son to rule after him; 2) David's son would build the temple; 3) the throne occupied by David's lineage would be established forever; and 4) God would never take His mercy from David's house (2 Samuel 7:4-16).

David leads Israel to victory over many of the enemy nations which surrounded them. He also shows kindness to the family of Jonathan by taking in Mephibosheth, Jonathan's crippled son (chapters 8-10).

Then David falls. He lusts for a beautiful woman named Bathsheba, commits adultery with her, and then has her husband murdered (chapter 11). When Nathan the prophet confronts David with his sin, David confesses, and God graciously forgives. However, the Lord tells David that

trouble would arise from within his own household.

Trouble does come when David's firstborn son, Amnon, rapes his half-sister, Tamar. In retaliation, Tamar's brother Absalom kills Amnon. Absalom then flees Jerusalem rather than face his father's anger. Later, Absalom leads a revolt against David, and some of David's former associates join the rebellion (chapters 15-16). David is forced out of Jerusalem, and Absalom sets himself up as king for a short time. The usurper is overthrown, however, and—against David's wishes—is killed. David mourns his fallen son.

A general feeling of unrest plagues the remainder of David's reign. The men of Israel threaten to split from Judah, and David must suppress another uprising (chapter 20). The book's appendix includes information concerning a three-year famine in the land (chapter 21), a song of David (chapter 22), a record of the exploits of David's bravest warriors (chapter 23), and David's sinful census and the ensuing plague (chapter 24).

### **Practical Application:**

Anyone can fall. Even a man like David, who truly desired to follow God and who was richly blessed by God, was susceptible to temptation. David's sin with Bathsheba should be a warning to all of us to guard our hearts, our eyes and our minds. Pride over our spiritual maturity and our ability to withstand temptation in our own strength is the first step to a downfall (1 Cor. 10:12).

God is gracious to forgive even the most heinous sins when we truly repent. However, healing the wound caused by sin does not always erase the scar. Sin has natural consequences, and even after he was forgiven, David reaped what he had sown. His son from the illicit union with another man's wife was taken from him (2 Samuel 12:14-24) and David suffered the misery of a break in his loving relationship with his heavenly Father (Psalms 32 and 51). How much better to avoid sin in the first place, rather than having to seek forgiveness later!

### **“Who was Mephibosheth?”**

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Mephibosheth was the son of Jonathan, who was the son of King Saul and a special friend of King David. When Mephibosheth was five years old, his father Jonathan was killed in battle. Fearing that the Philistines would seek to take the life of the young boy, a nurse fled with him to Gibeah, the royal residence, but in her haste she dropped him and both of his feet were crippled (2 Samuel 4:4). He was carried to the land of Gilead, where he found refuge in the house of Machir, son of Ammiel, at Lo-debar.

Some years later, when King David had conquered all of Israel's enemies, he remembered the family of his friend Jonathan (2 Samuel 9:1), and, wishing to display his loving loyalty to Jonathan by ministering to his family, David found out that Mephibosheth was residing in the house of Machir. So he sent royal messengers there, and brought Mephibosheth and his infant son Micah to Jerusalem, where they resided from that point on (2 Samuel 9).

Later, when David invited the young boy to be part of his court, he entrusted the family property to a steward, Ziba. During Absalom's rebellion, Ziba tried unsuccessfully to turn David against Mephibosheth. Upon the king's return to Jerusalem, Mephibosheth vindicated himself and was allowed to remain in the king's house (2 Samuel 16:19).

## Mephibosheth - Kindness for Jonathan's Sake

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### 2 Samuel 9:1-13

This is perhaps the premier story and example of Old Testament grace. The fallen house of Saul receives mercy and grace from the triumphant house of David.

- I. **David Sought for Mephibosheth ("Any of the House of Saul") (2 Sam. 9:1)**
  - A. His covenant with Jonathan (1 Samuel 20:11-17)
  - B. His remembrance of that covenant (Deuteronomy 7:7-8)
  
- II. **David Searched for Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9:2-4)**
  - A. He inquired of Ziba (2 Sam. 9:2-3; Luke 14:16-23)
  - B. Ziba led him to Mephibosheth (2 Sam. 9:4); "lame on his feet"
  - C. Name meanings in this passage: **Ammiel** means *people of God*... **Machir** means *sold*... **Lo-debar** means *no pasture* (Eph. 2:12)
  
- III. **David Sent for Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9:5-6)**
  - A. He fetched him out of Lo-debar (2 Sam. 9:5; Psalm 40:2)
  - B. Mephibosheth did reverence to David (2 Sam. 9:6; Luke 18:13)
  - C. Mephibosheth presented himself as a servant (2 Sam. 9:6; Matt. 23)
  - D. Mephibosheth means *exterminator of shame*. He is the seventh person mentioned in the chapter and he is mentioned seven times.
  
- IV. **David Showed Kindness to Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9:7-8)**
  - A. For Jonathan's sake (2 Sam. 9:7; Isaiah 53:4-6)
  - B. His restored inheritance (2 Sam. 9:7; Romans 8:16-18)
  - C. His place at David's table (2 Sam. 9:7; Psalm 23:5)
  - D. His spirit of humility (2 Sam. 9:8); "a dead dog"
  
- V. **David Served Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9:9-12)**
  - A. He appointed Ziba to serve him (2 Sam. 9:9-10; Heb. 1:13-14)
  - B. He assured a harvest for Mephibosheth (2 Sam. 9:10-11; 1 Cor. 15:58)
  
- VI. **David Showered Blessings on Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9:10)**
  - A. A harvest AND a place at his table
  - B. He gave him seventy feet to replace his lame ones – Ziba had 15 sons and 20 servants who were to serve Mephibosheth (35 x 2 = 70)
  
- VII. **David Secured a Place for Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9:13)**
  - A. Dwelling in Jerusalem (John 14:1-3)
  - B. Eating continually at David's table (Psalm 23:6)
  - C. Still lame on both feet – still no merit!!!

We are lame on both feet—but God has a gift for us through Jesus Christ if we will accept Him.

## The Book of 2 Samuel

*"Book of David's Reign"*

### Chapters 1-11      David's Triumphs

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- Chapters 1-4      King of Judah (at Hebron)      \*Civil War Period-7 years
- Chapters 5-11      King of Israel (at Jerusalem)      \*Conquest Period-13 years

### Chapters 12-24      David's Troubles

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- Chapters 12-18 Troubles in His Family
  - *From Amnon's Sin to Absalom's Rebellion*
- Chapters 19-24 Troubles in The Nation
  - *From Sheba's Revolt to Pestilence*

### Chapter Content:

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Chapter 1-5	David Made King
Chapter 6	David Brings the Ark Home
Chapter 7	The Davidic Covenant
Chapter 8	David's Kingdom Established
Chapter 9-10	The Lame Prince - Mephibosheth
Chapter 11-14	David's Sin & Repentance
Chapter 15-19	Absalom's Rebellion
Chapter 20-23	David's Return to Jerusalem
Chapter 24	David's Sin in Numbering the People

#### **David's Fourfold Judgment**

*And he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.*

**2 Samuel 12:6**

1. The Baby Died
2. Tamar is Raped by Amnon
3. Amnon is Killed by Absalom
4. Absalom is Killed

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(See Baxter, p. 50)

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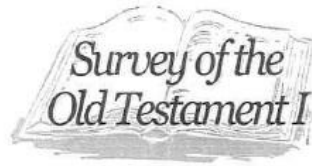
1. Prophet (2:27-35)
2. Priest (2:35)
3. Intercessor (7:5-8)
4. Judge (7:15-17)



# SCHOOL of the BIBLE

## II SAMUEL

BOOK OF THE  
SECOND KING, DAVID



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