

## 9. The Monarchy: Pt. 1I

### REVIEW

- Old Testament Overview
- New testament Overview
- The Beginnings
- The Age of the Patriarchs
- The Exodus out of Egypt
- The Wilderness Wanderings
  - Camped at Mt Sinai
  - Journey to the Promised Land
  - Camped on the Plains of Moab
- The Conquest of Canaan
- The Period of the Judges
- The Monarchy I

### I. The Setting

We are now focusing on the Period of the Monarchy:

- The Beginning of the Monarchy (1052-931 BC)
  - Saul (reigned: 1052-1011 BC)
  - David (reigned: 1011-971 BC)
  - Solomon (reigned: 971-931 BC)
- Following his coronation, Saul immediately attacked the Philistines
- This caused the Philistines to gather for attack at Michmash and this frightened the Israelites

The Text describes 2 Extraordinary Failures of Faith on Saul's part that cause him to forfeit his position of King

1. Saul's Assumption of the Priestly Office (offering sacrifices and offerings)
  - After anointing Saul, Samuel had commanded Saul to wait for him at Gilgal seven days so that he could tell Saul what he should do
  - Samuel confronts Saul about his sin and Saul rationalizes his disobedience
  - God announces the Kingdom will be taken away from Saul and given to a man "after God's own heart"
2. At one point, Samuel directed Saul to attack the Amalakites as a judgment of God. He told Saul not to spare any life—man, child, animal
  - Saul went out and attacked the Amalakites with great success—but failed to fully obey God and spared the King and many of the choicest of the animals
  - Samuel confronted Saul about his disobedience
  - Saul (again; cf. 13:11-14) rationalizes his disobedience
  - Samuel pronounces God's judgment on Saul

15:22 And Samuel said, "Has the LORD as much delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices As in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams. 23 "For rebellion is as the sin of divination, And insubordination is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He has also rejected you from being king."

NB: This leads to an extended (15 years) transition of leadership between Saul and David

## II. The Transition of Kingship from Saul to David (I Samuel 16:1-31:13)

- A. God then directs Samuel to anoint a new King that God will select
  - Samuel has been mourning for Saul because of the Judgment that has come upon him
  - God tells Samuel to stop mourning and anoint Saul's successor

1Sam. 16:1 Now the LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul, since I have rejected him from being king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have selected a king for Myself among his sons."

- God charges Samuel to look among the sons of Jesse to find the replacement for Saul

1Sam. 16:6 Then it came about when they entered, that he looked at Eliab and thought, “Surely the LORD’s anointed is before Him.” 7 But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”

**NB:** Remember how God described the replacement for Saul (before he was identified)

I Sam. 13:14 “But now your kingdom shall not endure. **The LORD has sought out for Himself a man after His own heart**

8 Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” 9 Next Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” 10 Thus Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. But Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen these.” 11 And Samuel said to Jesse, “Are these all the children?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, and behold, he is tending the sheep.” Then Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” God has chosen to replace Saul:

B. David is anointed King in place of Saul (I Sam. 16:12-13)

12 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.” 13 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.

**NB:** Note: 16:13 “The spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward”  
16:14 Now the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD terrorized him.

- Saul had reigned about 25 years by this time
- David was about 15 years old
- He would assume the throne at age 30
- This was the first of 3 anointings of David:
  - Here
  - Over the southern portion of the country i.e., Judah (II Sam. 2:4)
  - As King over all Israel (II Sam. 5:3)

C. David's Rise to Prominence: The Slaying of Goliath (I Sam. 17)

- The Philistines gather for battle against Israel (Elah Valley—between Socoh and Azekah)
- Goliath comes forward to challenge the nation (40 days)
  - 9'9" tall
  - armor 125 lbs
- Jesse tells David to carry food up to the battle front and check on the welfare of his brothers
- David arrives at the front lines as Goliath again issues his challenge
- David responds:

1Sam. 17:26 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?" 27 And the people answered him in accord with this word, saying, "Thus it will be done for the man who kills him."

- David's oldest brother mocks David

1Sam. 17:28 Now Eliab his oldest brother heard when he spoke to the men; and Eliab's anger burned against David and he said, "Why have you come down? And with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your insolence and the wickedness of your heart; for you have come down in order to see the battle." 29 But David said, "What have I done now? Was it not just a question?" 30 Then he turned away from him to another and said the same thing; and the people answered the same thing as before.

- David is brought before Saul and responds with great faith:

1Sam. 17:31 When the words which David spoke were heard, they told them to Saul, and he sent for him. 32 And David said to Saul, "Let no man's heart fail on account of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine."

- Saul responds to David (looking on David's outside!)

33 Then Saul said to David, "You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for you are but a youth while he has been a warrior from his youth."

- David responds in faith (recalling past times he has depended on God and God has shown Himself to be faithful)

34 But David said to Saul, "Your servant was tending his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and took a lamb from the flock, 35 I went out after him and attacked him, and rescued it from his mouth; and when he rose up against me, I seized him by his beard and struck him and killed him. 36 "Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, since he has taunted the armies of the living God." 37 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."

- In desperation, Saul says go with God

And Saul said to David, "Go, and may the LORD be with you."

- Goliath responds in mockery (looking on the outside!)

1Sam. 17:41 Then the Philistine came on and approached David, with the shield-bearer in front of him. 42 When the Philistine looked and saw David, he disdained him; for he was but a youth, and ruddy, with a handsome appearance. 43 And the Philistine said to David, “Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?” And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. 44 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 field.”

- David responds in faith

45 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. 46 “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, 47 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.” 48 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. 49 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 sank into his forehead, so that he fell on his face to the ground.

#### D. Saul’s Resentment of David forces David to flee into the Wilderness

- We see the excellence of David and the evil of Saul highlighted

18:12 Now Saul was afraid of David, for the LORD was with him but had departed from Saul. 13 Therefore Saul removed him from his presence, and appointed him as his commander of a thousand; and he went out and came in before the people. 14 And David was prospering in all his ways for the LORD was with him. 15 When Saul saw that he was prospering greatly, he dreaded him. 16 But all Israel and Judah loved David, and he went out and came in before them.

18:28 When Saul saw and knew that the LORD was with David, and that Michal, Saul’s daughter, loved him, 29 then Saul was even more afraid of David. Thus Saul was David’s enemy continually.

- Saul directed his son Jonathan and his servants to kill David but he protected him
- On two separate occasions David spares Saul’s life:
  - The caves of En-Gedi (I Sam. 24:6, 11)

1Sam. 24:1 “Now it came about when Saul returned from pursuing the Philistines, he was told, saying, “Behold, David is in the wilderness of Engedi.” 2 Then Saul took three thousand chosen men from all Israel, and went to seek David and his men in front of the Rocks of the Wild Goats. 3 And he came to the sheepfolds on the way, where there was a cave; and Saul went in to relieve himself. Now David and his men were sitting in the inner recesses of the cave. 4 And the men of David said to him, “Behold, this is the day of which the LORD said to you, ‘Behold; I am about to give your enemy into your hand, and you shall do to him as it seems good to you.’” Then David arose and cut off the edge of Saul’s robe secretly. 5 And it came about afterward that David’s conscience bothered him because he had cut off the edge of Saul’s robe. 6 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.” 7 And 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. . .”

“. . . 24:8 Now afterward David arose and went out of the cave and called after Saul, saying, “My lord the king!” And when Saul looked behind him, David bowed with his face to the ground and prostrated himself. 9 And David said to Saul, “Why do you listen to the words of men, saying, Behold, David seeks to harm you? 10 “Behold, this day your eyes have seen that the LORD had given you today into my hand in the cave, and some said to kill you, but my eye had pity on you; and I said, ‘I will not stretch out my hand against my lord, for he is the LORD’s anointed.’ 11 “Now, my father, see! Indeed, see the edge of your robe in my hand! For in that I cut off the edge of your robe and did not kill you, know and perceive that there is no evil or rebellion in my hands, and I have not sinned against you, though you are lying in wait for my life to take it.”

○ The Wilderness of Ziph (I Sam. 26:9-11)

1Sam. 26:6 Then David answered and said to Ahimelech the Hittite and to Abishai the son of Zeruiah, Joab’s brother, saying, “Who will go down with me to Saul in the camp?” And Abishai said, “I will go down with you.” 7 So David and Abishai came to the people by night, and behold, Saul lay sleeping inside the circle of the camp, with his spear stuck in the ground at his head; and Abner and the people were lying around him. 8 Then Abishai said to David, “Today God has delivered your enemy into your hand; now therefore, please let me strike him with the spear to the ground with one stroke, and I will not strike him the second time.” 9 But David said to Abishai, “Do not destroy him, for who can stretch out his hand against the LORD’s anointed and be without guilt?” 10 David also said, “As the LORD lives, surely the LORD will strike him, or his day will come that he dies, or he will go down into battle and perish. 11 “The LORD forbid that I should stretch out my hand against the LORD’s anointed; but now please take the spear that is at his head and the jug of water, and let us go.” 12 So David took the spear and the jug of water from beside Saul’s head, and they went away, but no one saw or knew it, nor did any awake, for they were all asleep, because a sound sleep from the LORD had fallen on them.

- During these years of fleeing from Saul David is being groomed for leadership
  - David patiently waiting on God to make him King
  - These difficult times are the context for the many Psalms David wrote
  - David was learning to lead men

NB: As an Example....

I Sam. 24:1-12

- David’s men recommended that David kill Saul in the cave
- David says no (vv 6, 10)
- CONTRAST with Saul: He followed the people in not destroying the Amalakites and in saving the spoil (I Sam. 15:1-33, esp. v. 24)

E. Saul is wounded in Battles and Commits Suicide (I Sam. 31)

- III. The Reign of David as King over Israel (II Samuel)
  - A. David's Ascent to the Kingship over Judah (II Sam. 1:1-3:1)
  
  - B. David's Ascent to the Kingship over Israel (II Sam. 3:6-5:16)
  
  - C. The Victorious Reign of David (II Sam. 5:17-8:18)
  
  - D. The Sins and Troubles of David (II Sam. 9:1-20:26)
  
  - E. Final Events Relating to David's Reign (II Sam. 21:1-24:25)