

## 10. The Monarchy: Pt. III

### 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)
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

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

**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?”

- David’s oldest brother mocks David
- David is brought before Saul and responds with great faith:
- Saul responds to David (looking on David’s outside!)
- David responds in faith (recalling past times he has depended on God and God has shown Himself to be faithful)
- 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 despised 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.

### ***END OF REVIEW: Begin new material***

#### 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.

- David flees from Saul and joins up with the Philistines (I Samuel 27)
- 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 Foolishly Consults the Witch of Endor (I Sam. 28)

- The Philistines gather for battle against Israel (Saul is king)
- Samuel has died

1Sam. 28:3 Now Samuel was dead, and all Israel had lamented him and buried him in Ramah his own city. And Saul had removed from the land those who were mediums and spiritists.

- Saul becomes frightened by the Philistines and seeks the Lord

6 When Saul inquired of the LORD, the LORD did not answer him, either by dreams or by Urim or by prophets. 7 Then Saul said to his servants, “Seek for me a woman who is a medium, that I may go to her and inquire of her.” And his servants said to him, “Behold, there is a woman who is a medium at En-dor.”

- Saul disguises himself and seeks counsel from the Medium

9 But the woman said to him, “Behold, you know what Saul has done, how he has cut off those who are mediums and spiritists from the land. Why are you then laying a snare for my life to bring about my death?”

- Saul asks the Witch to summon Samuel and he appears

1Sam. 28:15 Then Samuel said to Saul, “Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up?” And Saul answered, “I am greatly distressed; for the Philistines are waging war against me, and God has departed from me and answers me no more, either through prophets or by dreams; therefore I have called you, that you may make known to me what I should do.” 16 And Samuel said, “Why then do you ask me, since the LORD has departed from you and has become your adversary? 17 “And the LORD has done accordingly as He spoke through me; for the LORD has torn the kingdom out of your hand and given it to your neighbor, to David. 18 “As you did not obey the LORD and did not execute His fierce wrath on Amalek, so the LORD has done this thing to you this day. 19 “Moreover the LORD will also give over Israel along with you into the hands of the Philistines, therefore tomorrow you and your sons will be with me. Indeed the LORD will give over the army of Israel into the hands of the Philistines!”

- This event lays the groundwork for the death of Saul

F. David is forced to Separate himself from the Philistine Alliance (I Sam. 29)

- The Philistines are preparing to attack Israel
- The kings of the Philistines command that David leave them because they doubt his loyalty
- Even the Philistines knew of the exploits of David

I Sam. 29:5 “Is this not David, of whom they sing in the dances, saying, ‘Saul has slain his thousands, And David his ten thousands?’”

#### G. David's Conflict with the Amalakites (I Sam. 30)

- David and his 600 men leave the Philistines and return to their homes in Ziklag (in the Negev)
- They discover that the Amalakites had raided their homes and taken their wives (including 2 of David's wives)
- David seeks counsel from God

I Sam. 30: 8 And David inquired of the LORD, saying, "Shall I pursue this band? Shall I overtake them?" And He said to him, "Pursue, for you shall surely overtake them, and you shall surely rescue all."

- David and 600 men take out after the Amalakites
- At one point 200 men are too weary to continue but 400 go on and are successful against the Amalakites and recover the spoil taken from their homes
- Some of the men refuse to divide up the spoil among the 200 men who stayed behind but David confronts them:

23 Then David said, "You must not do so, my brothers, with what the LORD has given us, who has kept us and delivered into our hand the band that came against us. 24 "And who will listen to you in this matter? For as his share is who goes down to the battle, so shall his share be who stays by the baggage; they shall share alike." 25 And so it has been from that day forward, that he made it a statute and an ordinance for Israel to this day.

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

- The Philistines attack Saul and strike a devastating blow
- Saul is struck by an arrow and is mortally wounded
- Saul commands his armorbearer to kill him but he refuses
- Saul then falls on his spear and dies
- The Philistines find his body and behead him
- They then nail his body to the gates of Beth Shan (a key city on a major route in the Jezreel valley)

### 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)

1. The report of Saul's death and his lament (II Sam. 1)
2. David is anointed King over Judah by the men of Judah (II Sam. 2)
  - Abner (Saul's Commander of the Army) takes Saul's son Ishbosheth and makes him king over Israel
  - War erupts between the Northern (led by Ishbosheth and Abner) and the Southern (led by David and Joab) parts of Israel
  - The battle goes against Ishbosheth and the Northern armies
  - Joab's brother Asahel pursued Abner to kill him
  - Abner warns Asahel twice to stop pursuing him and is killed by Asahel
3. Over the next several years the House of David becomes stronger and the House of Saul weaker

#### B. David's Ascent to the Kingship over Israel (II Sam. 3:6-5:16)

1. Abner eventually joins forces with David
  - Abner violates the concubine of Ishbosheth and is confronted by Ishbosheth
  - Abner has assumed more and more power in the North and has become untouchable
  - Abner seeks an alliance with David and his men in the South (Judah)
  - Joab murders Abner

2Sam. 3:26 When Joab came out from David, he sent messengers after Abner, and they brought him back from the well of Sirah; but David did not know it. 27 So when Abner returned to Hebron, Joab took him aside into the middle of the gate to speak with him privately, and there he struck him in the belly so that he died on account of the blood of Asahel his brother.

- David mourns over the death of Abner
- The Northern area of Israel eventually embraces David as their king

C. The Victorious Reign of David (II Sam. 5:17-8:18)

1. David is victorious over the Philistines (II Sam. 5:17-25)
2. David has the Ark returned to Jerusalem
  - David is angered when Uzzah dies as he touches the Ark.  
HOWEVER:
  - The Ark is placed on a “new” cart (just like the Philistines—I Sam. 6:7)
  - The Law said the Ark was to be carried by the Sons of Kohath (Numb. 330-31; 4:15; 7:9) and on poles (Exod. 25:12-15)
  - Uzzah had to die (Numb. 4:15)
3. This is a kind of “golden” Age for Israel

II Sam. 8: 6 Then David put garrisons among the Arameans of Damascus, and the Arameans became servants to David, bringing tribute. **And the LORD helped David wherever he went.**  
II Sam. 8: 14 And he put garrisons in Edom. In all Edom he put garrisons, and all the Edomites became servants to David. **And the LORD helped David wherever he went.**

D. The Sins and Troubles of David (II Sam. 9:1-20:26)

1. David’s sin with Bathsheba (II Sam. 11-12)
  - David has begun to engage in spiritual compromise

2Sam. 5:13 Meanwhile David took more concubines and wives from Jerusalem, after he came from Hebron; and more sons and daughters were born to David.

- His life became one of ease

2Sam. 7:1 Now it came about when the king lived in his house, and the LORD had given him rest on every side from all his enemies,

- David commits adultery and murder to cover it up

2. David is confronted by Nathan the Prophet and judgment is pronounced
  - The child must die
  - Evil will come from his own household
  - Violent death of his son Amnon (II Sam. 13:28-29—after he rapes his sister Tamar)
  - Death of Absalom at the hands of Joab and his servants (II Sam. 18:14-15)
    - David has fled Jerusalem because of Absalom's revolt against David
    - Absalom is caught in the branches of an oak tree and then killed by Joab
  - Death of Adonijah at the command of Solomon (I Kings 2:24-25)
  - Note the confession of David in Psalm 51

E. Final Events Relating to David's Reign (II Sam. 21:1-24:25)

1. David sins by taking a military Census (II Sam. 24)
  - David's lack of faith leads him to trust in his own strength and not God's ability to give the victory
  - God sends a plague to judge Israel
  - David confesses his sin and makes a sacrifice on Mt. Moriah (site of the Temple to be built by his son Solomon)