

# The Life of David

## King David's Struggles

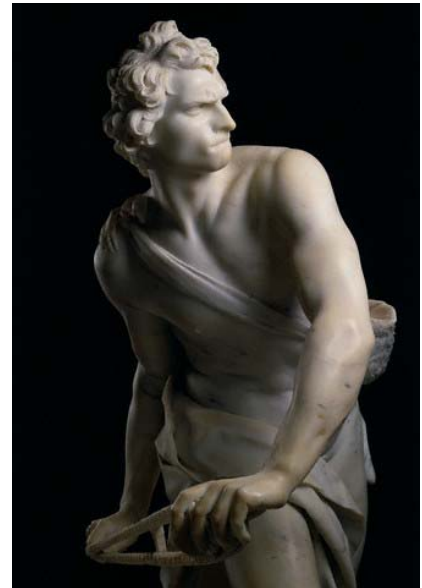
Summary of previous chapters: After years of running from Saul, David is finally crowned king over the tribe of Judah. The rest of Israel, however, followed Ish-Bosheth until he was assassinated a few years later at which time the rest of the tribes finally put their support behind David. David moved the capital from Hebron to Jerusalem, defeated the surrounding nations, and greatly expanded his kingdom.

### 2 Samuel Chapters 8 - 12

**Key scripture: 2 Samuel 8:6b & 8:14b** ... *The LORD gave David victory wherever he went. (NIV)*

### Chapters 8 & 10. Quick overview of David's conquests.

- David reduced the enemy's threat. He reduced their military strength both in number of soldiers and in their weaponry. He defeated, subdued, captured, killed two-thirds, confiscated, hamstrung... (8:1-4)
- They brought tribute to David (8:2b, 6) and David dedicated all the gold, silver and bronze to the Lord. (8:7-12). What does that mean?
- David built garrisons (8:5-6).
- Lessons we learn about David in his dealings with Hanun the Ammonite. (Ch. 10)



### Chapter 9. David and Mephibosheth.

- What character quality is shown in David's question: **2 Samuel 9:1** *David asked, "Is there anyone still left of the house of Saul to whom I can show kindness for Jonathan's sake?" (NIV)*
- How much did this decision cost David?

### Chapter 11. David and Bathsheba

**Key scripture: 2 Samuel 11:27** ... *But the thing David had done displeased the LORD. (NIV)*

- **Verse 1.** If this is a time when "kings go off to war" why did David stay at home?
- **Verses 2-5.** A reminder about the process of temptation and sin.
  - **1 Corinthians 10:13** *No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it. NIV*

- **Jas 1:13-15** *Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. 14 But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. 15 Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.*  
NKJV

- **Verses 6-24.** The cover up.
- **Verses 25-27.** Why did David's response to Uriah's death seem flippant and insensitive? He had just grieved deeply for Saul and Abner, his rivals.

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**Feelings are  
not reliable  
guides for  
determining  
right from  
wrong.**

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From the Life Application Study Bible:

David showed no grief for Uriah, a good man with strong spiritual character. Why? David had become callous to his own sin. The only way he could cover up his first sin (adultery) was to sin again, and soon he no longer felt guilty for what he had done.

Deliberate, repeated sinning had dulled David's sensitivity to God's laws and other's rights. The more you try to cover up a sin, the more insensitive you become toward it.

## Chapter 12. Nathan's accusation and David's repentance.

**Key scripture: 2 Samuel 12:13** *Then David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the Lord." Nathan replied, "The Lord has taken away your sin..."*

- **Verses 1-10** Gotcha!
- **Verses 11-14** What do we learn about...
  - True repentance.
  - Forgiveness of sins.
  - Consequences of our sins.
- **Verses 15-25**
  - Do people tiptoe around you when you don't get our way?
  - What does the following verse tell us about David and his relationship with God?

**2 Samuel 12:20** *Then David got up from the ground. After he had washed, put on lotions and changed his clothes, he went into the house of the Lord and worshiped. Then he went to his own house, and at his request they served him food, and he ate.*  
NIV