

2 Samuel

Introduction

1. Why Study 2 Samuel

- The story of 1 Samuel is incomplete. 1 & 2 Samuel are one book divided.
- To learn what is profitable from Israel's history - Rom 15:4, 2 Tim 3:16
- To learn about David as Paul writes about him, a man needing God's grace.

2. 2 Samuel: The Book

- 24 ch 695 vs 20,600 words; written by Nathan and Gad (prophets) 1 Chron 29:29
- The division with 1 Samuel is ancient and inspired as the last "acts of David the king"
- The book singularly covers the entire reign of David: 40 = 7+33 - 1 Chron 29:26-30
- The last words of David, "*his word was in my tongue*" - 2 Samuel 23:1-2

3. Content

- This book is acts, events, good/bad, of the greatest king of Israel (not the most glorious)
- 1 Chronicles includes some events in 11 chapters (11-21), but 2 Sam has 24 chapters.
- Chronicles' focus is Levites, priests, temple/house/city - 2Ch 36:23, 1Ch 28:2,29:2 Sons of Asaph (25), porters (26), guards, materials, preparation, priestly courses, etc.
- 2 Samuel is truly a history of David, Israel's 2nd king, the story of his reign.
- Characters: Joab, Zadok, mighty men, Ahithophel, Nathan, Saul's house (Ishbosheth, Abner, Mephibosheth, Ziba), David's house (Absalom, Tamar, Bathsheba, Solomon)

4. Purpose

- 1 Samuel = the failure of Eli and Saul. 2 Samuel = the restoration from David (anointed).
- 1 Samuel = David's strength revealed. 2 Samuel = David's weakness exposed.
- 1 Samuel = success of David and his followers - 2 Samuel = the sins of the same
- David sets up a kingdom with mighty works, but is betrayed of his own people - Jn 1:11
- The book begins with people declaring him king, ends with David's sacrifice for sins.
- 2 Samuel: David lays the foundation of his kingdom: but it won't last but by mercy.
- Foundation of Israel's kingdom will be eternal covenants of promise/mercy. 2Sam 7:12
- David gets a kingdom, sets up a house, but shown not to be fit for either - 2 Chr 28:3-4
- Saul's house is broken, David's house is broken. A future seed from David's house.
- NT references 2 Samuel events speaking of Jesus - Acts 2:29-31, 13:23, Rev 22:16
- The gospel of the kingdom finds its start back in Samuel and Israel's first kings
- Peter says: "*all the prophets from Samuel... have foretold of these days*" - Acts 3:24

5. Themes

- Psalms - the rest of David's Psalms are written in 2 Samuel. (3, 14:7,18, 51, 69, 110, 133)
- A "house" for God, proving of, house of Saul, house of David, 2 Sam 23:5
- Jerusalem established as "Zion" the "city of David", and the place of God's glory. 5:7
- Taking wives, their rebuke, sins, and the future consequences of such.
- David's lament, expressing the heart of God in lamentation against sin. Lk 19:41-42
- Betrayal, rejection of the king, conspiracy - Joab, Absalom, Sheba, etc. (like Jesus?)
- A forever king/kingdom - an unconditional covenant made by God with David.
- Mercy - the "*sure mercies of David*" found here - Isa 55:3, Acts 13:34, 2 Sam 22:51
- Justifying ungodly men - Paul writes about David from 2 Samuel - Rom 1:3, 4:6, 11:9
- KJ errors - Samuel's text is said to be poorly preserved. We will see.

6. Popular Passages

- a. Ch 6:14 – *“David danced before the LORD with all his might”*
- b. Ch 7 – The Davidic covenant 7:8-12
- c. Ch 11 – David and Bathsheba
- d. Ch 12 – Nathan’s Rebuke of David *“Thou art the man.”*
- e. Ch 14:25-26 – Absalom’s beauty, hair, and death 18:9
- f. Ch 18:35 – *“Oh my son Absalom, my son, my son... would God I had died for thee”*
- g. Ch 22 – *“The LORD is my rock”* – when David wrote Psalm 18
- h. Ch 24 – David numbering the people, God’s punishment.

7. Outline of the Second Book of Samuel**a. 1-10 – David’s Throne and Kingdom**

- i. 1-5 – David made king over all Israel
- ii. 7 – A covenant for God’s house with David
- iii. 6-10 – David restores the ark, a house, judgment, promises, victory

b. 11-20 – David’s Sin and Troubled House

- i. 11-12 – David and Bathsheba
- ii. 13-15 – Absalom’s Revolt
- iii. 16-18 – David rejected until Absalom’s death
- iv. 19-20 – His return as king, putting down opposition

c. 21-24 – David’s Loose Ends and Last Words

- i. 21 – Satisfying Gibeonites, destroying giants
- ii. 22 – David’s song of deliverance
- iii. 23 – David’s last words
- iv. 24 – David’s sin and atonement