



Bible Books Book by Book Series

SECOND SAMUEL

Hebrews 4:12 “For the word of God is living and effective and sharper than any double-edged sword, penetrating as far as the separation of soul and spirit, joints and marrow. It is able to judge the ideas and thoughts of the heart.”

Course Text: Second Samuel

In the Hebrew text the two books of Samuel are considered as one book. The authorship is not known, and it is obviously different than the books of Kings. In I Chronicles 29:29, Nathan, Gad and Samuel are listed as writers of history, and it may be that these are the writers of II Samuel.

Second Samuel is in fact the account of David as King. When King Saul dies, David is eventually made king. David is 30 years old when he becomes King, and reigns for 40 years. He captures Jerusalem and makes it his city. Military victories make Israel strong. David sins with Bathsheba, murders Uriah, is chastened by the prophet Nathan, and finally repents. God forgives David, but David's family begins to splinter apart, as a result of David's sin. David's son, Absalom, tries to steal the kingdom but fails.



Suggested methodology:

1. Let the students have a copy of the lesson well before the class meets. (Perhaps the previous meeting)
2. The students read the Bible book and answer the questions in this lesson before the group meets.
3. At the class meeting allow time for greetings and fellowship. (Save most of this for the end)
4. Take prayer requests (Try to keep it from becoming a competition to see who has the most or the worst.)
5. Pray (The idea here is to leave our troubles with God so we can give His word our attention with a clear mind.)
6. Discuss the questions on page 9. Let those who prefer to listen, listen. My answers, when provided, are just one opinion; you may have a better answer. It might be good to establish the norm that only those who have actually read the book should discuss it aloud.
7. Discuss whatever other questions people have on their mind about the Second Samuel.
8. Close in prayer (It is best to call on others to pray, but try to get their permission ahead of time.)
9. Fellowship (Leave this as open ended as possible for the time and place you meet.)

Depending on the number of people, this class is expected to take about two hours.

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Second Samuel Chapters 1 to 6

David takes the Throne

We see David as he learns of the death of Saul and his son Jonathan. We read his song of mourning which gives great emphasis to the love that he still held for both Saul and Jonathan. In chapter 2 we see David inquire of God in regard to the action that he should take now that Saul is dead. He knew that God had anointed him to be King, and now he is wanting to do everything as God would have him to. There is no wild ambition showing in David's life as he is about to become king. Later in chapter 2 we see the wars between the house of David and the house of Saul. By chapter 3 Abner moves his allegiance to David and is then murdered by Joab. Chapter 4 is the account of the murder of Ish-Bosheth, the last healthy son of Saul.

Read Chapters 1 - 4 and answer the following questions:

[1] What did David do when he heard that Saul was dead? _____

[2a] Who was made King of Judah? _____

[2b] Who was made King of Israel? _____

[3] Abner, Saul's general after making Saul's son, Ish-bosheth, king, did what?

[4] What did David do to the men who killed Ish-bosheth thinking they were doing David a favor?

Jerusalem the New Capital of Israel

The elders of Israel anoint David king of Israel in chapter 5. In a very short time David conquers Jerusalem and also defeats the Philistines who have attacked his kingdom in order to destroy his rule before he can get a foothold. He soon brings the ark of the covenant to Jerusalem (chapter 6), and begins to prepare to build the temple there (chapter 7).

Read Chapters 5 & 6 and answer the following questions:

[5] What did David do before he attacked the Philistines? _____

[6] What happened to Obed-edom the Gittite when the ark was placed in his care? _____



----- ANSWERS -----

[1] What did David do when he heard that Saul was dead?

He tore his clothes 2Sam 1:11 This was the way they showed their grief.

[2a] Who was made King of Judah? David 2Sam 2:4

[2b] Who was made King of Israel? Ish-bosheth, Saul's son 2Sam 2:10

[3] Abner, Saul's general after making Saul's son, Ish-bosheth, king, did what?

Became a traitor to Ish-bosheth and took David's side instead. 2Sam 3:9-25

[4] What did David do to the men who killed Ish-bosheth thinking they were doing David a favor?

David executed them for the crime of murder. 2Sam 4:11-12.

[5] What did David do before he attacked the Philistines? He asked God if he should. 2Sam 5:19

[6] What happened to Obed-edom the Gittite when the ark was placed in his care? The Lord blessed him. 2Sam 6:11



COMBAT BETWEEN THE CHAMPIONS OF ISH-BOSHETH AND DAVID
Then there arose and went over . . . twelve . . . which pertained to Ish-bosheth the son of Saul, and twelve of the servants of David. And they caught every one his fellow by the head, and thrust his sword in his fellow's side; so they fell down together . . . And there was a very sore battle that day . . . (II Samuel 2: 15, 16, 17) (2:114)

Second Samuel Chapters 7 to 12

David the Good King

In chapter 7 we see that David is a humble man and a Godly man. The strength seen in his rule is unmatched as he is victorious in all that he does (chapter 8). In chapter 9 we see the love of David displayed as he blessed Mephibosheth, the grandson of Saul and the son of Jonathan.

Read Chapters 7-9 and answer the following questions:

[7] Through Nathan the prophet how long did God promise David's kingdom would last? _____

[8] For which tribes or groups of the Israelites did David do justice and righteousness? _____

[9] Mephibosheth, Jonathon's son, Saul's grandson, lived where? _____

The Fall of David

In chapter 11 we find David looking upon a beautiful woman (Bathsheba), and becoming involved in sin. This event is to become a great sadness in his life. The Lord is not pleased. In chapter 12 David is rebuked by the prophet of God, and suffers his first heartache for this sin.

Read Chapters 10-12 and answer the following questions:

[10] What did Joab do when he saw his army was surrounded? _____

[11a] Who did David see on a roof and decide to steal from her husband? _____

[11b] What did David do to cover up his crime? _____

What three things did Nathan say would happen because of David's sin?

[12a] _____

[12b] _____

[12c] _____

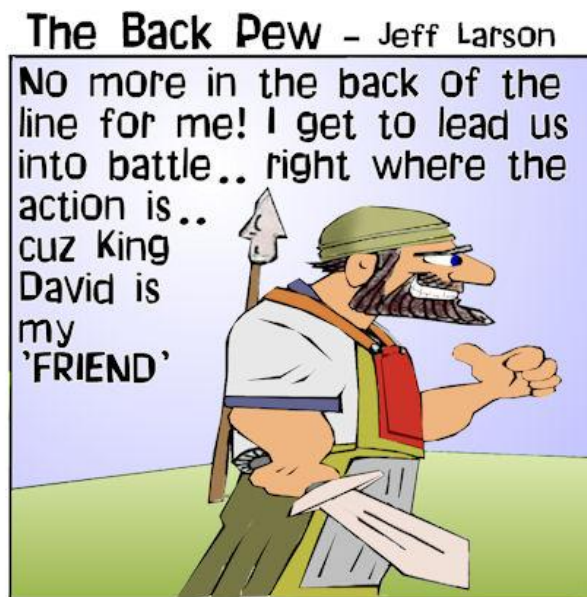
The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



King David from the roof of the palace notices Bathsheba, and the fall of the kingdom begins. **2 Sam 11:2**

----- ANSWERS -----

- [7] Through Nathan the prophet how long did God promise David's kingdom would last? Forever 2Sam 7:13-16
- [8] For which tribes or groups of the Israelites did David do justice and righteousness? All of them 2Sam 8:15
- [9] Mephibosheth, Jonathon's son, Saul's grandson, lived where? Jerusalem 2Sam 9:13
- [10] What did Joab do when he saw his army was surrounded? He attacked 2Sam 10:9-13
- [11a] Who did David see on a roof and decide to steal from her husband? Bathsheba. 2Sam 11:2-3
- [11b] What did David do to cover up his crime? He had her husband, Uriah, killed. 2Sam 11:14-17
- [12] What three things did Nathan say would happen because of David's sin?
- [12a] The sword would never depart from the descendants of David. 2Sam 12:10
- [12b] David's wives would be stolen by others. 2Sam 12:11
- [12c] The child of David & Bathsheba's sin, would die. 2Sam 12:14



URIAH the Hitite, husband of Bathsheba marches bravely to the battle **FRONT LINE?** God rest his soul. **|| Sam 11:14-17**

Second Samuel Chapters 13 to 24

The Sword in the House of David

Because of David's sin a curse has been put on David's house. We see the problems beginning as Amnon rapes his sister in chapter 13. Then in the same chapter he is killed by Absalom, another of David's sons. After a period of absence from the kingdom, Absalom returns to Jerusalem and begins a conspiracy that is soon to have David fleeing from his presence. By the end of chapter 16 Absalom is laying with David's concubine, and early in chapter 17 he organizes an army to pursue king David and kill him. By the end of chapter 19 Absalom is dead and we are impressed with the folly of raising a hand against the anointed of the Lord. One of the most impressive notes of this chapter is the love that David still holds for his rebellious son.

Read Chapters 13-19 and answer the following questions:

- [13] How did Amnon trick Tamar into coming into his bedroom? _____
- [14] What did Absalom do when Joab would not come when called? _____
- [15] Who did David leave behind in Jerusalem as a spy? _____
- [16] Who cursed David as he fled his son, Absalom? _____
- [17] Who advised Absalom to attack David immediately? _____
- [18] Who killed Absalom? _____
- [19] Did David kill Shimei who had cursed him? _____

The Last Days of David's Reign

The kingdom of David never reaches the glory that it had achieved in the early days of his reign. In chapter 21 we find one of the last songs of praise that David offers to Jehovah, and in chapter 24 we notice that one of the last acts of David's rule is the building of an altar to use in worship to God. It is important to remember that the sadness of the last years of king David's reign was caused by his intentional sin. Sin always has a price.

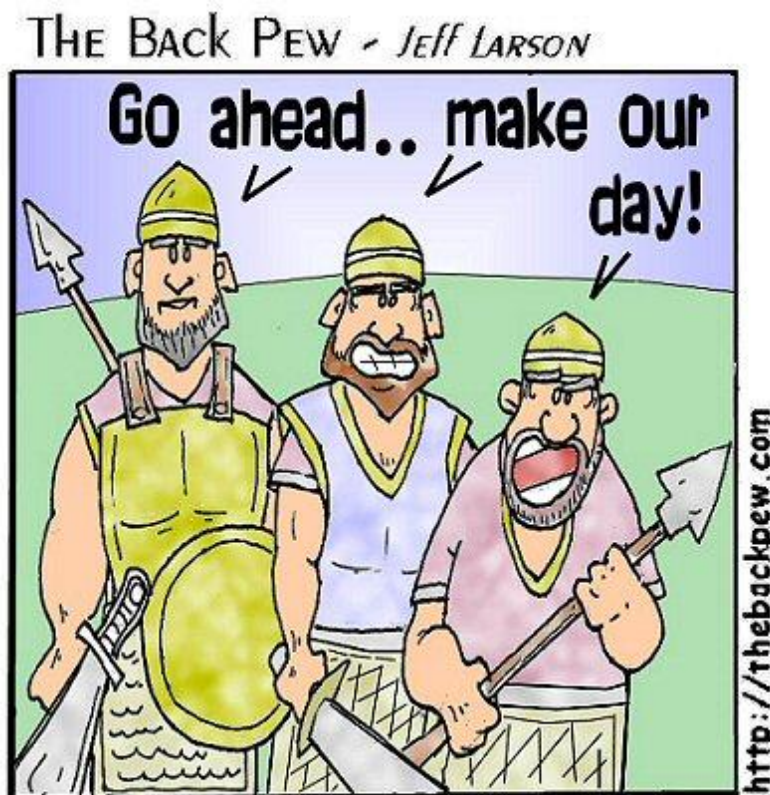
Read Chapters 20-24 and answer the following questions:

- [20] How did the revolt of Sheba, the son of Bichri, end? _____
- [21] Who saved David's life when a descendant of Goliath tried to kill him? _____
- [22] Who does David compare with a rock? _____
- [23] Who were Adino, Eleazar, and Shammah? _____
- [24] When given a choice of punishments for his sin what did David choose? _____



----- ANSWERS -----

- [13] How did Amnon trick Tamar into coming into his bedroom. He pretended to be sick. 2Sam 13:5-11
- [14] What did Absalom do when Joab would not come when called. Burned his crops 2Sam 14:28-31
- [15] Who did David leave behind in Jerusalem as a spy? Hushai the Archite 2Sam 15:32-37
- [16] Who cursed David as he fled his son, Absalom? Shimei, the son of Gera 2Sam 16:5-13
- [17] Who advised Absalom to attack David immediately? Ahithophel 2Sam 17:1-4
- [18] Who killed Absalom? Joab and his men 2Sam 18:14-15
- [19] Did David kill Shimei who had cursed him? No 2Sam 19:23
- [20] How did the revolt of Sheba, the son of Bichri, end? With Sheba's head being tossed to Joab 2Sam 20:22
- [21] Who saved David's life when a descendant of Goliath tried to kill him? Abishai, son of Zeruiah 2Sam 21:16-17
- [22] Who does David compare with a rock? The Lord or God 2Sam 22:2-3
- [23] Who were Adino, Eleazar, and Shammah? The three mightiest of David's mighty men. 2Sam 23:8-12
- [24] When given a choice of punishments for his sin what did David choose? None. He trusted in God 2Sam 24:10-15.



David's Warriors Josheb-Basshebeth, Eleazar, and Shammah **2 Sam. 23:8-12**
They were Braveheart, the Terminator, and Clint Eastwood all rolled up into.. one!.. er.. a.. three!

(1) Compare 2nd Samuel 12:11 with 2nd Samuel 16:20-22. Are they talking about the same thing?

Think & Pray _____

(2) In 2nd Samuel 18 why do you think Joab disobeyed David and killed Absalom?

Think & Pray _____

(3) Compare 2nd Samuel 16:5-13 with 2nd Samuel 19:18-23. Why do you think David let Shimei live?

Think & Pray _____

(4) Compare 2nd Samuel 22 with Psalm 18. What do you think about this comparison?

Think & Pray _____

(5) If someone asked you what Second Samuel was about what would you say?

Think & Pray _____

(6) How can the lessons of Second Samuel be applied to our own life?

Think & Pray _____

(7) Which verse or passage would you select to memorize from Second Samuel? Why?

Think & Pray _____

If you have any questions about 2nd Samuel, please discuss them with your classmates.

(1) Prophecy

I think 2nd Samuel 16:20-22 is the fulfillment of the prophesy in 2nd Samuel 12:11.

(2) Uncle General

I think we need to understand Joab's loyalty to David. He was more than just David's general. He was also David's uncle. I think Joab got away with disobeying David because of this family relationship. Joab may have figured if Absalom was allowed to live, he would raise another army, and Joab would just have to fight them again. Absalom hanging on the oak certainly gave him an opportunity to end the struggle.

(3) Shimei

The Bible does not say. David may have let Shimei live at first was to wait and see, if his prophesy came true, as Deuteronomy commands. Perhaps David was content to leave such things in the hands of God. Of course, perhaps the lesson is that an apology can go a long way.

(4) Psimlar Psalm

I think they are pretty much the same. It just confirms that they are both God's word the same way that the multiple versions of the Gospel (Matthew, Mark, Luke & John) confirm each other. God confirms things by more than one witness.

(5) Second Samuel Summary

Second Samuel is the account of David as King. When King Saul dies, David is eventually made king. David is 30 years old when he becomes King, and reigns for 40 years. He captures Jerusalem and makes it his city. Military victories make Israel strong. David sins with Bathsheba, murders Uriah, is chastened by the prophet Nathan, and finally repents. God forgives David, but David's family begins to splinter apart, as a result of David's sin. David's son, Absalom, tries to steal the kingdom but fails.

(6) Second Samuel Life Application

Any Christian can fall into sin. David was a great man, a man after God's own heart but he still sinned with Bathsheba and committed murder to try to cover it up. If we take our eyes off God and look at this world we will sin.

(7) Something to Remember

2 Samuel 1:27 "How have the mighty fallen, and the weapons of war perished!"
I like it because it reminds me with God my weapons are useless. All power and victory belongs to God. I should never try to fight in my own strength.

Also 2 Samuel 7:18 "Then David the king went in and sat before the LORD, and he said, 'Who am I, O Lord GOD, and what is my house, that You have brought me this far?' "
All Glory of any good we achieve goes to God.