

## The Life of David – Lesson 8

# The Ascension of King David

### 35. Reacting to the Death of Saul

*II Samuel 1:1-27, 1056 B.C., Age 29*

- I Samuel 31 contains the story of the suicide of Saul and deaths of three of his sons, including Jonathan.
- I personally do not believe the story the Amalekite tells in vs. 4-10. I think he is lying in attempt to gain favor with David.
- vs. 12-27 – B.H. Carroll wrote: “That lamentation, expressed in the text, is one of the most beautiful elegiac poems in the literature of the world.” I agree.

### 36. Anointed King over Judah at Hebron

*II Samuel 2:1-7, 1055 B.C., Age 30*

- Overview of David’s Reign - II Samuel 5:4, I Kings 2:11, I Chronicles 29:27
- Of note is David’s gracious message to the men of Jabesh-Gilead that had at great risk recaptured the bodies of Saul and his sons (I Samuel 31:11-13)

### 37. Civil War

*II Samuel 2:8-32, 3:1, 1055-1048 B.C.*

- Saul’s general (and uncle) Abner worked to make Ishbosheth (“man of shame”) king over Israel.
- At the Battle of Gibeon (2:12-32) Abner kills Asahel, the brother of David’s general (and nephew) Joab.

### 38. David’s Growing Family

*II Samuel 3:2-5, I Chronicles 3:1-4, 1055 B.C., Age 30*

- Here the first of David’s sons are born: Amnon, Chileab, Absalom, and so on.

### 39. Abner’s Turn

*II Samuel 3:6-21, 1048 B.C., Age 37*

- Though Ishbosheth was on the throne, Abner was the real power. His motivations are debatable, but he seems to style himself as the true power in Israel and a kingmaker. But God would raise David, not Abner.
- 3:13-16 – Michal is returned to David

## **40. Murder of Abner**

*II Samuel 3:22-39, 1048 B.C., Age 37*

- Joab murders Abner to avenge the death of his brother.
- vs. 36 – Note the response to David's wise actions.

## **41. Death of Ishbosheth**

*II Samuel 4:1-12, 1048 B.C., Age 37*

- Rechab and Baanah assassinate Ishbosheth in hopes of gaining favor with David. They must not have heard the story about the Amalekite that did the same thing.
- Once again, God has providentially set the stage for David to become king over all Israel while keeping David's name clear of suspicion in his rise.
- vs. 4 – first mention of Mephibosheth.

## **42. Anointed King over Israel**

*II Samuel 5:1-3, I Chronicles 11:1-3, 1048 B.C., Age 37*

- Twenty years after he was anointed by Samuel to be Saul's successor and seven years after being made king over the tribe of Judah, David is now anointed king over all the tribes of Israel.

## **43. Roster of Military Leaders**

*I Chronicles 12:23-40, 1048 B.C., Age 37*

- A.C. Gaebelien wrote: "The coming of all Israel to Hebron was one of the most magnificent spectacles in the history of the nation. One only needs to take a pencil and add the numbers mentioned... to find what a great army had gathered to make David king. There were 1,222 chiefs and 339,600 men. Here we see a united Israel swept by a tremendous enthusiasm. Now they own him as their own bone and flesh; the victories of the past are remembered as well as the divine promise that he, David the Bethlehemite, should be the shepherd of Israel as well as their captain."