

## The Life of David – Lesson 16

# David's Waning Years

### 85. Administration

*II Samuel 20:23-26, 1023 B.C., Age 62*

- vs. 18 – Ira – now fills the role (Hebrew *cohen*) that David's sons did in a previous list of officials in II Samuel 8:18.
  - David learned the lesson about family that Samuel did not in I Samuel 8:1-5

### 86. Famine and the Gibeonites

*II Samuel 21:1-14, 1023-1020 B.C., Ages 62-65*

- Gibeonites – Descendants of the Amorite people that tricked Joshua in to a peace treaty (Joshua 9). They became slaves to Israel, were support staff for the Tabernacle (Joshua 9:27), and settled with Benjamin (Joshua 21:17).
- vs. 1 – There is no other record of Saul breaking the Joshua's treaty with the Gibeonites by attacking them. Perhaps it was part of the attack on the priests at Nob in I Samuel 22:17-19 roughly 40 years before.
- vs. 7 – Saul's line is only carried on through the descendants of Jonathon and Mephibosheth – I Chronicles 8:33-40
- vs. 8-9 – this is not human sacrifice, it is justice.
- vs. 10-14 – Rizpah's actions appear to motivate David to bury the remains of Saul and his sons honorably.
- This effectively ends the story of Saul's reign. His remaining descendants will play no more significant roles in the history of Israel.

#### ♪ Psalm 29

- Barnes – "It is designed to set forth the majesty and glory of God, especially as manifested in a thunderstorm, and was evidently composed in view of such an exhibition of His power and glory."

### 87. War Against the Philistines

*II Samuel 21:15-22, I Chronicles 20:4-8, 1020 B.C., Age 65*

- Here are the last battles that David fights.
- God has raised up more mighty men to fight as David's strength wanes.

## 88. David's Sinful Census

*II Samuel 24:1-25, I Chronicles 21:1-30, 1020 B.C., Age 65*

- Why was this a sin? I think it was motivated by pride or lack of faith in God.
  - I think this event is connected to the recent famine. In the judgments offered to David, II Samuel 24:13 says 7 years of famine and I Chronicles 21:12 says 3 years. The 7 years could be the total after 3 additional years.
  - Why need an army? Perhaps because of the Philistine war.
  - The special tax in Exodus 30:11-16 may also not have been collected.
- The totals in the two accounts appear to have come from different sources and were not calculated in the same way. For instance, II Samuel excludes the tribe of Benjamin (vs. 6) which may be counted with Judah in I Chronicles 21:6, accounting for the difference of 30,000 or it could possibly be rounded. Some think II Samuel includes 300,000 additional reservists for Israel.
  - I Chronicles 27:1-15 show an army the size of 288,000 (12 x 24,000). This is a standing army. The numbers of David's census are all available men.
- Why was judgment sent? I suspect David felt guilty initially but did not fully repent until he witnessed the judgment. He made no effort to pay a personal price (sacrifice) until then.
- The location of the threshing floor is Mr. Moriah, where Abraham offered Isaac and where the Temple would be built.

### ♪ Psalm 31

- Spurgeon: "The dedication to the chief musician proves that this song of mingled measures and alternate strains of grief and woe was intended for public singing, and thus a deathblow is given to the notion that nothing but praise should be sung. Perhaps the Psalms, thus marked, might have been set aside as too mournful for temple worship, if special care had not been taken by the Holy Spirit to indicate them as being designed for the public edification of the Lord's people."

## 89. Preparing for Temple

*I Chronicles 22:1-5, 1018 B.C., Age 67*

- Perhaps the most positive outcome of the previous event is that it spurred David into action to prepare for the Temple.

## 90. Instructions to Build the Temple

*I Chronicles 22:6-19, 1016 B.C., Age 69*

- To Solomon – vs. 6-16
- To the national leaders – vs. 17-19