

2 SAMUEL

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In the Hebrew Bible, 1 and 2 Samuel form one book. First Samuel closes with the death of Israel's first king, Saul. Second Samuel records the history of King David's reign, including making Jerusalem the political and religious center of the nation, the establishing of the covenant dynasty, David's great military victories, his sin with Bathsheba, his repentance, and his mistake in numbering the people. (It does not record David's death. That comes in First Kings.) Among all the godly role models in the Bible (other than Jesus), there is probably no one who stands out as much as David. Born halfway between Abraham and Jesus, he became God's leader for all of Israel and an ancestor of the Messiah. David was a man after God's own heart (1 Samuel 13:14). As you read 2 Samuel, look for David's good characteristics—his faithfulness, patience, courage, generosity, commitment, honesty, and modesty. Very valuable lessons can be learned not only from these good qualities but also from his sins and his repentance.

Second Samuel 7:12-16 records the very important covenant God made with David and his descendants. The key verse is *"And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever"* (2 Samuel 7:16).

OUTLINE

- I. DAVID'S RISE TO POWER (Chaps. 1-10)
 - A. Lament over Saul and Jonathan (Ch. 1)
 - B. Coronation of David as King of Judah (2:1-7)
 - C. Conflict with Saul's House (2:8—4:12)
 - D. Coronation of David as King of All Israel (Ch. 5)
 - E. The Ark Brought to Jerusalem (Ch. 6)
 - F. God's Covenant with David (Ch. 7)
 - G. Defeat of Israel's Enemies (Ch. 8)
 - H. Compassion Shown to Mephibosheth (Ch. 9)
 - I. Further Conquests (Ch. 10)
- II. DAVID'S FALL (Chaps. 11, 12)
 - A. Crimes Against Bathsheba and Uriah (Ch. 11)
 - B. Confession to the Lord (Ch. 12)
- III. DAVID'S TROUBLES (Chaps. 13-20)
 - A. Rape of Tamar and Absalom's Revenge (13:1-39)
 - B. Absalom's Revolt and David's Flight (15:1-18)
 - C. David's Friends and Foes (15:19—16:14)
 - D. Absalom's Counselors (16:15—17:23)
 - E. Absalom's Death and David's Lament (17:24—19:8)
 - F. David's Return from Exile (19:9-43)
 - G. Sheba's Rebellion and Death (Ch. 20)
- IV. APPENDIX (Chaps. 21-24)
 - A. The Famine and Its Termination (Ch. 21)
 - B. David's Thanksgiving Psalm (Ch. 22)
 - C. David's Mighty Men (Ch. 23)
 - D. David's Census and Its Consequences (Ch. 24)