

II Samuel 1

David back in Ziklag while battle is ending. Amalekite messenger brings him the news of Saul and Jonathan. Bows down before David.

Reports that many are dead and that Saul and Jonathan are also dead. David asks how he knows. He is an eyewitness and also took part in the death of Saul. Saul was standing over his spear; couldn't kill himself. Other soldiers wouldn't do it either. Amalekite thought Saul would not survive so he killed him. Took the crown and bracelet to David.

He was an Amalekite and not a Philistine. Tradition says he was son of Doeg.

Crown and bracelet confirmed that Saul was dead.

David tears his clothes and mourns. Mourns for the nation and the people also. Even though he knows he will be the next king. Even though Saul tried to kill him for years. Jonathan was his friend.

David has the messenger executed for killing the Lord's anointed.

All the children of Judah were to mourn for Saul and Jonathan. Writes a song of honor and mourning.

Chapter 2: David now seeks direction from God. Does not go in haste. Asks God if he should go to Judah and He tells David to go to Hebron. City of refuge; city of the priests; tombs of the Patriarchs. Wives and soldiers went with him and settled there.

David anointed king over House of Judah. Prominent tribe. Government. Ruled by the one God had chosen. Then thanks those that buried Saul. They are honored. Peaceful transition. The Lord will bless them. Also, tells them that he is now king.

Abner makes Ishbosheth, a son of Saul, king over Israel (all the tribes except Judah). Rules for 2 years.

Civil war. Abner decides that civil war is bad for the whole Land but keeps fighting. David had lost 19 men and Abner had lost 360.

Chapter 3: David grows stronger and House of Saul grows weaker.

David has 6 sons in Hebron. One is Absalom. Multiplying wives- contrary to Deut 17:17. One is with daughter of a heathen king.

State of hostility between the 2 sides. Abner gains strength.

Incident between Abner and Ishbosheth over a concubine of Saul's. Abner is outraged. Ishbosheth is too weak to resist.

Abner reaches out to David- will help him subject all of Israel. God uses human weaknesses to help His Plan (but does not condone sin.)

David agrees but not until Abner brings Machal- they had been betrothed. She was really his lawful wife. Also royal connection to the House of Saul.

Abner speaks with the leadership to bring them over to David. David is chosen by God to be king. Then speaks to Benjamin – tribe of Saul – had had the crown. David should have the crown now.

They agree. David will rule over the whole Nation.

Abner leaves. Joab tells David that it is deceit. Sends for Abner and kills him. In Hebron which was a city of refuge and a Levite city. Abner had killed Joab's brother.

David innocent of Abner's blood. Puts a curse on Joab's family.

Mourns for Abner. Follows the coffin. Great man has fallen. Again shows respect for Saul's staff. Buried at Hebron. David sings a lament. Mourning and won't eat.

People were pleased at David's mourning. Nation becomes more united.

Chapter 4: House of Saul continues to weaken. Ishbosheth doesn't know what to do. Abner's support had been his strength.

2 of his servants, Baanah and Rechab, Tribe of Benjamin, kill Ishbosheth. Behead him and take his head to David. Feel they have defeated David's enemy.

David has them executed; just like the Amalekite messenger who told him about Saul's death.

Mephibosheth - Jonathan's son. Lame.

Chapter 5: Then all the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and spoke, saying, "Indeed we *are* your bone and your flesh. (genealogy/all children of Jacob).

Also, in time past, when Saul was king over us, you were the one who led Israel out and brought them in; and the Lord said to you, 'You shall shepherd My people Israel, and be ruler over Israel.'"

Elders came to Hebron and made David king over whole nation. **30** years old and reigned 40 years.

First action of David was to take site of Jerusalem from the Jebusites- Mt. Zion. Called City of David. He lived there.

Palace of cedar built for David. Took more wives and concubines.

Philistines hear that David is King over all Israel and attack. He defeats them after asking the Lord.

Then come back. Lord tells David to circle around by mulberry trees. Advance when they hear the sound of feet above the trees. Philistines are driven back.