The God of David

Studies in First and Second Samuel

My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from him.

He only is my rock and my salvation: he is my defense; I shall not be moved.

Psalm 62:5-6

Trinity Bible Church Sunday School Fall 2012

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Introduction

Our study for this fall concerns the life of David as presented in the books of Samuel. The account opens in a time when men were doing that which was right in their own eyes and the Word of the LORD was "rare." Our attention is directed to a seemingly insignificant woman named Hannah, living with her husband in the hills of Ephraim. Her husband had another wife who had borne children, but Hannah was barren. In her grief over her barrenness, she earnestly pled with the LORD for a child. She deeply desired the blessing of the LORD. The LORD heard her and gave her a son, Samuel, who was not only a personal blessing to Hannah, but also the vessel of the LORD for the restoration of His Word in Israel.

This simple and effectual faith of Hannah is contrasted with the barrenness of the priesthood which was a source of corruption and finally a cause for the Glory of the LORD to depart from Israel. But the LORD had already prepared Samuel, son of Hannah, to lead the people back to Himself. Sadly, the blessing of the LORD was not sufficient for them. They wanted to be like the nations and have a human king rather than the LORD to rule over them.

Samuel was directed by the LORD to give them a man of their own choosing, Saul. The reign of King Saul gave opportunity for the people to see the folly of the course they had chosen. Instead of deserting His unworthy people, however, the LORD directed Samuel to anoint David as their king. David, unlike Saul, was "a man after God's own heart."

David is significant for several reasons. In the first place, he illustrates God's redemptive work of grace in that He does not leave men in the plight of their own choosing, but moves in their circumstances to draw them back to Himself. They desired a king like the nations, and God gave them a king like Himself. They despised God as their Ruler, and He gave them a man, but His own anointed one to rule over them.

Secondly, the life of David is significant in that it displays the life of the people of God in this world. David was anointed by God to rule, but spent years as a fugitive without apparent hope of seeing the Word of God come to fulfillment. His was a life of faith as he was compelled to live in expectation of the fulfillment of the promise of God. His faith is displayed in living in submission to the circumstances in which he was placed by God, circumstances which seemed contrary to the purposes of God, yet were exactly according to God's design.

Thirdly, David anticipates for us the coming of the True Anointed One. God is not content to rule over men by a mere man, but intends to rule over men directly. The life of David pictures the Anointed One Who is despised and rejected of men, yet exalted by God as Head above all. The life of David sets before us an expectation of the True King Who will rule in unfailing righteousness and in a kingdom that will not cease. David himself was unable to fulfil that expectation.

Most importantly, we need to remember that this is not mere history or even history with a moral, but a revelation of the Almighty God and His great work of redemption. We see the ways of God. He mightily worked through the faith of simple individuals such as the barren Hannah and the shepherd David. He delayed His reward in order to focus their faith on His Person and Word, not in visible experiences or circumstances. This is the lesson for us. We wait patiently for the completion of His plan to rule men in a kingdom of righteousness by the man Christ Jesus. Our faith will be strengthened by remembering the Lord's faithfulness to Hannah, Samuel, David and the children of Israel as they awaited His blessing.

Schedule

September 2	1:	The Word of the Lord Returns to Israel 1 Samuel 1-3
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November 25 December 2 December 9 December 16	 13: 14: 15: 16: 	David Becomes King of All Israel 2 Samuel 3-5 God Covenants with David 2 Samuel 6-7 David Rules with Justice and Kindness 2 Samuel 8-10 David Sins Against the Lord 2 Samuel 11-12 Rebellion in the House of David

Memory Assignment

Psalm 1

- ¹ Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.
- ² But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.
- ³ And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.
- ⁴ The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.
- ⁵ Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.
- ⁶ For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

Memory Assignment (continued)

Psalm 23

A Psalm of David.

- ¹ The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
- ² He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.
- ³ He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
- ⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
- ⁵ Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
- ⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Crown Him with Many Crowns



Lesson 1: The Word of the Lord Returns to Israel 1 Samuel 1-3

MEMORY: Psalm 1:1 HYMN: "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

SUMMARY: Hannah, a barren woman, is the means by which the LORD will restore His blessing in Israel. God heeded her prayer and gave her a son, Samuel, whom she returned to the service of the LORD. Hannah's prayer of praise to God is a remarkable display of her knowledge of God. In contrast, the family of the High Priest Eli is very wicked and about to receive the judgment of God. Hannah's son Samuel is the instrument for the return of the Word of the Lord to Israel. **ADDITIONAL STUDY: Psalm 66, 80**

- 1. Why was Hannah unhappy?
- 2. What vow did Hannah make to the LORD?
- 3. What is meant by the phrase in verse 19 that "the LORD remembered" Hannah?
- 4. What did Hannah do after Samuel was weaned?
- 5. What knowledge of God is evidenced by Hannah in her prayer?
- 6. What did Eli tell his sons when he heard about their sinful conduct, and why did they ignore him?
- 7. What judgment and what promise did the "man of God" bring to Eli?
- 8. How did Samuel discover that the LORD was calling him?
- 9. What was the message spoken by the LORD to Samuel?

Lesson 2: The Glory Departs from Israel 1 Samuel 4-6

MEMORY: Psalm 1:1-2 HYMN: "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

SUMMARY: The Philistines defeated Israel and captured the Ark of the LORD and killed the sons of Eli. Eli fell over backward and died when he heard the news. The Philistines were judged by God for their unlawful possession of the Ark of the LORD. They returned the Ark to Israel on a cart drawn by two milk cows, but without a driver. Israel received the Ark with joy and fear. ADDITIONAL STUDY: Psalm 44, 78

- 1. Why did the people of Israel take the Ark of the LORD into battle?
- 2. What was the cause of the death of Eli?
- 3. Why did the daughter-in-law of Eli name her son Ichabod?
- 4. What happened in the temple of Dagon and the cities of Ashdod and Gath?
- 5. How did the people of Ekron react when the Ark of the LORD was brought to their city?
- 6. What advice did the priests and diviners give concerning the Ark of the LORD?
- 7. What test did the Philistines make to see if it was actually the LORD Who was judging them?
- 8. What did the people of Beth-shemesh do when the Ark of the LORD came to the field of Joshua?
- 9. Why did the LORD plague the people of Beth-shemesh?

Lesson 3: Israel Rejects God as Their King 1 Samuel 7-10

MEMORY: Psalm 1:1-3 HYMN: "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

SUMMARY: Samuel warned the people of Israel about their sin. They responded by putting away their idols. Samuel prayed and the LORD gave Israel victory over the Philistines. Israel then asked for a king to be like the nations around them and were not to be denied despite Samuel's warning. The LORD told Samuel to anoint Saul as their king. He obeyed and presented Saul to Israel as their king. ADDITIONAL STUDY: Psalm 2, 33

- 1. What did Samuel tell the people of Israel they must do for the LORD to deliver them?
- 2. What was Ebenezer?
- 3. Why did the people of Israel ask Samuel to set up a king over them?
- 4. What did the LORD say was the significance of this request?
- 5. What did Samuel tell them about the behavior of the king who would reign over them?
- 6. Why did Saul come to see Samuel?
- 7. What did Samuel tell Saul?
- 8. What happened to Saul when he met the group of prophets?
- 9. What did Samuel tell the people of Israel when he presented Saul to them as their king?

Lesson 4: Saul – The Foolish King of Israel 1 Samuel 11-14

MEMORY: Psalm 1:1-4 HYMN: "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

SUMMARY: Saul led Israel in victory over the Ammonites, and then showed kindness to those who initially rejected his rule over them. Samuel warned the people at the coronation of Saul. After two years of reign, Saul foolishly intruded into the office of priest and was rejected as king. Later, Saul was prevented by the people from executing his son Jonathan for violating Saul's foolish vow. **ADDITIONAL STUDY: Psalm 49, 53**

- 1. When Saul heard of the threat to Jabesh-gilead, what happened to him, and what did he do?
- 2. After the LORD "accomplished salvation in Israel," what did Saul and the people do at Gilgal?
- 3. What warning did Samuel bring to the people at the coronation of Saul?
- 4. How did Samuel answer the people's request that he pray for them?
- 5. Why did Saul offer the sacrifice at Gilgal?
- 6. What did Samuel say about this act of Saul?
- 7. Why did Jonathan and his armorbearer go over to the garrison of the Philistines?
- 8. What did Saul do when he heard that the people were eating blood?
- 9. Why did Saul want to kill Jonathan?

Lesson 5: The Heart of the Matter 1 Samuel 15-16

MEMORY: Psalm 1:1-5

HYMN: "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

SUMMARY: Saul disobeyed the Word of the LORD through Samuel when he did not totally destroy the Amalekites. Samuel told Saul that the LORD had rejected him as king of Israel because of his disobedience. Samuel was then sent by the LORD to anoint the shepherd boy David as the next king. David was brought to Saul to console him with his music whenever a "distressing spirit" was sent upon him from God. When the army of Israel was challenged by Goliath, the Philistine giant, David went forth in the name of the LORD of hosts and killed him. Israel routed the Philistine army. **ADDITIONAL STUDY: Psalm 23, 27, 68, 139**

- 1. What did Samuel tell Saul about Amalek?
- 2. What did Saul and the people of Israel do to the Amalekites?
- 3. How did Saul explain his actions to Samuel?
- 4. What did Samuel tell Saul concerning the LORD's evaluation of Saul's actions?
- 5. How did Samuel find the next king of Israel?
- 6. Why was David brought to Saul?
- 7. How did David react to the challenge of Goliath?
- 8. How was David prepared to fight Goliath, and how did he defeat him?
- 9. What happened after David killed Goliath?

Lesson 6: Goliath Defies the Living God 1 Samuel 17

MEMORY: Psalm 1:1-6 HYMN: "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

SUMMARY: The army of Israel is challenged by Goliath, the Philistine giant. David realizes that Goliath is defying the living God. He goes forth in the name of the LORD of hosts. The LORD delivers Goliath and the Philistine army into the hand of David and the army of Israel. **ADDITIONAL STUDY:** Psalm 27, 68

- 1. How did Goliath defy the armies of Israel?
- 2. How long did this challenge continue?
- 3. Why was David at the battlefield?
- 4. How did David react to the challenge of Goliath?
- 5. What did Eliab, David's oldest brother, say to David?
- 6. How did Saul try to help David?
- 7. Why was David confident that he could defeat Goliath?
- 8. How did David kill Goliath?
- 9. What happened in the battle that followed the death of Goliath?

Lesson 7: Saul Determines to Kill David 1 Samuel 18-20

MEMORY: Psalm 23:1 and review HYMN: "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

SUMMARY: Saul became envious of David's success and popularity with the people. He made several attempts to kill David, but David escaped. Saul tried to have David killed by the Philistines, but David prevailed. Instead of being killed, he became the king's son-in-law. Michal, David's wife and Saul's daughter, helped David escape. Jonathan, Saul's son, tried to gain Saul's approval of David. When he was unsuccessful, he helped David escape. **ADDITIONAL STUDY: Psalm 59. 140**

- 1. Why did Saul become angry with David?
- 2. Why was Saul afraid of David?
- 3. Why did Saul offer to let his daughter Michal marry David?
- 4. How did Saul react to Jonathan's plea on behalf of David?
- 5. How did Michal help David escape?
- 6. What happened to those who came and tried to get David when he was with Samuel?
- 7. What did David ask Jonathan to do for him?
- 8. How did Saul respond to Jonathan's pleas on behalf of David this time?
- 9. How did Jonathan warn David of Saul's intention to kill David?

Lesson 8: The Fugitive King 1 Samuel 21-23

MEMORY: Psalm 23:1-2 and review HYMN: "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

SUMMARY: David fled to Nob where Ahimelech the priest provided shewbread for him and his men. David then went to Gath where he feigned madness in order to save his life from the Philistines. David escaped with his men and wandered around until the prophet Gad told him to return to Judah. When Saul heard about Ahimelech's aid to David, he killed Ahimelech and eighty-four other priests. David delivered the city of Keilah from the Philistines, but God warned David that the people of Keilah would deliver David to Saul, who was now pursuing David. David was forced to hide out in wilderness areas. **ADDITIONAL STUDY: Psalm 34, 52, 54, 56, 63**

- 1. How did David explain his presence in Nob to Ahimelech the priest?
- 2. How did Ahimelech provide food for David and his men?
- 3. Why was David afraid of Achish the king of Gath, and what did he do?
- 4. Who were the men who joined themselves to David?
- 5. What did Doeg the Edomite do?
- 6. What did Saul do to Ahimelech, the priests and the inhabitants of Nob?
- 7. What did David do for the inhabitants of Keilah? Why did he do so?
- 8. How did Abiathar, the son of Ahimelech, serve David?
- 9. Why did Saul fail to capture David in the wilderness strongholds?

Lesson 9: David Spares the Lord's Anointed 1 Samuel 24-27

MEMORY: Psalm 23:1-3 and review HYMN: "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

SUMMARY: David had opportunity to kill Saul in the cave at En-gedi, but refused to do so. Saul was softened by this act of mercy and temporarily abandoned his pursuit. David was prevented from killing the wicked man, Nabal. When God killed Nabal, David took Nabal's wife, Abigail, as his own wife. He had a second opportunity to kill Saul, and again refused to do so. Saul ceased his pursuit. David then went to the land of the Philistines and allied himself with them. **ADDITIONAL STUDY: Psalm 57, 142**

- 1. What happened when Saul went into the cave at En-gedi?
- 2. What did David tell Saul, and how did Saul react?
- 3. Why was David going to kill Nabal?
- 4. Why did David not kill Nabal?
- 5. What happened to Nabal and Abigail?
- 6. How did David and Abishai get another opportunity to kill Saul?
- 7. In David's conversation with Saul, what does he seem to want?
- 8. Why did David go to the land of the Philistines?
- 9. Why was Achish happy for David to be there?

Lesson 10: The Death of Saul 1 Samuel 28-31

MEMORY: Psalm 23:1-4 and review HYMN: "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

SUMMARY: The Philistines went to war with Israel. Saul was unable to get a word from the LORD, so he consulted a medium at En-dor. He was warned of the defeat of Israel and his own death the next day. David was prevented from going to war with the Philistines against Israel. He returned to Ziklag and found it had been burned by the Amalekites. The women and children were captured. He rescued them and destroyed most of the Amalekites. Saul and his sons were killed in the battle with the Philistines.

ADDITIONAL STUDY: 1 Chronicles 10; Psalm 35, 37

- 1. Why did Saul seek out a medium?
- 2. Whom did Saul ask the medium to "bring up"?
- 3. What message did Samuel bring to Saul?
- 4. How did Saul react to the message?
- 5. Why did Achish not allow David to go into battle with the Philistines against Israel?
- 6. What did David find when he returned to Ziklag?
- 7. How did Abiathar help David?
- 8. What principle was established after David defeated the Amalekites?
- 9. How was Saul killed? What happened to his body?

Lesson 11: David Becomes King of Judah 2 Samuel 1-2

MEMORY: Psalm 23:1-5 and review HYMN: "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

SUMMARY: David heard of the death of Saul from the man who claimed to have killed him. David executed him because he had killed "the LORD's anointed" and then led in mourning for Saul. David was then directed by the LORD to go to Judah where he was crowned king. Ishbosheth, son of Saul, was crowned king of Israel. There followed seven years of civil war. ADDITIONAL STUDY: Psalm 18, 40

- 1. How did the Amalekite appear, and what message did he bring to David?
- 2. How did David react to the word concerning the death of Saul?
- 3. Why did David execute the Amalekite?
- 4. In David's psalm of lamentation, how does he describe Saul and Jonathan?
- 5. Why did David go to Hebron, and what happened when he got there?
- 6. Why did David commend the men of Jabesh-gilead? See 1 Samuel 31.
- 7. Identify the following men: Ishbosheth

Joab

Abner

Asahel

8. What happened in the battle described in chapter 2?

Lesson 12: David Becomes King of All Israel 2 Samuel 3-5

MEMORY: Psalm 23:1-6 and review HYMN: "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

SUMMARY: In the civil war between Israel and Judah, the army of David increased in strength. Abner, the leader of the army of Israel, was offended at Ishbosheth and determined to betray his master into the hand of David. David accepted Abner's offer after he confirmed his intention by bringing David's wife Michal back to David. Joab was offended at the peaceful reception of Abner and murdered him. Ishbosheth is subsequently murdered in his house. The entire nation then received David as their king. David took Jerusalem as his dwelling. He successfully defended the nation against the Philistines. **ADDITIONAL STUDY: 1 Chronicles 11-12, 14; Psalm 28, 108**

- 1. What did Abner decide to do when he was offended by Ishbosheth?
- 2. What did David require of Abner before he would talk with him?
- 3. Why did Joab kill Abner?
- 4. How did David react to the death of Abner?
- 5. What happened to Ishbosheth?
- 6. What did David do when he heard of the death of Ishbosheth?
- 7. What did the tribes of Israel say to David after the death of Ishbosheth?
- 8. After David was settled in Jerusalem, what did he realize, and what did he do?
- 9. Why did David name the place of the battle with the Philistines "Baal-perazim"?

Lesson 13: God Covenants with David 2 Samuel 6-7

MEMORY: Psalm 1 and Psalm 23 HYMN: "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

SUMMARY: David tried to bring the Ark of the LORD to Jerusalem on a new cart. Uzzah was struck dead by the LORD when he touched the Ark, trying to keep it from falling from the cart. David was afraid and left the Ark at the house of Obed-edom for three months. David then brought the Ark of the LORD to Jerusalem on the shoulders of the Levites. It was a time of rejoicing in Jerusalem. Michal, David's wife, despised David for his dancing before the LORD. David desired to build a temple for the LORD. Instead, the prophet told David that the LORD would build a house for David. His seed would rule over Israel forever. David expressed his thanksgiving to God in a prayer. **ADDITIONAL STUDY: 1 Chronicles 13, 15-17; Psalm 8, 24, 103, 105, 132**

- 1. How did they try to bring the Ark of the LORD from Baale of Judah to Jerusalem?
- 2. Why did God kill Uzzah?
- 3. How did David react to the death of Uzzah?
- 4. How was the Ark of the LORD moved the second time?
- 5. Why did Michal despise David?
- 6. What counsel did Nathan give David concerning the Ark of the LORD?
- 7. What did the LORD tell Nathan to tell David?
- 8. In David's prayer, why did he say that the LORD had favored him and redeemed Israel?
- 9. Why did David pray this prayer to the LORD?

Lesson 14: David Rules with Justice and Kindness 2 Samuel 8-10

MEMORY: Psalm 1 and Psalm 23 HYMN: "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

SUMMARY: David extended the borders of Israel by his military victories over the Philistines, the Moabites, the Zobahites at the River Euphrates and the Syrians. David dedicated the gold and silver which he had taken from the nations to the LORD. David showed kindness to the house of Saul by taking Mephibosheth, the lame son of Jonathan, into his household and giving him Saul's possessions. David's kindness to Hanun, king of Ammon, was repaid with the humiliation of David's servants. David avenged this disgrace by defeating the Ammonites and their allies. **ADDITIONAL STUDY: 1 Chronicles 18-19; Psalm 60, 62**

- 1. How did David treat the Moabites?
- 2. What did David do with the spoils of his battle with the king of Zobah?
- 3. What did Toi, king of Hamath, do when he heard of the military success of David?
- 4. What did David do with the silver and gold which he took from the nations?
- 5. How is David's reign over Israel described?
- 6. Who was Mephibosheth?
- 7. What did David do for Mephibosheth?
- 8. How did David try to show kindness to Hanun, king of Ammon?
- 9. How did David react to the humiliation of his servants by the Ammonites?

Lesson 15: David Sins Against the Lord 2 Samuel 11-12

MEMORY: Psalm 1 and Psalm 23 HYMN: "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

SUMMARY: David committed adultery with Bathsheba. He then arranged with Joab to have Bathsheba's husband Uriah killed in a battle. After the death of Uriah, David took Bathsheba to be his wife. Nathan, the prophet, confronted David with the displeasure of the LORD. As judgment, the child of David and Bathsheba died. The LORD then blessed the marriage with the birth of Solomon. David defeated the Ammonites.

ADDITIONAL STUDY: 1 Chronicles 20; Psalm 32, 51

- 1. What did David do when his army went off to war with the Ammonites?
- 2. What did David do when he heard that Bathsheba was going to have a child?
- 3. Why did Uriah not go home the first night?
- 4. What did David do to Uriah the second night?
- 5. What instructions did David give to Joab concerning Uriah, and what happened to him?
- 6. What did the LORD say that David had done?
- 7. What judgments did the LORD say would come upon David?
- 8. What did David do when his child was ill, and then when he died?
- 9. What is the meaning of the name Jedidiah?

Lesson 16: Rebellion in the House of David 2 Samuel 13-15

MEMORY: Psalm 1 and Psalm 23 HYMN: "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

SUMMARY: Amnon, son of David, fell in love with his half sister Tamar. He deceived his father and sinned against Tamar. Tamar's brother, Absalom, hated Amnon for this and arranged his murder. Absalom went into exile for three years. His return to Jerusalem was arranged by Joab through trickery. Absalom was permitted to return to Jerusalem, but did not see the king until he forced Joab to intercede for him. Absalom was received again into the presence of his father David. Absalom then led a rebellion against his father. David was forced to flee from Jerusalem. **ADDITIONAL STUDY: Psalm 41, 55**

- 1. What advice did Jonadab give Amnon to get David to send Tamar to him?
- 2. How did King David and brother Absalom react to the news that Amnon had sinned against Tamar?
- 3. What did Absalom do to his brother Amnon?
- 4. What happened to Absalom after the death of Amnon?
- 5. What was the purpose of the story told by the "wise woman from Tekoa"?
- 6. What did David tell Joab about Absalom in response to this plot by Joab and the woman from Tekoa?
- 7. Why did Absalom burn Joab's field?
- 8. How did Absalom steal the hearts of the men of Israel?
- 9. Identify the following men and their loyalties: Ahithophel

Ittai

Zadok

Hushai

Lesson 17: Rebellion in the Nation 2 Samuel 16-19

MEMORY: Psalm 1 and Psalm 23 HYMN: "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

SUMMARY: Ziba, the servant of Mephibosheth, told of his master's treason. Shimei threw stones at David and cursed him. Ahithophel counseled Absalom to defile David's wives and then pursue David immediately. Hushai advised Absalom to delay the pursuit of David. When Absalom accepted this latter counsel, Hushai sent warning to David. Absalom's forces were defeated by David's. Absalom was killed by Joab, in spite of David's instructions to spare him. David mourned for his son. He returned to Jerusalem, but did not seek vengeance upon his enemies. The seed was sewn for a future rebellion. **ADDITIONAL STUDY: Psalm 3, 7, 69**

- 1. What did Ziba tell David about Mephibosheth?
- 2. How did Shimei treat David?
- 3. What did Ahithophel advise Absalom to do?
- 4. What did Hushai advise Absalom to do?
- 5. What did Ahithophel do when his counsel was not followed?
- 6. How was Absalom killed?
- 7. What did David do when he heard of the death of his son?
- 8. What did David do to each of these men? Shimei

Ziba

Mephibosheth

Barzillai

9. What was the dispute between the men of Israel and the men of Judah?

Lesson 18: The Final Days of King David 2 Samuel 20-24

MEMORY: Psalm 1 and Psalm 23 HYMN: "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

SUMMARY: Sheba led the men of Israel in a civil war against David and the men of Judah. Joab led the men of Judah to victory against Israel. Israel suffered famine because of the treatment of the Gibeonites by Saul. Seven sons of Saul were put to death for this. The Philistines were defeated before Israel. David's last words are a song to the LORD. David recorded a census of Israel and came under the judgment of the LORD. The judgment was stopped when David built an altar to the LORD at the site of the future temple. **ADDITIONAL STUDY: 1 Chronicles 21-29: Psalm 39. 139**

- 1. What happened to Amasa?
- 2. What happened to Sheba, the leader of the rebellion?
- 3. Why was there a famine in the land, and how did it end?
- 4. What does David praise God for in chapter 22?
- 5. Why did David pour out the water from the well of Bethlehem?
- 6. Why did David number the people of Israel? Compare with 1 Chronicles 21:1.
- 7. What happened as a result of this census of the nation?
- 8. What did Gad the seer tell David to do on the threshing floor of Araunah?
- 9. What happened when David obeyed?