



26: The Conquering King (2 Sam 5:4-25)

Jerusalem falls. Enemies scatter. A king rises. But the real story of 2 Samuel 5 points beyond David to the Conquering King — and we are one day closer to His return.

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* All Scripture is from the Christian Standard Bible (CSB) unless otherwise noted.

2 Samuel 5:4-6

David was thirty years old when he began his reign; he reigned forty years. In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months, and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty-three years over all Israel and Judah. **The king and his men marched to Jerusalem** against the Jebusites who inhabited the land. The Jebusites had said to David, “You will never get in here. Even the blind and lame can repel you” thinking, “David can’t get in here.”

Jerusalem was referred to earlier in Samuel, mentioning how David brought the head of Goliath to Jerusalem (1 Sam 17:54). This is the story about how that eventually occurs, some 20 years after killing Goliath.

- The Hebrew name of this ancient city seems to be a slight tweak to the Caananite name (**Urushalem**) - meaning **“foundation/city of Shalem”** (Caananite god).¹
- The Hebrew tweak replaces the word of the Canaanite God (Shalem) with **shalom** (peace) - **Jerusalem** means “city/foundation of peace”.

The Jebusites had been in the land since the time Joshua and the Hebrew people came to the Promised Land, commanded and empowered by Yahweh to drive out all who had taken the land Yahweh promised to Abraham, including the Jebusites (see [Genesis 15:18–21](#); also [Exodus 3:8, 17](#); [13:5](#); [23:23](#); [33:2](#); [34:11](#); [Deuteronomy 7:1](#); [20:17](#); [Joshua 3:10](#); [12:8](#); [24:11](#)).

- The Jebusites are cocky Canaanites who believed that their city was impregnable, poking fun at David and his troops, saying that their weakest people, **the blind and the lame can repel you**.

Jerusalem was not within David’s tribal land of Judah, but *Saul’s tribal land of Benjamin*.

- If David captures the town and makes it his capital this shows David’s willingness to move to be king over ALL tribes, not just over Judah.
- David obeys the command to remove the Jebusites from the land, a command that had not be obeyed for centuries.

2 Samuel 5:7-8

Yet **David did capture the stronghold of Zion**, that is, the city of David.

He said that day, “Whoever attacks the Jebusites must go through the water shaft to reach the lame and the blind who are despised by David.” For this reason it is said, “The blind and the lame will never enter the house.”

Zion. This is the 1st use of “**Zion**” in the Bible, referring to the hill that Solomon would later build the temple on. It was also applied to Jerusalem as a whole and represents God’s promises, God’s king, and God’s kingdom.

- 🔍 **1867 Charles Warren found a water shaft** (“Warren’s Shaft”) going deep underground with a 40+ foot shaft that is 3-5 ft wide, extending up into the middle of the city from which people could drop buckets down.

While there is some debate as to when this well hold was dug, it is possible that this is how David’s troops were able to reach **‘the lame and blind’** [sarcasm] inside of this fortified city. Those who stood against David & his troops - the **‘blind and lame’** - would never be welcome in Jerusalem again (NOT referring to Hebrew people with disabilities).

1,000 years later...**a Greater King than David**, came to Jerusalem where...

Matthew 21:14

The **blind** and the **lame** came to Him in the temple [in Jerusalem - just above the city of David], and **He healed them**.

¹ Joe R. Baskin, “Jerusalem,” in Holman Bible Dictionary

2 Samuel 5:9-12

David took up residence in the stronghold, which **he named the city of David**. He built it up all the way around from the supporting terraces inward. David became more and more powerful, and the LORD God of Armies was with him.

King Hiram of Tyre sent envoys to David; he also sent cedar logs, carpenters, and stonemasons, and they built a palace for David. Then **David knew that the LORD had established him as king over Israel** and had exalted his kingdom for the sake of his people Israel.

David wasn't established to make his name great, but **to honor Yahweh** to provide for and protect **Yahweh's people Israel**.

The author of Samuel once more makes mention of **more women & children brought into David's family**. Sadly, it looks like David - while compassionate, prayerful, & established as a strong king by Yahweh - IS NOT PERFECT.

2 Samuel 5:13-16

After he arrived from Hebron, David took more concubines and wives from Jerusalem, and more sons and daughters were born to him. These are the names of those born to him in Jerusalem: Shammua, Shobab, Nathan, **Solomon**, Ibhar, Elishua, Nepheg, Iaphia, Elishama, Eliada, and Eliphelet.

The most significant of these names is **Solomon**, who was later born through Bathsheba, and would become the next king. These many **concubines and wives** seem to be a foreshadowing of the dark days that David will eventually lead to division within his family.

400 years earlier Yahweh gave Moses the commands of what was expected of the kings that God appointed.

Deuteronomy 17:14-20

When you enter the land the LORD your God is giving you, take possession of it, live in it, and say, 'I will set a king over me like all the nations around me,' you are to **appoint over you the king the LORD your God chooses**. Appoint a king from your brothers. You are not to set a foreigner over you, or one who is not of your people. However, he must not acquire many horses for himself or send the people back to Egypt to acquire many horses, for the Lord has told you, 'You are never to go back that way again.' He must not acquire many wives for himself so that his heart won't go astray. He must not acquire very large amounts of silver and gold for himself. When he is seated on his royal throne, **he is to write a copy of this instruction for himself on a scroll** in the presence of the Levitical priests. It is to remain with him, and **he is to read from it all the days of his life**, so that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, to observe all the words of this instruction, and **to do these statutes**. Then his heart will not be exalted above his countrymen, he will not turn from this command to the right or the left, and he and his sons will continue reigning many years in Israel.

I wonder if David wrote a copy of this instruction?

② Have you ever **read what God said from the Scriptures & felt convicted** that something needed to CHANGE? What did you do about that - **RESPOND or REJECT?**

✗ Sadly, **many wives** & concubines *IS* exactly what eventually leads his son, King Solomon, astray (1 Kings 11:1-11). David is sowing the seeds of Solomon's downfall as the son follows the example of his father. Multiple children from multiple women is going to bring great division in David's family.

David is not our Ideal King. Reading about his sin (as we will see in future teachings) leaves the audience wanting **a GREATER KING, found in only in the life of King Jesus!**

2 Samuel 5:17-19

When **the Philistines** heard that **David had been anointed king over Israel**, they all went in search of David, but he heard about it and went down to the stronghold. So **the Philistines came and spread out in Rephaim Valley**. Then **David inquired of the LORD**: "Should I attack the Philistines? Will you hand them over to me?" **The LORD replied** to David, "**Attack**, for I will certainly hand the Philistines over to you."

The Rephaim Valley is southwest of Jerusalem, just above Bethlehem. The Philistines had made their way to defeat David who had previously lived in Philistia and who had defected from their ranks.

David inquired of Yahweh. This was a theme in David's life (1 Samuel 23:2,4; 30:8; 2 Sam 2:1). **David was a man of prayer** who would seek Yahweh regarding any significant decision.

1,000 years later...**a Greater King than David**, was **known as a man of prayer**. He often slips away to find a quiet place to pray (Mk 1:35, Lk 5:16). His disciples understand this is a source of strength & focus and they ask Jesus to teach them to pray (Lk 11:1-4)...like HE PRAYS.

What a great example to us. If King David and King Jesus needed to PRAY...you and I probably need to find the time to pray too!

2 Samuel 5:20-21

So David went to Baal-perazim and defeated them there and said, "Like a bursting flood, **the Lord has burst out against my enemies** before me." Therefore, he named that place The Lord Bursts Out. The **Philistines abandoned their idols there**, and David and his men carried them off.

Remember when Saul had the ark of the covenant brought to a battle? The Philistines defeated the Israelites and took the ark, the symbol representing their God. This time the Philistines are the ones who go home defeated along with the **idols** they **abandoned**, representing their gods. **David and his men carried them off**, not to their homes, but removing the idols from their territory to destroy them, in obedience to God's commands to do so in [Num 33:52](#), [Deut 7:5,25](#); [12:3](#).

David is quick to give credit to WHOM credit is due. Yes, David and his men fought, but Yahweh was **THE CONQUERING KING** who **burst out against** the Philistines.

The Philistines were defeated, but they would be back.

2 Samuel 5:22-24

The Philistines came up again and spread out in Rephaim Valley. So **David inquired of the LORD**, and **He answered**, "Do not attack directly, but circle around behind them and come at them opposite the balsam trees. When you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam trees, act decisively, for then **the LORD will have gone out ahead of you to strike down the army of the Philistines.**"

David and his men waited for the sign from Yahweh, and when they heard the army of heaven marching against the Philistines...

2 Samuel 5:25

So **David did exactly as the Lord commanded him**, and he struck down the Philistines all the way from Geba to Gezer.

Just as the glory of Yahweh had departed when the Ark was captured and Eli's daughter-in-law, while dying, named her son **Ichabod** (1 Sam 4:20-22), meaning either "Where is the **glory**?" or "no **glory**" - referring to Yahweh's presence; hence, the text means "**Where is Yahweh?**"² This moment of total despair, left Israel's future as the people of Yahweh, in doubt.

But now...the Presence & Power of Yahweh - The Conquering King - is BACK! The Philistine enemies who had once killed Saul & Jonathan, the enemies who **took over the Israelite town of Bet She'an**, and hung Saul and sons decapitated bodies on the wall to rot - were soundly defeated by David & his God.

- David defeated the enemies of Israel.
- **Jesus will defeat ALL enemies** .

And while God is gracious and patient right now, there IS COMING a day when the Conquering King will do just that.

2 Thessalonians 1:6-10 NIV

God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen **when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven** in blazing fire with his powerful angels. He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might **on the day he comes to be glorified in his holy people** and to be marveled at among all those who have believed. This includes you, because **you believed** our testimony to you.

❓ Does that cause you SCARE you or EXCITE you - make you AFRAID & ASHAMED or HUMBLE & HOPEFUL?

✝ We are 1 DAY CLOSER to our passing and/or His return!

heretoserveyou

Have questions and need some help? ...real soon...how about now? Please **call** or **text** us soon!

- * Contact **Jackie** (850-673-1582), **Christy** (850-673-9764), **Caleb** (864-315-8015), **Gary** (850-673-2507), **Betty** (850-973-3266), or another follower of Jesus soon!
- * Or call our **deacons & wives: Alan & Christy Androski** (850-464-1428), **Noel & Patricia Barnes** (813-767-2881), **Derek & Emily Beaty** (813-763-4421), or **Chris & Caitlin Day** (850-673-7920), **Glen & Margie Peacock** (850-464-1484).

² John MacArthur Jr., ed., The MacArthur Study Bible, electronic ed. (Nashville, TN: Word Pub., 1997), 384.

Discussion questions

These questions are designed to help you LIVE what you LEARN with your family, friends, or small group.

1 Jerusalem & Pride

- The Jebusites mocked David and believed their city was untouchable (**2 Samuel 5:6**). Where in your life have you grown spiritually “untouchable” or complacent?
- **Proverbs 16:18** says pride comes before destruction. What does pride look like in a Christian’s life today?

2 Zion & God’s Kingdom

- Why do you think David chose Jerusalem — a neutral city — as his capital?
- **Read Psalm 2:6–12**. How does Zion ultimately point beyond David to Christ?
- What does it mean that Jesus is not just king of a city, but King of a Kingdom?

3 Obedience & Compromise

- **Read Deuteronomy 17:14–20**. Why would God specifically warn kings about many wives, wealth, and military power?
- Where are you tempted to “breeze past” something God has clearly said?
- What small compromises today could become major consequences tomorrow?

4 Prayer Before Battle

- David repeatedly inquired of the Lord (2 Samuel 5:19, 23). What decisions in your life right now require prayer before action?
- Read James 1:5. Do you actually ask God for wisdom — or do you assume you already know what to do?

5 The Conquering King

- David defeated Israel’s enemies. Jesus will defeat ALL enemies (1 Corinthians 15:24–26). Which enemy do you most long for Jesus to conquer — sin, suffering, injustice, death?
- **Read 2 Thessalonians 1:6–10**. Does Christ’s return comfort you or unsettle you? Why?

6 Personal Response

- If Jesus returned tonight, would you feel relief or regret?
- What needs to change this week so you are living under the rule of the true King?