

### The Gospel Shape of the Bible

Creation – God made the world and it was good. There was no sin in the world, and it was full of peace and harmony. It was perfect, the way God intended it.

Fall – Sin came into the world because of Adam’s disobedience. This brought with it a curse upon humankind, and death spread to Adam’s children.

Redemption – Through the second Adam, Jesus Christ, the penalty of sin has been paid on the cross. The curse of death is replaced with the promise of life, and the power of enslavement to sin is removed. Through faith in Christ, we are new creations, no longer slaves to sin but free to righteousness.

Restoration – Jesus will come again and establish a new heaven and a new earth. The original purpose of God’s good creation will be restored, and everything will be put back in God’s perfect order. We will live eternally with God, the way it was originally intended.

### The Gospel Shape of 2 Samuel

Creation – From chapter 5-10, David’s reign is presented as a new creation.

- Chapter 5 – Israel is led by king David, a man after God’s heart.
- Chapter 6 – The presence of God comes among the people through the ark.
- Chapter 7 – God affirms eternal promises to David and the kingdom of Israel.
- Chapters 8 and 10 – God’s people experience victory and peace from enemies.
- Chapter 9 – Life in the kingdom is characterized by the experience of God’s kindness.

*Regarding chapters 6-10, “There is appended a cursory account of David’s wars with the neighboring nations, by which not only his own sovereignty, but the Israelitish kingdom of God, was raised into a commanding power among the nations and kingdoms of the world.” – Keil and Delitzsch*

Fall – From chapters 11-18, David’s peaceful and powerful reign is tarnished and falls into absolute chaos and sin.

- Chapter 11 – David brings sin into this “new creation” by adultery and murder and tries to cover it up.
- Chapter 12 – God’s prophetic word comes through Nathan and pronounces a curse on David’s house.
- Chapter 13 – Sin spreads to David’s children, with one committing rape and the other murder.
- Chapter 14 – The murder of Amnon by Absalom is told with clear reference to the story of Cain and Abel.
- Chapters 15-18 – Finally, the whole nation falls into rebellion against David and civil war, resulting in the death of David’s son Absalom (18:14), the death of 20,000 Israelites (18:17).

Chapter 14 Explained	Cain and Abel	Joab’s Tale
Two brothers	Genesis 4:1	2 Samuel 14:6
Alone together in a field	Genesis 4:8	2 Samuel 14:6
One killed the other	Genesis 4:8	2 Samuel 14:6
Concerns expressed about murderer being killed by others	Genesis 4:14	2 Samuel 14:7
Authority figure intervened to save murderer’s life	Genesis 4:15	2 Samuel 14:8
Threat of retaliation for anyone contravening authority’s decision	Genesis 4:15	2 Samuel 14:10

Additionally: David refused to have Absalom in his presence (v. 24), like Cain was cast away from God’s presence (Genesis 4:16)

Redemption/Restoration – The end of chapter 18 and 19 records how David forgives and restores the kingdom.

- 18:31-33 – David weeps at the death of his son. He was full of mercy for the one who betrayed him.
- 19:8-15 – David wins the hearts of those who rejected his kingship.
- 19:16-23 – David forgives Shimei, a man who deserved to die.

**Seeing Our Savior**

David’s spiritual journey is a picture of our journey.

*David starts as a picture of the first Adam, a rebel and sinner bringing disaster into the world.*

*David ends as a picture of the second Adam, representing the heart of Christ and bringing forgiveness, love, and mercy into the world.*

Israel’s repentance is a picture of our repentance.

*Why did Israel choose Absalom?*

- He was abundantly handsome (14:25)
- He pretended to care (15:2)
- He told people what they wanted to hear (15:3)

*A moment came when they realized that they anointed the wrong king over them. So they asked the true and rightful king back.*

David’s mercy is a picture of Christ’s mercy.

*David calls the former rebels family. (bone and flesh)*

*David pardons Shimei.*

**Questions for Study and Reflection**

1. We’ve studied David for months now. What parts of his story remind you of Jesus?
2. What parts of David’s story remind you of yourself? Of the Christian life, in general?
3. Much of Israel chose Absalom instead of David. How are you tempted towards the wrong king?
4. How is David’s mercy a picture of God’s mercy to you? What have you done that needs mercy?