

1/10/09

2Sam. 21-22

When we started our study of Second Samuel, we laid out a simple outline that is presented by many commentators.

- I. The triumph's of David. 2Sam. 1-10
- II. The troubles of David. 2Sam. 11-20
- III. The trials of David. 2Sam. 21-24

This third division is an appendix, in that the material breaks from the chronological story of David, which is picked up again in the first chapter of First Kings.

* We saw this at the end of the book of Judges.

These four chapters contain the following:

- 1. The famine due to Saul braking covenant with the Gibeonites and request to be avenged. 2Sam. 21:1-14
- 2. The four battles of David and his men. 2Sam. 21:15-22
- 3. The declarative Psalm of praise by David of God's deliverance. 2Sam. 22:1-51
- 4. The last words of David. 2Sam. 23:1-7
- 5. The list of David's mighty men. 2Sam. 23:8-39
- 6. The pestilence due to David numbering the people and the appeasement. 2Sam. 24:1-25

21:1-14 **The Gibeonites avenged by David.**

21:1 The inquiry of God by David during a famine.

- 1) The famine had lasted three years in the days of David. vs. 1a-b
- 2) The concern of David led him to inquired of God. vs. 1c-f
* Literally, he sought the face of God.
- 3) The LORD informed David, the famine was due to Saul and his bloodthirsty house, when he killed the Gibeonites." vs. 1c-f
 - a) God is the One pointing out the injustice of Saul.
 - b) God did not forget, nor does He ever forget sin, unless it has been forgiven.

21:2-3 The summoning of the Gibeonites by David.

- 1) The meeting with the Gibeonites and spoke to them. vs. 2a
- 2) The identification of the Gibeonites. vs. 2b-e
 - a) The Gibeonites were not of Israel. vs. 2b
 - b) They were of the remnant of the Amorites. vs. 2c
- 3) The transgression against the Gibeonites. vs. 2d-e
 - a) The children of Israel had sworn protection to them, under covenant. vs. 2d

* They deceived Joshua and entered into a covenant. Josh. 9

- b) The first king, Saul attempted to kill them in his zeal for Israel and Judah. vs. 2e

* We do not have this record, but this is a true statement of the event.

- 4) The submission of David to the Gibeonites. vs. 3
- a) David asked what he could do for them. vs. 3a-b
- b) David asked how he could atone the evil. vs. 3c
- c) David expressed his goal, that you may bless the inheritance of the LORD?" vs. 3d

21:4-6 The response of the Gibeonites to David.

- 1) They would not take money from Saul or his house. vs. 4a-b
- 2) They would not want any man in Israel killed for them. vs. 4c
- 3) They heard David say, "Whatever you say, I will do for you." vs. 4d-f
- 4) They restated the evil intent of Saul to exterminate them from Israel. vs. 5
- 5) They requested relatives of Saul to be executed. vs. 6
- a) Seven men of his descendants were to be handed over. vs. 6a

- b) They would hang them before the LORD in Gibeah of Saul, whom the LORD chose." vs. 6b-c

- c) David the king conceded, "I will give them." vs. 6d-e

21:7-9 The concession of David to the request of the Gibeonites.

- 1) Mephibosheth was spared, due to the covenant between Jonathan and David. vs. 7
- 2) David chose seven descendants of the house of Saul. vs. 8
- a) Armoni and Mephibosheth, the two sons of Rizpah the daughter of Aiah, whom she bore to Saul. vs. 8a-d
- * Mephibosheth would be the uncle of Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan.
- b) Five sons of Michal the daughter of Saul, whom she brought up for Adriel the son of Barzillai the Meholathite. vs. 8e-f
- * It is believed that the reference is to Merab's son, who Michal had taken a raised them, for Michal had no children.
- 3) David delivered them to the Gibeonites, and were hanged on the hill before the LORD. vs. 9a-d

- 4) They were put to death in the days of harvest, in the first days, in the beginning of barley harvest. vs. 9e-g
 * Begins in May, till October.

21:10-14 The compassion of David over the house of Saul.

- 1) The lamentation of Rizpah was demonstrative and long. vs. 10
 a) Rizpah took sackcloth and spread it for herself on the rock. vs. 10a
 * As a sign of affliction and grief.
 b) The duration was from the beginning of harvest until the late rains poured on them from heaven. vs. 10b
 * Beginning in May, till October.
 c) The reason was to protect the bodies from the animals. vs. 10c
- 2) David was informed what Rizpah, the concubine of Saul, had done. vs. 11
 * Her
- 3) David recovered the remains of Saul and Jonathan Jabesh Gilead, who had taken them from the Philistines at Beth Shan, after killing the, at Gilboa. vs. 12
- 4) David took the bones of Saul and Jonathan, gathered the bones of those who had been hanged and buried them in the country of Benjamin in Zelah, in the tomb of Kish his father, according to David's orders. vs. 13-14c

- 1) Again some object strongly against cremation, saying it is not scriptural for Christians.
 2) But certainly Jonathan was a godly and will be in heaven, regardless of cremation.
 5) God after this heard the prayer of David for the famine, indicating forgiveness of the sin. vs. 14d

21:15-22 **The details of four Israeli battles against the giants of the Philistines.**

21:15-17 The day David was rescued from death by one of the giants.

- 1) The Philistines were at war again with Israel, David and his servants fought against the Philistines; and David grew faint. vs. 15
- 2) Ishbi-Benob, one of the sons of the giant, the weight of whose bronze spear was three hundred shekels, who was bearing a new sword, thought he could kill David. vs. 16
 * This had to be close to the end of David's life, an old man!
- 3) Abishai the son of Zeruiah killed the Philistine giant. vs. 17a
 * He is David's nephew.
- 4) The men of David under oath swore, he would no longer go out to battle,

endangering to quench the lamp of Israel.
vs. 17

* David was God's anointed and the blessing came by, through and because of him!

21:18 The death of a second Philistine giant.

- 1) This is another battle with the Philistines at Gob. vs. 18a
- 2) Sibbechai the Hushathite killed Saph, who was one of the sons of the giant. vs. 18b

21:19 The death of a third Philistine giant.

- 1) There came another battle at Gob again with the Philistines. vs. 19a
- 2) Elhanan the son of Jaare-Oregim the Bethlehemite killed the brother of Goliath the Gittite. vs. 19b
- 3) The shaft of his spear was like a weaver's beam. vs. 19c

21:20-22 The death of a fourth Philistines giant.

- 1) Again there was war at Gath and there was a man of great stature. vs. 20a-b
- 2) He had six fingers on each hand and six toes on each foot, twenty-four in number; and he also was born to the giant. vs. 20c-d

3) He defied Israel and Jonathan the son of Shimea, David's brother, killed him. vs. 21

4) The summary statement regarding the giants. vs. 22

a) These four were born to the giant in Gath. vs. 22a

* Remember, David picked up five smooth stones when he went out to slay Goliath, who had four sons. 1Sam. 17:40

b) Goliath fell by the hand of David and these four by the hand of his servants. vs. 22b

22:1-51 **The song of David about his deliverance by God.**

22:1 The introduction of the song.

- 1) The song is attributed to David, spoke to Yahweh. vs. 1a
 - a) This is identical to Psalm 18, with very few variations.
 - b) It is believed this is the original one.
- 2) The time was on the day when the LORD had delivered him from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul. vs. 1b-c

* Probably after he was made king by both the north and Jerusalem became the capital!

22:2-4 The declaration of praise for deliverance.

- 1) David saw the Lord as his protection. vs. 2
* As he hid in the wilderness from Saul!
- 2) David saw God as his complete strength. vs. 3
 - a) All the metaphor are indicative of strength and protection.
 - b) All personal, “I will trust”, “My shield”, }the horn of my salvation”, “My stronghold”. “my refuge”, “My Savior”.
 - c) All God’s doing, “You save me from violence.”
* David is called the sweet Psalmist. 2Sam. 23:1
- 3) David praise God for His faithfulness that could be depended on. vs. 4

22:5-20 The description of the miraculous deliverance.

- 1) The dangers were great. vs. 5
- 2) The reality of death was present. vs. 6
 - a) Sheol is the place of departed spirits.
 - b) The words of Jesus tells us of the two-fold compartments. Lk. 16
- 3) The confidence hope of David was in God. vs. 7

- 4) The miraculous intervention was manifested by a storm, a theophany of Divine judgment. vs. 8-20
 - a) The anger of God against David’s enemies is poetically described by the forces of nature, a storm. vs. 8-9
 - 1)) Through an earthquake. vs. 8
 - 2)) The natural forces are recognized as a Theophany of God of Divine judgment. vs. 9
* The metaphor of a storm for God is common. 1Kings 19:11-12, Job 38:1, Joel 2:10-11, Nah. 1:3-6, Acts 2:2
 - 3)) The third person pronoun “He, Him, His”, is mentioned 20 times in this section, focusing on God! vs. 8-20
 - b) The personal involvement of God is described poetically and figurative. vs. 10-16
 - 1)) The lack of sun. vs. 10
 - 2)) The blowing wind. vs. 11
* A cherub is one of the angelic being in heaven that are associated with the throne and government of God.
 - 3)) The torrential rain. vs. 12
 - 4)) The lightening. vs. 13
 - 5)) The thunder. vs. 14
 - 6)) Lightening bolts. vs. 15

- 7)) The sea was powerfully disturbed. vs. 16
- c) The complete deliverance of David by God. vs. 17-20
 - 1)) God rescued David out of all these perils. vs. 17
 - 2)) God was stronger than David's enemies. vs. 18
 - 3)) God strengthened David in his difficulties. vs. 19
 - 4)) God gave stability to David. vs. 20

22:21-30 The expression of obedience in relation to deliverance.

- * This certainly has to be before his fall with Bathsheba. Ps. 32, 51
- 1) The righteous life of David before God. vs. 21-24
 - a) His integrity. vs. 21
 - b. His commitment. vs. 22-23
 - c. His self-discipline. vs. 24
- 2) The confidence of David's right standing before God. vs. 25-30
 - a) God is just. vs. 25
 - b) God is a righteous judge. vs. 26-28
 - 1)) With the merciful and blameless. vs. 26
 - 2)) With the pure and devious. vs. 27
 - 3)) With the humble and the haughty. vs. 28

- c) God was his guide to spiritual truth. vs. 29
 - 1)) He illuminates the truth of His word. vs. 29a-b
 - 2)) He gives understanding of His word. vs. 29c
- d) God made him courageous. vs. 30
 - 1)) In the midst of battle. vs. 30a
 - 2)) In the strength of God. vs. 30b

22:31-46 The preparation of David by God for the deliverance.

22:31-37 The source of David was God.

- a) To be hopeful. vs. 31
- b) To seek no other. vs. 32
- c) To strengthen him, "God is my strength and power, And He makes my way perfect." vs. 33
- d) To make him fast. vs. 34
- e) To be a fierce warrior, "He teaches my hands to make war, So that my arms can bend a bow of bronze." vs. 35
- f) To protect and preserve him. vs. 36
- g) To make him stable. vs. 37

22:38-46 The victory of David was by God.

- 1) To pursue and defeat the enemy. vs. 28-39
- 2) To subdue his enemies. vs. 40-43

- 3) To rule over Israel and his enemies, “You have also delivered me from the strivings of my people; You have kept me as the head of the nations. A people I have not known shall serve me. The foreigners submit to me; As soon as they hear, they obey me. The foreigners fade away, And come frightened from their hideouts.” vs. 44-46

22:47-51 The concluding praise of God by David for his deliverance.

- 1) For His uniqueness. vs. 47
- 2) For His justice. vs. 48
- 3) For His protective deliverance. vs. 49
- 4) For praise and worship of His person,
“Therefore I will give thanks to You, O LORD, among the Gentiles, And sing praises to Your name.” vs. 50
* Paul quotes this for the Gentile and in the Psalm. Rom. 15:9, Ps. 18:49
- 5) For salvation and steadfast love. vs. 51