

9/20/09

2Sam. 1-2

Second Samuel is a continuation of First Samuel and was originally one book, as we stated in our introduction of First Samuel.

God has judged Saul for his rebellion and his visit to the medium at En Dor and at the same time God spared David from going to war against Saul and Jonathan, allowing him to recover all taken from Ziklag by the Amalekites.

A simple outline for Second Samuel, is as follows and this is not my own.

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

1:1-16 The news of Saul and Jonathan's death reaches David.

1:1-10 The arrival of the young Amalekite and conversation with David.

- 1) The specifics of the time, marking a new section. vs. 1:1-2a
 - a) This mark a new division in the book of Samuel, but a continuation of the book of Samuel.

- b) God has removed Saul and He is now going to make David king of Israel.
- c) Saul had just died and David had returned to Ziklag from the slaughter of the Amalekites, been there 2 days. vs. 1b

2) The specifics of the Amalekite are also stated. vs. 2b-f

- a) He was came from Mount Globe. vs. 2b-c
 - 1)) Gilboa was the location, where Israel fell, 85 miles or so, north of Ziklag 1Sam. 31:1
 - 2)) Weather he was a mercenary for the Philistines, is not stated.
 - b) He came distraught to the camp of David. vs. 2c
 - 1)) His clothes torn indicated grief.
 - 2)) His head covered with dust indicated humiliation.
 - c) He came respectful. vs. 2d-f
 - * The posture of bowing before David indicated his acknowledgment of being before a superior.
- 3) The inquiry of the Amalekite by David. vs. 3-4
- a) David asked about his origin. vs. 3
 - b) David asked about the battle between Saul and the Philistines? vs. 4

- * David hears the words of horror,
 “and Saul and Jonathan his son are
 dead also.” vs. 4f
- 4) The specific details were asked of the
 Amalekite by David. vs. 5-10
- a) David asked about the certainty of
 Saul and Jonathan death. vs. 5
- b) David heard the account from the
 Amalekite. vs. 6-9
- 1)) He just happened to be in the
 general area. vs. 6a-b
- 2)) He saw Saul injured. vs. 6c-e
- 3)) He was called by Saul, “Now
 when he looked behind him, he
 saw me and called to me. And I
 answered, ‘Here I am.’” vs. 7
- 4)) He was asked by Saul, as to his
 identity. vs. 8
 * David had just destroyed the
 Amalekites that had raided and
 burned down Ziklag.
- 5)) He was asked by Saul to slay him.
vs. 9
- 6)) He killed Saul. vs. 10a-b
- d) David heard the words of the
 Amalekite seeking David’s favor. vs.
10c-d
 * David states this. 2Sam. 4:9-10
- 1)) He stripped from Saul his kingly
 and royal emblems. vs. 10c

- 2)) He was presenting them to David
 as tokens of the true king. vs. 10d
- e) The record of the battle proves the
 Amalekite to be a liar. 1Sam. 31:3-8
- 1)) Saul was struck by the archers
 severely wounded and not wanting
 to be tortured, he asked his
 armorbearer to kill him, refusing
 to, Saul fell on his sword. vs. 3-4
 * The Amalekite said Saul was
 leaning on his spear. 2Sam. 1:6c
- 2)) Four times it is stated Saul died.
vs. 5, 6, 7, 8
- 3)) The fact that the Amalekite
 presented David with the crown
 and bracelet of Saul, only proved
 he stripped the body of Saul before
 the Philistines. had come to strip
 the dead bodies. 1Sam. 31:8
- 4)) The book of First Chronicles
 confirming that Saul and his sons
 did die, it is a word for word of
 First Samuel 31. 1Chron. 10:1-12
- 1:11-16** The response of David to the young
 Amalekite was grief and judgment over him.
- 1) David expressed his grief in a very
 demonstrative way, immediately. vs. 11
- a) David the king symbolically revealed
 his person sorrow. vs. 11a

- b) David as king and leader was followed by his men. vs. 11b
- 2) David and his men continued in their grief till sundown. vs. 12
 - a) The extent of their grief was three-fold. vs. 12a
 - 1)) They mourned “caphad”, which means to wail and lament.
 - 2)) They wept “bakah” to weep bitterly.
 - 3)) They fasted “tsuwm”, means to abstain from food.
 - 4)) The duration was until evening.
 - b) The individuals included in their grief. vs. 12a-b
 - 1)) They grieved for Saul. vs. 12a
 - 2)) They grieved for his son Jonathan. vs. 12a
 - 3)) They grieved for the people of the LORD. vs. 12b
 - 4)) They grieved for the house of Israel. vs. 12b
 - c) The reason for their grief, “because they had fallen by the sword.” vs. 12c
- 3) David approached the young man a second time. vs. 13
 - a) David questioned him about his nativity. vs. 13a-b
 - b) David heard him say, “I am the son of an alien, an Amalekite.” vs. 13c-e

- 1)) He was an Amalekite who had settled in Israel, among the people, being a protected alien.
- 2)) The Amalekites had attacked the rear ranks of , when they were tired and weary, not fearing God. Ex. 17:10-13, Deut. 25:18
- 3)) They were perpetual enemies, for the LORD said to Moses, Ex 17:14, Num 14:43-45
- 4)) Saul was commanded by God to destroy them but he spared the king and others. 1Sam. 15
- 5)) Amaleke is a type of the flesh in the Scriptures and were linked with Edom, one of the grandsons of Esau, also a type of the flesh. Gen. 36:12, 1Chron. 1:36
- 4) David charged the young Amalekite with presumptuous arrogance in slaying Saul, not fearing he was the LORD’S anointed.” vs. 14
 - a) David did not kill Saul but spared him two times. 1Sam. 24, 26
 - b) David would not lift his hand against God’s anointed. 1Sam. 24:6, 26:11
 - c) The account of the Amalekite is a lie, as we have seen, but David does not know this, he is excepting his words, which are self-condemning, for as a

resident alien, he should of feared to touch God's anointed.

* The phrase appears 11 times in the O. T. , all in Samuel, with one exception. Lam. 4:20

- 5) David pronounced the sentence of death over the young Amalekite. vs. 15-16
 - a) David gave the order to be carried out. vs. 15
 - b) David sated his own words condemned him. vs. 16

1:17-27 The funeral eulogy for Saul and Jonathan by David.

1:17-18 The Introduction to the lamentation.

- 1) The first verse is the called the superscription identifying the kind or the genre of Hebrew poetry. vs. 17
 - a) The Psalms are a good example, "A Contemplation of David. A Prayer when he was in the cave. Ps. 142:1a-b
 - b) The verse says, "Then David lamented with this lamentation over Saul and over Jonathan his son,"
 - 1)) The word for lamentation "qiyhah" means a funeral morning or procession itself.
 - 2)) The lamentation is also called a dirge, elegy or eulogy, speaking well of the deceased, calling the

hearer to honor the memory of the dead, Saul and Jonathan.

- 3)) David is called the "sweet psalmist of Israel. 2Sam. 23:1e
- 2) The second verse is also part of the superscription, revealing the purposeful instruction for the dirge or elegy. vs. 18
 - a. David used the bow of Jonathan, his weapon in war to be remembered by teaching Judah the Song of the Bow. vs. 18a

* Jonathan's bow is mention when he and David first met and was used for the sign to flee from Saul. 1Sam. 18:41, 20:22
 - b) David gives the source of it recording, the Book of Jasher. vs. 18b
 - 1)) It must have been a collection of songs and poems, of Judean origin.
 - 2)) The book is mentioned two times in Scripture. Josh. 10:13, 2Sam. 1:18
 - 3)) There is the book of the Wars of Yahweh, that we do not posses. Num. 21:14

1:19-27 The body of the lamentation.

- 1) David gives Saul and Jonathan the highest honor. vs. 19
 - a) They were the glory or splendor of the nation. vs. 19a

- * The high places is Mount Gilboa, where they fell!
- b) They were courageous warriors. vs. 19b
 - 1)) The word mighty “rwbbg” means the valiant men, champions, repeated two more times. vs. 25, 27
 - 2)) Alluded to one time. vs. 21
- 2) David commands that it be kept secret from the enemy, lest they boast in it in their cities. vs. 20
- 3) David called for a curse on the location of their death, Mount Gilboa. vs. 21
- 4) David commends both for their heroic bravery. vs. 22-23
 - a) Jonathan and Saul were fearless and courageous heroes hitting their targets. vs. 22
 - b) Jonathan and Saul were inseparable in death as they were in life, as eagles and lions. vs. 23
- 5) David called the women to wail for Saul, who brought prosperity to them. vs. 24
 - * Luxury “eden” finery, food and drink. Ps. 36:8, Jer. 51:34
- 6) David expresses his sadness of losing his friend, vs. 25
 - a) The painful reality of warfare. vs. 25a
 - b) The painful separation from his close friend.” vs. 25b

- 7) David declared his love for Jonathan. vs. 26
 - a) He declared his inability to receive comfort by his loss. vs. 26a
 - b) He declared his appreciation and the value of his friendship. vs. 26b-d
 - 1)) The two were roughed warriors, in their friendship. vs. 26b
 - 2)) They were both distinctly devoted in their friendship. vs. 26c
 - 3)) They both were loyal and faithful in their friendship by covenant, “Surpassing the love of women.” vs. 26d
 - a)) A mother’s love for her children or a wife for her husband, but certainly not a homosexual love, that is blasphemous!
 - b)) Some have even suggested the contrast is to Jonathan’s sister, Michal, who was David’s wife and his love for Jonathan, as his brother-in-law.
- 8) David closes the dirge with the expression of the great loss and honor, as he began of the might. vs. 27

2:1-7 The anointing of David as king over Judah.

2:1-4 The anointing of David was at Hebron.

- 1) David allowed God to direct his step for the perfect timing. vs. 1
 - a) David inquired of the LORD, if he was to go up to any of the cities of Judah?" vs. 1a-c
 - * Remember he had Abiathar and the ephod!
 - b) The LORD told him to go to Hebron, which had a rich history, going back to Abraham. vs. 1d-h,
 - 1)) Nineteen miles southwest of Jerusalem, where David had sent gifts from the plunder of the Amalekites 1Sam. 30:31
 - 2)) Abraham built altar, Gen. 13
 - 3)) Abraham's name changed, Gen. 17-.5
 - 4)) All patriarchs buried at Cave of Machpelah, except for Rachel
 - 5)) Was a refuge city, Josh. 20:7
- 2) David went up there, and his two wives and the men who were with him, every man with his household, dwelling in the cities of Hebron. vs. 2-3
- 4) The men of Judah came and anointed David king over the house of Judah, communicating to him, that the men of Jabesh Gilead had buried Saul. vs. 4

- 1)) The first anointing was by Samuel. 1Sam. 16:13
- 2)) The second here, at Hebron by Judah.
- 4)) The third at Hebron by all Israel, 2Sam. 5:3

2:5-7 The gracious act of Jabesh Giead towards Saul and Jonathan was commended by David.

- 1) David sent a messenger in appreciation for their loving compassion and devotion to Saul, coming from the east side of the Jordan. vs. 5
- 2) David pronounced that the LORD bless them with kindness and truth to them and he would also, for the deed done to Saul and his sons. vs. 6
 - a) Twice David referred to Saul as their lord. vs. 5, 6
 - b) David said "I", is emphatic in the Hebrew.
- 3) David invited them to join him in the Kingdom as king, as Judah had anointed me king. vs. 7
 - a) David knew the strong division in the kingdom and wanted to make a smooth transition.
 - b) Without doubt, all knew Samuel had anoint David as king. 1Sam. 16:3

2:8-32 **The war between the house of Saul and the house of David.**

- 2:8-11** The son of Saul, Ishbosheth is made king over the northern tribes.
- 1) The commanding General of Saul, stepping up to lead the house of Saul. vs. 8
 - a) The contrast and opposition is marked by the “but”. vs. 8a
 - b) Abner the son of Ner, commander of Saul’s army, took Ishbosheth the son of Saul and brought him over to Mahanaim, making him king. vs. 8b-c
 - a) Abner the son of Ner was Saul’s cousin, he either survived the battle with the Philistines or he was not there, along with Ishbotheth.
 - b) Nehanaim was 33 or so miles, directly north of the Dead Sea, on the east side of the Jordan, about the same latitude of Shechem, in the land of Israel.

* The place where Absalom flees for refuge when he rebelled against his father David. 1Sam. 17:24, 27
 - c) Name by Jacob on his return home from Laban, in his encounter with the angels and it means two camps. Gen. 32:2
 - d) The region was over Gilead, over the Ashurites, over Jezreel, over Ephraim,

over Benjamin, and over all Israel. vs. 9

- 2) The age of Ishbosheth was 40 years old, at the inception of his reign but only for two years, Judah alone gave allegiance to David. vs. 10
 - a) Ishbosheth means “man of shame”, an appropriate description of his character, the fourth son of Saul.
 - b) His proper name was Eshbaal, fire of Baal. 1Chron. 8:33
- 3) David was king in Hebron over the house of Judah was seven years and six months. vs. 11

2:12-32 The civil war breaks out at Gibeon.

2:12-17 *The initial battle.*

- 1) Nehanaim was 45 mile or so, northwest form Gibeon, again on the east side of the Jordan by Jabbok, Gibeon was about 27 miles north of Hebron. vs. 12
- 2) Abner and his men went from Mahanaim to Gibeon and Joab the commander of David to engage in war by the pool of Gibeon, a few miles north of Jerusalem. vs. 13

* Joab was the son of Zeruiah, the commanding General of David and his nephew and they met at the pool at Gibeon. 1Chron. 2:15-16

- 3) Abner initiated an engagement in combat, to Joab and they agreed. vs. 14
- a) They pair off by twelve. rather than have a full scale encounter. vs. 15
 * Much like when David fought Goliath, rather than the entire army!
- b) All 24 died, therefore they called the location, Field of Sharp Swords, in Gibeon. vs.16
- 3) The battle was fierce David's men were winning. vs. 17
- a) There is no indication of seeking God and the contest seems a bit gruesome.
- b) There also is no indication that David was behind this and as we will see, Joab does things without authority, bringing problems to David.

2:18-25 *The ensuing battle.*

- 1) The three sons of Zeruah are introduced, Joab and Abishai and Asahel, with the emphasis that Asahel was as fleet of foot as a wild gazelle. vs. 18
 * A couple of David's might men. 1Sam. 26:6
- 2) Asahel pursued Abner but refused to turn aside, despite Abner pleading that he would not be able to face his brother Joab, if he killed him. vs. 19-22

- 3) Abner had no choice and thrust Asahel threw in the stomach with the blunt end of the spear, coming out of his back; and he fell down there and died on the spot. vs. 23
- 4) Joab and Abishai pursued Abner, till the sun was going down when they came to the hill of Ammah, which is before Giah by the road to the Wilderness of Gibeon, where Abner and his men made their stand together. vs. 24-25

2:26-32 *The truce of the battle.*

- 1) Abner called out to Joab to consider the greater loss if they kept pursuing them. vs. 26
- 2) Joab conceded, "As God lives, unless you had spoken, surely then by morning all the people would have given up pursuing their brethren", and Joab blew the trumpet to call of the troops. vs. 27-28
- 3) Abner and his men returned, traveling all night, through the plain, crossed over the Jordan, and went through all Bithron; and they came to Mahanaim. vs. 29
- 4) Joab gathered all the people together, losing only twenty men, with Asahel. vs. 30
- 5) Abner had lost three hundred and sixty men. vs. 31

6) They took up Asahel and buried him in his father's tomb in Bethlehem. And Joab and his men went all night, and they came to Hebron at daybreak. vs. 32

* Asahel is David's nephew, the son of his sister.