

I Chronicles 10-12 –11 September 2025

“Faith Rising”

Introduction

*I Chronicles 1-9 opened with the genealogies of the Jews that're reconstituting in Israel after the Captivity

*Now in Chap 10 the Ezra begins to recount Israel's history beginning with the fall of their first king Saul

*Though there was much victory in defending against surround national enemies, Saul's reign was a dark time in Israel's spiritual life

- *Witchcraft & Baal worship was publicly in use

- *Disobedience to Samuel & the prophets

*Saul reigned from 1050-1010 BC, God began His plan to replace him in 1030 BC

*Though deep behind the scenes, faith is rising in the heart of a young shepherd boy from Bethlehem

Today, we'll see 3 results of faith in God's plan

#1 – Saul: Insubordinate Actions Cause Rejection (Chap 10)

Read Vs 1-3

1. Battle came from Jezreel, Saul fell back to Mt Gilboa in north central Israel
 - a. Night before this battle is when he consulted w/ the witch at Endor
2. Saul did have other sons by a concubine
 - a. We'll see him try taking the throne later
3. But this is just the providence & timing of God
 - a. It's been about 15 years David has waited
4. When David was coming to avenge himself of Nabal for not paying him...
 - a. Nabal's wife Abigail taught David that vengeance is the Lord

Read Vs 4-6

1. Saul mortally wounded so he hastens process
2. Armorbearer committed suicide, not Saul

Read Vs 7-10

1. Saul's armor now sent around as a trophy

2. What abuse if they had caught him alive

Read Vs 11-12

1. A proper burial for Saul and his sons
2. Later David returns their bones to their home tribe of Benjamin for burial (II Sam 21:12-14)

Read Vs 13-14

1. Unfaithfulness: Giving your trust & allegiance to another to lead you – this is TWO crimes
 - a. He didn't trust Yahweh to keep His word
 - b. He did trust demonic spirits intending to keep their word
2. His independence from God & disobedience to God in not killing the Amalekites showed his great unfaithfulness years ago

#2 – David: Incremental Actions Cause Reward (Chap 11 :1-9)

Read Vs 1-3

1. Many things happened after Saul's death before David became king of all 12 tribes

- a. Judah anointed David king in Hebron
 - b. Abner, Saul's general, anointed Ishbosheth, Saul's son by a concubine, king over Israel
 - c. Abner turns to David, but Joab, the general, kills him & Ishbosheth then dies by treason
2. All Israel agree here that God has placed David as the king over ALL of them
 3. They admit even while Saul was king, David was living the life of someone worthy to be king
 4. David was anointed 3 times as king
 - a. By Samuel; recognized by God (I Sam 16)
 - b. Over Judah; recognized by family (II Sam 2)
 - c. Over all Israel; recognized by nation (II Sam 5 & I Chr 11)
 - d. Divine decisions may take time to manifest

Read Vs 4-9

1. Jebusites are Canaanite people that mocked David saying they only needed blind & lame to defend Jerusalem (Jebus) against David

2. David asked for an invasion thru water tunnel & Joab took David up on the offer
3. Stronghold or castle of Zion is a part of modern Jerusalem that is south of the Temple Mount
4. Joshua briefly took Jebus but couldn't keep it in his own strength
 - a. David relied on God & His power to inherit
 - b. Same as our salvation – it's not of our own craft, method or power, but God's ability
5. II Sam 5 says Hiram, King of Tyre helps David build his house
 - a. This foreign, young king made peace & trade w/ David to which David perceived this as God's blessing to be used for ALL Israel
 - b. Thus began a long beneficial relationship

#3 – David's Men: In-line Actions Cause Rejoicing (Chap 11:10-12:40)

Read Vs 10

1. Like David, these men had nothing apart from trusting in God's Word

- a. Read I Sam 22:1-2 - They started in distress
 - b. But they *made David king according to God's Word*
2. Whether you're like David or a downcast, trust in God!

Read Vs 11-14

1. **Jashobeam & Eleasar**; Singular men of courage & faith when no one else had it
2. Eleasar, so committed, his hand was curled to the sword after the battle (II Sam 23:10)
3. Now II Sam 23:11 also speaks of Shammah
 - a. This completed David's "first three" or most notable 3 leaders

Read Vs 15-19

1. These **unnamed three** had loyalty & love
 - a. This wasn't a command or request by David, but simply a desire
2. David was so thankful for these men's kindness that he valued the water high enough to offer it to God – Faith loves deeply

Read Vs 20-21

1. David had men that knew their position
2. They weren't pridefully fighting for position

Read Vs 22-25

1. **Benaiah** was notable for his skill to defeat man AND beast

Vs 26-47 (Read Vs 26)

1. At least 46 men on this honor roll
2. Vs 26 is the general Joab's brother Asahel
 - a. He was killed by Abner in the revolt of Ishbosheth after Saul's death
3. Vs 41 is Uriah the Hittite, Bathsheba's husband

Vs 1-15 (Read Vs 1-2)

1. This era of David's life is in I Sam 27-30
2. 23 men of Benjamin who used the slingshot
3. 11 men of Gad who used the shield & spear
4. These men are said to be as good as 100 or 1000 men

Read Vs 16-22

1. Men of Benjamin & Judah defect to David during Saul's reign including Amasai
2. Men of Manasseh also defected
3. Would've taken these men great pains to change sides w/ Saul still on the throne - dedication

Vs 23-37 (Read Vs 23)

1. When David was being anointed King at Hebron, he recognized those that recognized him
 - a. It's 340,822 men of valor from all tribes
2. Notice Levites are also listed in vs 26-26
 - a. They're never restricted from going to war

Read Vs 38-40

1. There is now unity for the first time in a while
2. There is joy for the first time in a while

Conclusion

So I Chronicles opens with a discussion of the most critical question of life; Will you trust God?

1. **Saul demonstrates that insubordinate actions will cause God to reject us**
 - a. Let's use our freedom & will to live under God's good yoke
2. **David demonstrates that incremental actions of faith lead to God's rewards**
 - a. Have we accepted that delayed gratification is most often God's plan for rewarding us
3. **David's Men demonstrate that in-line actions will cause there to be rejoicing**
 - a. Have we grown comfortable with our position & station in life, serving from there

This is what we need, this is what America needs...

...to see a resurgence in our trust in God

...to see ***faith rising***