



The KING - Part 4 The GREAT King



*1 Samuel 16:6-7, 11-12; 1 Samuel 24:4-6, 12-13;
1 Samuel 26:7-11; 2 Samuel 4:8-12; 2 Samuel 5:1-4;
John 13:1, 3-5, 14-15; Mark 10:45*
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The KING Series GRAPHIC

Our president - Donald J. Trump - polarizing figure

Some people LOVE him

Some people HATE him

And I think I know what it all boils down to.

By one simple detail, I can tell you if you LOVE him or HATE him

We all know that Trump has (even before he was president) a LARGE amount of **money, power, fame and influence.**

He - for the last several decades - has had LOTS of these things

We all agree with that

He has definitely acquired lots of \$, Power, Fame and Influence

And if you believe that he is LEVERAGING all that money, power, fame and influence to SERVE himself and people like him.

Then you HATE Donald Trump

You can't get behind that

He is taking advantage of everyone

No matter what he does - he is manipulating the system to serve HIM

If you believe that Donald J. Trump is LEVERAGING all of that money, power, fame and influence to SERVE his country.

Then you LOVE Donald Trump

You can at least see past some faults

Because you truly believe he is here to help

And I guess time will tell how history remember Donald J Trump

But I believe it will all come down to ONE THING:

How did he LEVERAGE his money, power, fame and influence

Few things are as repulsive as a leader/parent/boss/politician who leverages their influence for their benefit to the neglect of those for whom they are responsible.

Few things are as inspiring as a leader who says no to him/herself in order to say yes to those for whom they are responsible.

We have spent the last month studying the life of King David

The Second King of Israel

Considered to be the GREATEST King of Israel

And that is because - although he made plenty of mistakes - he consistently leveraged his money, power, fame and influence to HELP his people

And we see this about David from the VERY beginning

When David was a boy

the prophet Samuel showed up at his home in Bethlehem.

Secret mission..... to choose the next king

Invited the family of Jesse (David's Dad) to a sacrifice.

That was odd, considering Israel already had a king.

But Samuel heads down to Bethlehem (*in NT called the city of David*).

****Birthplace of another King we will talk about at the end***

He tells Jesse to get ALL of his sons to this sacrifice - so he can pick

What's weird is that Jesse didn't invite David to the anointing party.

There was no way his youngest son was in the running for KING

He had alot of really qualified older brothers.

The culture would have ASSUMED that Samuel would pick oldest

1 Samuel 16:6-7

When they arrived, Samuel looked on **Eliab** and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is before the Lord."

But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but **the Lord looks at the heart.**"

It's what's in a man that makes a man.

Ladies, don't be fooled by that outward appearance.

Some of you know from BAD previous experience

He looked good - but he wasn't good

Because:

It's what's in a man that makes a man.

So look deeper

It's what's in a woman that makes a woman.

So men... we're hopeless....we are too susceptible to their tricks

Samuel goes through ALL of Jesse's Sons

They all SEEMED qualified

But NONE of them were the guy - the NEXT King

Is this all you got?

Six sons later, he asks Jesse...

1 Samuel 16:11

So he asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?" "**There is still the youngest,**" Jesse answered. "He is tending the sheep."

Samuel said, "Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives."

So he sent for him and had him brought in.

When David shows up, he gets the nod from God.

1 Samuel 16:12

He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features.

Then the Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; **this is the one.**"

Samuel never mentions what David was being anointed to do.

Maybe he knew it was for the NEXT King

Maybe he didn't know exactly what it was for

We don't know when or if David ever knew.

But we do know that he knew that he was set apart for something SPECIAL.

What is amazing is David's **loyalty** to King Saul.

From boyhood, David knew he was destined for something special
—**his victory over Goliath**... overnight sensation.

Seven years of fame.

Saul is threatened - starts coming after David

David freaks and becomes a fugitive for eight years.

David was on the run for eight years... running/hiding... knowing God had chosen him... learning an important lesson—

This is not about me.

God's will,

God's way,

in God's time.

Twice he had an opportunity to kill the king and claim the throne.

Cave/Des. En Gedi.

1 Samuel 24:4

The men said, “**This is the day** the Lord spoke of when he said to you, ‘I will give your enemy into your hands for you to deal with as you wish.’”

David almost makes a terrible mistake.

David appears at the mouth of the cave.

1 Samuel 24:4

Then David crept up unnoticed and **cut off a corner of Saul's robe.**

David doesn't kill him

EVERYONE expected him to kill Saul - including Saul

But David shows mercy in that moment

But David has SO MUCH respect for King Saul

So much reverence for God's Anointed King

He starts to feel guilty about the ROBE he cut

1 Samuel 24:5-6

Afterward, David was **conscience-stricken** for having cut off a corner of his robe. He said to his men, “The Lord forbid that I should do such a thing to my master, the Lord’s anointed, or lay my hand on him; for he is the anointed of the Lord.”

Everybody realizes he could have become king.

But didn’t.

I’m sure everyone was confused.

I thought we were waiting on THIS opportunity

Why didn’t you TAKE IT?!?!?

But David walks out from the mouth of the cave

He let’s Saul know how close he was to dying

And he shouts:

1 Samuel 24:12-13

May the Lord judge between you and me. And may the Lord avenge the wrongs you have done to me, but my hand will not touch you.”

As the old saying goes, ‘From evildoers come evil deeds,’ so my hand will not touch you.

But that’s not the ONLY time that David spared Saul’s Life:

Later, Saul’s army is spending the night:

Desert of Ziph.

Saul in the middle surrounded...

1 Samuel 26:7-8

So David and Abishai went to the army by night, and there was Saul, lying asleep inside the camp with his spear stuck in the ground near his head.

Abner and the soldiers were lying around him.

Abishai said to David, “Today God has delivered your enemy into your hands. Now let me pin him to the ground with one thrust of the spear; I won’t strike him twice.”

Power up! Take what’s yours. God wills it!

I won’t mangle the body - one clean thrust!

The last thing King Saul will see is YOUR FACE

Saul’s army will give you the throne/crown

This was David's chance to become the king
He has already missed this chance once

I Samuel 26:9-11

But David said to Abishai, "Don't destroy him! Who can lay a hand on the Lord's anointed and be guiltless?"

... "the Lord himself will strike him, or his time will come and he will die, or he will go into battle and perish."

But the Lord forbid that I should lay a hand on the Lord's anointed.

This was a matter of PERSONAL CONVICTION for David
He could have EASILY justified doing the WRONG THING
It would NOT have even been viewed as the WRONG thing

But David knew the kind of leader he wanted to be

David was SICK of seeing leaders leverage their own money, power, fame and influence to help themselves and hurt others.

The entire WORLD was ruled by THOSE kind of leaders

David knew that one day he would probably become King
And if that happened, he was going to do things differently
And that started with how he treated the CURRENT King

David said:

I refuse to violate the will of God to gain the promise of God.

To get what I THINK I deserve.

This is not about me."

I Samuel 26:9-11

But the Lord forbid that I should lay a hand on the Lord's anointed. Now get the spear and water jug that are near his head, and let's go.

We aren't going to kill him this time either

BUT - Let's have some fun

Let's let Saul know how close he was to being killed AGAIN

From a hillside:

Hey Abner (bodyguard)!
Look what I have. You're not much of a BG.
You deserve to die for not protecting the king.

**David refused to replace
what God had put in place.**

**God's will,
God's way,
in God's time.**

**The Philistines eventually kill Jonathan
AND Saul commits suicide on the battle field**
When David finds out - he is VERY upset.

In fact, he got the news from an Amalekite about his death
And the guy tries to take credit for killing Saul
Thought it would impress David
David has the man killed for lying about the death of Saul
David mourns the death of the two men between the throne and him.
Amazing.

He's proclaimed king in Judah: his tribe

The other 11 follow one of Saul's sons: **Ish-Bosheth.**

Seven more years of war.

Ish-Bosheth is murdered.

The murderers **took his head** to David as proof expecting a reward.

They removed the last obstacle to the throne.

They **THOUGHT** they would be rewarded.

2 Samuel 4:8-12

They brought the head of Ish-Bosheth to David at Hebron and said to the king, "Here is the head of Ish-Bosheth son of Saul, your enemy, who tried to kill you. This day the Lord has avenged my Lord the king against Saul and his offspring."

2 Samuel 4:9-10

David answered Reka and his brother Baanah... “As surely as the Lord lives, who has delivered me out of every trouble...

The Lord who didn't need or ask for your help... when someone told me, ‘Saul is dead,’ and thought he was bringing good news, I seized him and put him to death... **That was the reward I gave him for his news!**

2 Samuel 4:11-12

How much more—when wicked men have killed an innocent man in his own house and on his own bed... should I not now demand his blood from your hand and rid the earth of you!”

So David gave an order to his men, and **they killed them**. ...But they took the head of Ish-Bosheth and buried it in Abner's tomb at Hebron.

David could have taken the kingdom by force

During the reign of Saul or Ish-Bosheth.

But he waited - and he HONORED them during that time

David consistently leveraged his money, power, fame and influence to HELP those around him

Even those that were out to destroy him

And after Ish-Bosheth's death the other tribes submit willingly.

At last, he would become king.

ALL the tribes come together to make that happen.

2 Samuel 5:1-2

All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said, “We are your own flesh and blood.

In the past, while Saul was king over us, you were the one who led Israel on their military campaigns. And the Lord said to you, ‘You will shepherd my people Israel, and **you will become their ruler.**’

This doesn't show up anywhere else.

Everybody knew David was destined for this.

David had refused to seize it.

Now it was FINALLY his time

15 Years after he had been anointed - he is FINALLY taking the crown

2 Samuel 5:3

When all the elders of Israel had come to **King** David at Hebron,

To crown him.

To hand him the power.

David shows true greatness.

He's holding all the cards.

His word is law.

He's the most powerful person in the room, even without a crown.

He's facing men who did not support him when he was on the run.

He could have made them PAY for the way they treated him.

Why hadn't they supported him in the Wilderness?

2 Samuel 5:3

the king made a **covenant** with them at Hebron...

An agreement.

An "I will if you will" and "If you will, I will" with the people.

He didn't need to do this. He was king!

So why? The last three words say it all:

2 Samuel 5:3

When all the elders of Israel had come to King David at Hebron, the king made a covenant with them at Hebron before the Lord and they anointed David **king over Israel**.

David recognized in public the authority of their mutual king - **GOD**

He submitted himself to God's law and the interests of the people.

His way of saying, "**I'm A king, not THE king.**"

He was never confused about the identity of Israel's true KING.

2 Samuel 5:4

David was **thirty years old** when he became king, and he reigned forty years.

He waited 15 years for God to give him what he had been promised.

In the 15 years that David was on the run for his life.

Waiting to be King

He learned that:

Leadership is a stewardship
Kings are accountable.

He learned to bridle his passion:

not to power up... to put the concerns of others ahead of his own.

And we all recognize that THAT is what a strong leader does.

They leverage their money, power, fame and influence to HELP the people they are leading.

We WANT to follow leaders like that.

We should all ASPIRE to be leaders like that.

Maybe not leading a nation-but you are leading **SOMETHING**

While David's story is inspiring, it's not enough for us to be inspired.

For Christians, this kind of great is required.

Here's why I say that:

When you decide to give your life BACK to God, you have decided to:

Refuse to violate the law of God to gain or maintain what we believe is rightfully ours.

Refuse to take matters into our own hands.

Refuse to pay back evil for evil.

Like David.

Leveraging our money, power, fame and influence
for the benefit of those around us.

But we have an even BETTER example than David

1,000 years later / 20 miles N. / in city of Jerusalem

A descendant of David would model/perfect that same unusual brand of greatness, but with a twist.

John, who was there, writes...

John 13:1

It was just before the **Passover** Festival.

Celebration of Israel's deliverance from Egypt.

Jesus was gathered with the 12 Disciples for Passover meal.

John 13:1

Jesus **knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father.**

After being chased around Judea/Galilee for three years by those trained to recognize him but who didn't.

Hours before he's arrested by those he came to save.

Like David: Anointed but not recognized.

Like David, he would establish a covenant
with the whole world
in his own blood.

But what happens next takes us from inspired to required...

John 13:3

Jesus knew that the Father had put **all things under his power**, and that he had come from God and was returning to God;

The power without the crown.

The authority, but not the title.

Holding all the cards.

John 13:4

so he **got up** from the meal.....

What do you do when you're king? What do you do when you are the most powerful person in the room? When you have the whole world in your hands? So he got up...

John 13:4

so he **got up** from the meal, **took off** his outer clothing, and **wrapped a towel** around his waist...

Disciples gasp. We have people for that.

We KNOW what those hands can do (miracles!) - don't wash feet!

Just DAYS before this - When they entered the city:

Mark 10–11 - Hosanna! = Save now!

This occasion was the fulfillment of Zechariah 9:9

kingdom of our father, David... i.e., the messianic, earthly kingdom.

John 13:5

After that, he poured water into a basin and began to **wash his disciples' feet**, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

Then he sat down, grin on his face.

They knew.

He said it anyway:

John 13:14-17

Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, **you also should wash one another's feet**.

I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.

Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

If I'm not too good to wash feet, neither were the disciples.

If Jesus is not too good to wash feet - neither am I - neither are YOU

When you start to think you're something...

When someone hands you the keys...

the corner office...

the opportunity of a lifetime...

the crown.

Look for feet to wash.

It's not about you... never has been... never will be.

Look for people to SERVE

**How will you leverage your
money, power, fame and influence?**

in a way that HELPS those you are appointed to LEAD.

**The greatest indicator of a leader's greatness is how they leverage their
money, power, fame and influence.**

Perhaps the greatest indicator of YOUR maturity is how YOU will leverage
your money, power, fame and influence.

Even if you **don't** feel like you have any

I can assure you that RIGHT NOW - by your presence in this room today -
you are demographically and economically in a better leveraged position
than MOST of the current world's population and definitely most of human
history up until now.

YOU ARE BLESSED.

You have more money, power, fame and influence than most human beings
will EVER experience.

How we respond when it dawns on us that we are the most powerful people
in the room, classroom, locker room, boardroom, living room, church
building will DEFINE who we are as a leader.

Few things are as repulsive as leaders/parents/bosses/politicians who
leverage their money, power, fame and influence for their own benefit to the
neglect of those for whom they are responsible.

Few things are as inspiring as leaders who say no to themselves in order to
say yes to those for whom they are responsible.

Many of us have already been handed the keys, the title, the crown.
Fathers. Mothers. Husbands. Wives. Managers. Owners. Captains.
Big brothers. Big sisters. Presidents. Board members. Schedulers.
Administrative Assistants. Pastors. Friend.

**We would do well to embrace the greatness David learned
and Jesus modeled.**

When you're the most powerful person in the room, leverage your money,
power, fame and influence for the benefit of the other people in the room.

After all, "...even the Son of Man..."

Mark 10:45

For even the Son of Man did **not come to be served, but to serve**, and to
give his life as a ransom for many.

Imagine leading like that.

Imagine if all of us lived like that.

That kind of selflessness changed the world once.

Perhaps it could again.

PRAYER - The KING Series GRAPHIC