

# ***“Lessons from the Life of David” – Pastor Jim Ruddy***

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## **Study # 30 – 2 Samuel 8:1-18 – From Possession To Dominion**

### **I. THE POSITION OF ABRAHAM**

- The LORD promised the Land to Abraham and his decedents as part of his initial call. cf. Gen 12:1-3; 13:14-18; 15:18
- This promise was reiterated to all Israel. cf. Ex. 23:31; Deut. 11:24

### **II. THE POSSESSION OF JOSHUA**

- Joshua led Israel in successful military campaigns against the inhabitants of Canaan, however, because of their unbelief, the various tribes failed to subdue the enemy and “possess their possessions.”
- cf. Josh. 1:1-4; Judg. 1:1-36; 3:1-6

### **III. THE SUBJECTION OF DAVID 8:1-18 Note: 1 Chr. 18:1-17**

#### **A. THE EXTENT OF DAVID’S KINGDOM 8:1-13**

- Based upon God’s promises, David initiates an aggressive campaign to subdue all of Israel’s enemies dwelling within the Land, a work that had been left undone since the days of Joshua. cf. 2 Sam. 7:8-11
- The author’s goal is to give a short summary of David’s military achievements rather than a chronological account.
- Instead of annihilating all of the people, they are instead subjugated as tributaries to Israel.

#### **1. The Philistines to the West v1**

- Israel’s perennial enemy, who had been the first to challenge David’s kingship, becomes his first priority.
- cf. 2 Sam. 5:17-25; 1 Sam. 4-7; 13; 17; 31

#### **2. The Moabites to the East v2**

- David’s campaign against his hereditary enemy involved harsh and unexplainable punishment. cf. Ruth 4:5-22
- Jewish tradition attributes this severity as retaliation for the Moabite’s mistreatment of David’s parents whom he had entrusted into their care (1 Sam. 22:1-4).  
Note, however, the prophecy of Num. 24:17.
- Seeing that Moab was an enemy of God, the question should not be, why were two-thirds of the Moabites killed, but rather, why were one-third allowed to live?

#### **3. The Aramaens to the North v3-12**

- David conquers the Aram city-state of Zobah, along the Syrians of Damascus who tried to come to their aid. As a result, the city of Hamath surrenders without a fight.

#### **4. The Edomites to the South v13-14**

- It is understood that David was not personally engaged in every battle, however, as King and Commander, he gets the credit.  
cf. Note Abashai’s role in 1 Chr. 18:12

## **B. THE CONTENT OF DAVID'S KINGDOM 8:1-18**

- David's throne is honored with tremendous amounts of wealth which was given as tribute, and his victories reap great spoil that will be used to build and benefit the temple.
  - v2, 4, 6-8, 10-12; cf. 1 Chr. 26:26; 2 Chr. 5:1
- David's activities result in his defeating all his enemies and establishing garrisons throughout the Land. v6, 14
- David's God is credited with each of the victories. v6, 14
  - The LORD had helped David move the Ark to Jerusalem (1 Chr. 15:26), and He was now helping David subdue the Land.
- David's name is made great throughout the Land. v13; cf. 7:9
- David's reign is marked by justice and righteousness. v15; Ps. 78:72
- David's government grows to such an extent has to add structure and staff to administrate the Kingdom properly. v16-18
  - What Israel had longed desired was finally a reality! 1 Sam. 8:20

## **IV. THE DOMINION OF CHRIST**

### **A. THE INAGURATION OF THE KINGDOM**

- God's promise to Abraham and declaration to David is continued and through Jesus, the Messiah. cf. Gal. 3:16
- The house and throne of David is therefore established through Jesus, the true son of David. cf. Matt. 1:1; 15:22; 22:42-45; Lu. 1:31-33; Acts 2:30; 13:22-23; Is. 9:7; Dan. 2:44

### **B. THE CONTINUATION OF THE KINGDOM**

- Like Joshua, believers are to be strong in the LORD, striving to possess every blessing and benefit God has promised!
  - Eph. 6:10-18; 1 Tim. 6:12; Heb. 6:12; 11:33
- As in the days of Joshua many Christians do not appropriate all that is theirs in Christ.
- Like David, believers are to move toward dominion in every area of life! cf. Rom. 5:17; 6:14; 8:37-39;

### **C. THE CONSUMATION OF THE KINGDOM**

- Jesus will reign from the Throne of David in Jerusalem.
  - cf. 2 Sam. 3:10; 1 Ki. 2:45; Ps. 89:34-37; Is. 9:7; Jer. 17:25; Lu. 1:32:33
- It is the Lord Jesus Christ who will successfully subdue every nation and establish His eternal Kingdom in the earth.
  - cf. 1 Cor. 15:25; Ps. 110:1; Lu. 20:39-43; Php. 2:9-11
- Although men continue to reject Christ's rule and reign, we look forward to the time when "*The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ; and He shall reign forever and ever.*" Rev. 11:15; cf. 2 Pet. 3:13