

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

Study # 32 – Fighting the Good Fight of Faith 2 Samuel 10:1-19; 12:26-31; 1 Chronicles 19:1 – 20:8

I. SITTING BEFORE THE LORD

A. A KING 2 Sam. 5:1-5

- The Lord’s appointment of David as King dates back to his childhood and to the prophecies and private anointing by Samuel the Prophet. cf. 1 Sam 15:28; 16:13
- David’s second anointing came by the tribe of Judah who recognized him as king at the death of Saul. cf. 2 Sam. 2:1-4
- The elders of Israel came to Hebron representing the tribes, for the expressed purpose of submitting themselves to David’s rule.
-*“came to Hebron with a loyal heart, to make David king!”* 1 Chr. 12:38

B. A CITY 2 Sam. 5:6-25

- David’s first act was to secure a suitable capital for his kingdom.
- Jerusalem was a picture of strength and beauty, perfectly situated on the border between Israel and Judah.

C. AN ARK 2 Sam. 6:1-23

- David made Jerusalem the religious center of national life by placing the most venerated object of Israel’s past, the Ark of the Covenant, in the midst of the city. cf. Ex. 25-27

D. A HOUSE 2 Sam. 7:1-29

- After expressing to Nathan his desire to build a house for The LORD, God instead, promises to *“build the house (dynasty) of David.”*
- cf. Acts 16:6-9; Gen. 12:1; 17:8

II. STANDING AGAINST THE ENEMY

A. DAVID’S PAST ENCOUNTERS 2 Sam. 8:1-18

- Based upon God’s promises (2 Sam. 7:8-11), and with a heart to move from possession to dominion, David initiates an aggressive campaign to subdue all of Israel’s enemies dwelling within the Land:
 1. The Philistines to the West v1
 2. The Moabites to the East v2
 3. The Aramaeans to the North v3-12
 4. The Edomites to the South v13-14
- 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 future temple. cf. 1 Chr. 22:14-16
- The justice and righteousness of David’s reign is expressed through his kindness to Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, of the household of Saul. cf. 2 Sam. 8:15; 9:1-13

C. DAVID'S PRESENT EMBATTLEMENT 2 Sam. 10:1-19

1) THE HUMILIATION OF DAVID'S MEN 1 Chr. 19:1-5

- Desiring to show kindness to Hanun after the death of his father, Nahash, David sent a delegation to express his consolation to the new king.
- Instead of being received, David's men are abused and humiliated.
 - cf. Isa. 7:20; 20:4

2) THE OPPOSITION TO DAVID'S REIGN 1 Chr. 19:6-9

- Anticipating a conflict with Israel, the Ammonites begin to strengthen themselves by hiring Syrian mercenaries.
- The enemy coalition divides into two groups, intending to attack the Israelites from the front and the rear.

3) THE SUBJUGATION OF DAVID'S FOES 1 Chr. 19:10 - 20:8

- With Joab's men set against the Syrians, and Abishai and his men confronting the Ammonites, Israel defeats the enemy and drives them back from her borders.
- Still not having learned their lesson, the Syrians seek again to defeat David, suffering instead a more devastating loss.
- With the change of the seasons, Joab leads Israel against the Ammonite city of Rabbah, gaining the crown for David.
- A final victory over the Philistines is recorded and the warfare section concludes with – *“And they were subdued!”* 1 Chr. 20:4

C. OUR PERSONAL ENGAGEMENT

1) Requires Solid Preparation 1 Chr. 19:8-10

- David was a skilled warrior who had taken on the lion and the bear before he faced Goliath! cf. 1 Sam. 17:34-36
- David's army enlisted many who were skilled in warfare as noted in the list of “mighty men.” cf. 1 Chr. 11:10-47

2) Requires Serious Evaluation 1 Chr. 19:10-12

- Joab considered the strength and the strategy of the enemy before he went to battle. cf. Lu 14:31-32; 2 Cor. 2:11

3) Requires Sincere Communication 1 Chr. 19:12

- The victory was dependent upon clear communication between the soldiers of the Lord. cf. Neh. 4:16-20; 1 Cor. 14:8

4) Requires Settled Determination 1 Chr. 19:13

- There was a willingness on the part of each soldier to fight for others.
 - *“Let us be strong for our people and for the cities of our God!”*
- David and his men fought from the place of victory. The throne was firmly established and they engaged the enemy to enforce the victory that was already theirs! cf. 1 Tim. 6:12