

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

Study # 54 – “The Death of David” – 1 Ki. 2:10-12; 1 Chr. 29:26-30

I. DAVID’S LIFE AND REGENCY

A. A MAN AFTER GOD’S PURPOSE

- With his life drawing to a close, David gave final instructions to Solomon through whom his dynasty would be established.
 - cf. 1 Ki. 1:1-2:9; 1 Chr 29:1-25
- Knowing that he would soon pass through the shadowed valley, David had nothing to fear (Ps. 23:4). His flesh would “*rest in hope*” (Ps. 16:9-11), and one day he would be fully conformed to the image of his True King! (Ps. 17:15).
- David’s eulogy was penned by the Holy Spirit in Acts 13:36; “*For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell asleep, and was buried with his fathers...*”

B. A MAN OVER GOD’S PEOPLE

1. THE EXTENT OF DAVID’S REIGN

a) The Greatness Of David’s Reign Is Celebrated.

- In Hebron over Judah - 7 years. cf. 2 Sam. 2:1-11
- In Jerusalem over “all Israel” - 33 years. cf. 2 Sam. 5:1-5
 - David’s skill and wisdom as a leader is seen in his ability to lead such a diverse people into harmonious service to God.
 - cf. Ps. 78:70-72; 2 Sam. 20:1-2

b) The Vastness Of David’s Rule Is Commemorated.

- David’s rulership not only effected Judah and Israel but extended, “*to all the kingdoms of the lands!*” 1 Chr. 29:30
 - The Hebrews 11:33 reference to “subduing kingdoms” by faith could easily bear David’s name. cf. Heb. 11:32
 - Saul, on the other hand, lost more land than he started with, and his enemies were more powerful at the end of his reign than at the beginning. cf. 1 Sam. 31:7

2. THE EMPHASIS OF DAVID’S REIGN

a) David’s Focus

- The focus of David’s life was the increase of God’s reign in the earth. “*The throne of the LORD!*” 1 Chr. 29:23
 - Joshua’s emphasis was possession; cf. Josh. 1:11-15
 - David’s emphasis was dominion! cf. 1 Chr. 16:31
 - Saul’s focus was maintenance; cf. 1 Sam. 13:11
 - David’s focus was dominance! cf. 1 Chr. 29:11

b) David’s Foresight

- While Saul sought only his own welfare, (cf. 1 Sam. 15:12), David sought to position the coming generations for success in the will of God. cf. 1 Chr. 22:1-16

II. DAVID'S DEATH AND LEGACY

A. HIS DEATH

- Unlike Saul, who died in battle as a direct result of his sin, David dies in peace and is buried in Jerusalem, the capital city he had built. cf. 1 Chr. 10:13-14; 11:4-8; 29:28
 - Note David's epitaph in 1 Kings 15:3-5; cf. Acts 2:29
- Uniquely, David's death is given very little narrative, perhaps because it is his life and legacy that will have the greatest impact.
 - cf. The death of Saul - 1 Sam. 31:1-13; 2 Sam. 1:1-27
- Whereas three of Saul's sons die with him in battle, Solomon will live to inherit the throne. cf. 1 Chr. 10:6-8, 12; 29:23-25, 28
- From a New Testament perspective, David is second only to Moses in Old Testament importance, with Moses being mentioned 80 times, David 59 times, and Solomon 12 times.
- It is impossible to overestimate David's importance to and influence upon the rest of Biblical, and thus, world history.

B. HIS DYNASTY

1. THE SONS OF DAVID – THE KINGS

a) David's Endowment - Solomon

- Solomon inherits the throne and rules over a nation that has been unified by his father's wise acts. cf. 1 Ki. 2:12
- Once in power, Solomon sought to fulfill the plan and program initiated by David. cf. 1 Ki. 5:5; 8:18-26

b) David's Precedent

- Like Solomon, all of Israel's future kings will be measured by the standard set by David, God's ideal monarch.
 - cf. 1 Ki. 9:1-5; 14:8; 15:11; 2 Ki. 14:3; 16:2
- In the same way that David is held up as the model for godly leadership, so Jeroboam and Ahab will epitomize the perverting influence of evil upon a nation.
 - Jeroboam - 1 Ki. 12:20, 25-33; 14:16; 15:34; 16:2, 7, 19, 26
 - Ahab - 1 Ki. 16:30-31; 2 Ki. 8:27; 2 Chr. 21:6, 13; 22:3, 4
- Although Solomon turns his heart away from the LORD, God will continue to bless Israel because of the promises He made to David. cf. 1 Ki. 11:4-13, 32, 36; 2 Ki. 19:34; 20:6

2. THE SON OF DAVID – THE KING

- The promises given to David find their ultimate fulfillment in the person of Jesus Christ, the greater son of David.
- His Identity: Jesus is clearly identified as the true son of David.
 - Mt. 1:1; 9:27; 15:22; Acts 13:22-23; Heb. 1:5
- His Destiny: The house and throne of David is finally and fully established through Jesus.
 - cf. Lu. 1:31-33; Acts 2:30; 7:46-49; 13:33-38