

# David Becomes King

1 Samuel 31 - 2 Samuel 7

What does this remind you of? When are times people celebrate? People in our story celebrated for the best reason of all. Think about what that is as you read.

## Prayer

Dear Lord, we ask for your blessing as we study Your Word. Please open our hearts and our minds so we may be able to understand the greatness of Your blessings for David, and each of us. Help us remember especially the blessing of forgiveness because of Jesus. Amen.



## David Becomes King - 1 Samuel 31 - 2 Samuel 7

In a battle with the Philistines near Mt. Gilboa, many of the children of Israel died. Saul was wounded with an arrow, but three of his sons, including Jonathan, were killed. Afraid of falling into enemy hands, Saul asked his armorbearer to kill him, but was refused. Saul fell on his sword and died, and the armorbearer did the same. The children of Israel, seeing their leader was dead, abandoned nearby cities. The Philistines moved into them and hung Saul's and his sons' bodies on a wall. When the Israelites from Jabesh Gilead heard it, they traveled all night to remove the bodies and bury them.

After the battle, a man who'd escaped from the camp of Israel told David what happened. Wanting a reward, he claimed to have answered Saul's cries to be killed. David and his followers tore their clothes and mourned and fasted until evening. The man was executed, at

David's command, for striking down the Lord's anointed king. David wrote a beautiful song to honor Saul and his son Jonathan.

Then David, asking the Lord what to do, was told to go to Hebron. David brought his wives and his followers, and was anointed king over Judah. David commended the men of Jabesh Gilead for their kindness shown to Saul.

Abner, commander of Saul's army, made another of Saul's sons, Ishbosheth, king over the land of Israel. Abner's forces met David's forces, led by Joab, and after fighting all day, Joab won. During the battle, Asahel, Joab's brother, ran after Abner. When he wouldn't turn away, Abner killed him. Only 20 of David's army died that day, while 360 were lost on Ishbosheth's side. A short peace was followed by a long war between the house of Saul and the house of David. But David



grew stronger and stronger, and the house of Saul grew weaker and weaker. During this time, David was also blessed by the birth of many sons.

Abner, angry with Ishbosheth, promised David his loyalty if David would make a treaty with him. David agreed, but asked that his first wife, Michal, be returned to him. Abner also asked the elders of Israel to take David's side. After Abner and David met at a feast, Joab heard of it and called Abner back. Convinced Abner was tricking David and vengeful of Asahel's death, Joab killed him. David, greatly upset when he heard the news, mourned Abner's death. All Judah joined him.

When Saul's son heard that Abner had died in Hebron, he lost heart, and all Israel was troubled. Afterward, two army captains came to Ishbosheth's house and killed him in his bed. Going all night across the plain, they presented his head to David. Not pleased with what they had done, David had them executed.

Then every tribe of Israel swore allegiance to David, and the elders anointed him king over all. In Hebron David reigned over Judah seven years and six months, and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty-three years over all Israel and Judah. He was thirty years old when he first became king.

Jerusalem, controlled by the Jebusites, was David's next conquest. Not deterred by their taunts that the lame and the blind would defeat him, he took over the city, named it the city of David, and added many buildings. So David went on and became great, and the Lord of Hosts was with him. Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, and cedar trees, and

carpenters and masons. And they built David a house. So David knew that the Lord had established him as king over Israel, and that He had exalted His kingdom for His people Israel's sake.

When the Philistines heard David was king, they came ready to fight. Asking the Lord's guidance, David was told the Philistines would be delivered into his hand. After the battle, he said, "The Lord has broken through my enemies before me, like a breakthrough of water." On another occasion, the Lord instructed David to circle the Philistines from behind, and when their marching was heard in the mulberry trees, to advance quickly. "For then the Lord will go out before you to strike the camp of the Philistines," David was told. And David did so, as the Lord commanded him; and he drove back the Philistines from Geba as far as Gezer.

Afterwards, David retrieved the Ark of the Covenant from Baale Judah. On route, a man named Uzzah touched the ark when the oxen pulling it stumbled. Angry at Uzzah's disrespect, the Lord struck him dead. Showing mercy to those who fear Him, the Lord blessed the house of Obed-Edom, where the ark was kept for a time.

After the ark had been carried into Jerusalem six paces, David sacrificed oxen and fatted sheep. He also danced before the Lord with all his might; and David was wearing a linen ephod. So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the Lord with shouting and with the sound of the trumpet. When his wife Michal disdained his actions, David said "It was before the Lord...Therefore I will play music before the Lord."



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## Outer Aim - The Lord richly blessed David as King of Israel.

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**What God's Word Tells Us** - List 6 things from Hymn 400 (TLH) that we give to God to thank Him. Then list 6 things David did to thank God for His blessings..

### Our Show of Thanks - TLH 400

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

### David's Show of Thanks

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## Inner Aim - The Lord richly blesses us.

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### Passages

Revelation 2:10 Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

Matthew 28:20 Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age

1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

### Prayer

Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, You have loved each of us with an everlasting love. You have promised to be with us always even unto the end of the world. Assure us continually of Your grace and blessing in our daily lives. Forgive our many, many sins. Strengthen our weak faith. Help us to live God-pleasing lives more and more. Amen.