

"INTRODUCING DAVID"

Selected Scriptures

They lived incredible lives, trusted God and because of this they are often called the HEROES OF FAITH. They include Abel, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, and Rahab. Then in Hebrews 11 we find this verse with even more heroes of the faith. . .

Hebrews 11:32–34... And what more shall I say? For time will fail me if I tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, 33 who by faith conquered kingdoms, performed *acts of righteousness*, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, 34 quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, from weakness were made strong, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.

Out of all these heroes of the faith I've chosen to focus our *Wednesday's In The Word* on "THE LIFE OF DAVID."

- **He was Israel's greatest king.**
- **He reigned from about 1005 to 965 B.C.**

Maybe you're wondering, why should we study about the life of David? Well, there are several good reasons. These include the following:

David is one of the most important figures in the history of redemption. He points to Jesus the Messiah more clearly than anyone else in the Old Testament.

Matthew 1:1... The record of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

This title appears predominantly in Matthew (Matthew 20:30-31, 21:9,15). Its concentration in Matthew's Gospel, combined with its appearance at

Jesus's triumphal entry, suggests that Matthew deliberately emphasized Jesus's Davidic identity as central to His messianic recognition.

- David descended from Jesse, as did the Lord Jesus Christ—both emerging from humble, obscure roots.
- God made a perpetual covenant with him.

2 Samuel 7:8–16... "Now therefore, thus you shall say to My servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, "I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be ruler over My people Israel. 9 "I have been with you wherever you have gone and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make you a great name, like the names of the great men who are on the earth. 10 "I will also appoint a place for My people Israel and will plant them, that they may live in their own place and not be disturbed again, nor will the wicked afflict them any more as formerly, 11 even from the day that I commanded judges to be over My people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. The LORD also declares to you that the LORD will make a house for you. 12 "When your days are complete and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your descendant after you, who will come forth from you, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 "He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 14 "I will be a father to him and he will be a son to Me; when he commits iniquity, I will correct him with the rod of men and the strokes of the sons of men, 15 but My lovingkindness shall not depart from him, as I took *it* away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. 16 "Your house and your kingdom shall endure before Me forever; your throne shall be established forever." ' ' "

A second reason to study the life of David is that he is the primary author of the longest book in the bible, the book that uniquely reveals how believers can and should worship and relate to God, the Psalms.

- David wrote about half of the 150 Psalms.
- Many of them were written in response to his own experiences that we can read about in First and Second Samuel.

Psalm 23:1–6... The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters. 3 He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake. 4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You have anointed my head with oil; My cup overflows. 6 Surely goodness and lovingkindness will follow me all the days of my life, And I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

David wrote these powerful words about 3000 years ago. It includes 114 words in the English language (NAS version of the Bible).

Psalm 56:1–4... Be gracious to me, O God, for man has trampled upon me; Fighting all day long he oppresses me. 2 My foes have trampled upon me all day long, For they are many who fight proudly against me. 3 When I am afraid, I will put my trust in You. 4 In God, whose word I praise, In God I have put my trust; I shall not be afraid. What can mere man do to me?

David was a warrior, a leader, a politician, a musician, and an extremely gifted poet. As we reflect on this passage, I want to point you to the words of the great preacher Charles Haddon Spurgeon, who once said

**"I have learned to kiss the wave that
throws me against the Rock of Ages."**

Like David, Spurgeon understood that our struggles and hardships can draw us closer to God, making us more reliant on His guidance and more aware of His presence in our lives.

A third and final reason to study the life of David is that it helps us understand how to interpret the Bible.

- The story of David is perhaps the best example of Hebrew narratives in the Bible.

- As we study these stories about David, we can sharpen our skills in understanding the message of the Bible.
- In these stories we learn *who God is, how God relates to us, and what God expects from us.*

Here are 7 powerful lessons we can learn from David. . .

1. God Looks at the Heart, Not Outward Appearance

When Samuel was choosing a king, God emphasized that He looks at the heart (1 Samuel 16:7), not physical stature or social standing.

2. Face Your "Giants" with Faith, Not Fear

David's victory over Goliath teaches that with faith in God, any obstacle can be overcome. The only giant in David's life was God!

3. Wait Patiently for God's Timing

Anointed as king as a young teenager, David waited years, often fleeing for his life from Saul, before taking the throne. He teaches the value of trusting God's timeline rather than taking matters into his own hands.

4. True Repentance Brings Restoration

Despite his massive failures, such as with Bathsheba, David's response was heartfelt repentance (Psalm 51). He demonstrates that no mistake is too great for God's grace, provided there is true confession and forsaking of sin.

5. Maintain Humility Regardless of Success

Despite his fame and success as a warrior and king, David remained humble before God, often seeking His guidance rather than relying on his own wisdom.

6. Cultivate Deep Friendships and Loyalty

David's relationship with Jonathan highlights the importance of loyalty, covenant, and choosing good counsel. He also practiced kindness

toward enemies and those who were often overlooked, such as Mephibosheth.

7. Worship the Lord and draw near to Him regularly

As the author of many Psalms, David modeled turning to God in praise, fear, sorrow, and joy. His life teaches that a close, intimate relationship with God is the foundation of true success.