

"KING DAVID AND KING JESUS"

2 Samuel 10:1-19

The life and victory of the Lord Jesus Christ are pictured in many ways throughout the Old Testament. One prominent way is through the great prophetic Scriptures—Isaiah, Psalms, Ezekiel, Zechariah, etc. Another way is through typology.

Typology involves drawing connections between persons, events, things, and institutions across different biblical periods, particularly between the Old and New Testaments. For instance, Paul identifies Adam as a type of Christ in **Romans 5:12–21**.

The Word of God employs typology to demonstrate continuity in God's redemptive plan throughout history. It assumes the unity of God's divine plan, where the "vertical" element—seeing events within the larger structure of divine reality—matters more than the "horizontal" historical sequence. Christian typology ultimately finds its fulfillment in the life, death, resurrection, ascension, and second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Understanding typology is essential for comprehending how the New Testament interprets the Old Testament. Tonight we're going to take a typological approach to understanding and applying 2 Samuel 10:1-19. In the Bible, King David is a foreshadowing of King Jesus, the eternal King. We're in for a fascinating journey tonight!

2 Samuel 10:1–2... Now it happened afterwards that the king of the Ammonites died, and Hanun his son became king in his place. 2 Then David said, "I will show kindness to Hanun the son of Nahash, just as his father showed kindness to me." So David sent some of his servants to console him concerning his father. But when David's servants came to the land of the Ammonites.

The story in 2 Samuel 10 reveals a subtle move away from the overarching rise to power and honor that David experienced in 2 Samuel 5–9. David is the beneficiary of a covenant with God. So, he exerts his authority over all rivals and racks up win after win. David has defeated Saul and is the king over all Israel. He brings honor to Mephibosheth in 2 Samuel 9 and demonstrates that his rule includes bringing honor to the shamed.

Now, in chapter 10, King David demonstrates his kindness, grace, and mercy to Hanun, the freshly installed king of the Ammonites. By the way, he was a Gentile. In many ways it is a picture of what the Lord Jesus Christ has done for all who put their faith and trust in Him as Savior and Lord. The gospel is for Jews and Gentiles!

Romans 1:16... For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Think about it. We are all spiritual cripples doomed to a life of shame and torment and separated from God and all that is good for eternity. In Christ we are offered undeserved kindness, grace, and mercy. He offers . . .

- **Beauty for ashes**
- **Life out of death**
- **A song of praise instead of mourning**

So, out of proper respect for the passing of a head of state. David sent a delegation to express his sympathy to Hanun (vs. 2). He was Nahash's son and successor. Keep in mind that Nahash and the Ammonites were defeated by King Saul at an earlier date. **Read 1 Samuel 11:1-2, 11-12.** Keep in mind that David had established a treaty with Nahash. Despite David's good will, the story takes a sharp turn in an unexpected direction . . .

2 Samuel 10:3–5... the princes of the Ammonites said to Hanun their lord, "Do you think that David is honoring your father because he has sent consolors to you? Has David not sent his servants to you in order to search

the city, to spy it out and overthrow it?" **4 So Hanun took David's servants and shaved off half of their beards, and cut off their garments in the middle as far as their hips, and sent them away. 5 When they told it to David, he sent to meet them, for the men were greatly humiliated. And the king said, "Stay at Jericho until your beards grow, and then return."**

What horrible advice these advisers gave the new king. It's hard to explain why these advisers to Hanun said this to the king of Ammon. Maybe it's because men who are devoid of goodness cannot see goodness in others and men who are liars suspect others of lying! I suppose it's possible that they genuinely suspected David, or they perhaps used this as a way to appear wise and cunning to King Hanun.

Hanun took David's servants, shaved off half of their beards, cut off their garments in the middle and sent them away—This was a disgraceful insult to these ambassadors of the king of Israel. In that culture, many men would rather die than have their beards shaved off. This was because a clean-shaven face was the mark of a slave and free men wore beards.

Hanun ordered his men to cut off their garments in the middle— This was also an obvious insult and humiliation in that the shame of their nakedness might appear. To insult the ambassador is to insult the king and his God.

The same principle is true with King Jesus and His ambassadors who are tasked with the responsibility to carry the good news of our Lord's grace and mercy to the world . . .

2 Corinthians 5:20... Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

Rejecting them meant that Hanun and his crowd were rejecting King David. We live in a world that has rejected our King and His gracious offer.

Luke 10:16... "The one who listens to you listens to Me, and the one who rejects you rejects Me; and he who rejects Me rejects the One who sent Me."

John 15:18... "If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before *it hated you.*"

Wait at Jericho until your beards have grown and then return— I can't help but relate this to the suffering and shame that Jesus faced at Calvary.

Isaiah 50:6... I gave My back to those who strike *Me*, And My cheeks to those who pluck out the beard; I did not cover My face from humiliation and spitting.

King David cared for the dignity and honor of his men who served as his ambassadors. He allowed them to wait in Jericho until their beards had grown back. King Jesus cares for the dignity and honor of His ambassadors also. He has removed the shame of all who have committed their lives to Him!

2 Samuel 10:6–7... Now when the sons of Ammon saw that they had become odious to David, the sons of Ammon sent and hired the Arameans of Beth-rehob and the Arameans of Zobah, 20,000 foot soldiers, and the king of Maacah with 1,000 men, and the men of Tob with 12,000 men. 7 When David heard of it, he sent Joab and all the army, the mighty men.

The king of Ammon sent and hired a massive mercenary army— Worldly, godless leaders always look horizontally for answers—more soldiers, more weapons, better strategies. If only they had looked vertically to the one true God with heartfelt repentance, they could have avoided upwards of 40,000 funerals.

It seems as if the whole world is aligning themselves against the Lord Jesus Christ and His kingdom (**Psalm 2:1-6**).

When David heard of it, he sent Joab and all the army of the mighty men— King David took this blatant act of rejection personally. *David's mighty men* formed a powerful fighting force. It's important to understand that David was nothing without his mighty men, and they were nothing without him. Let's take a look at a few of these mighty men . . .

Adino the Eznite – He killed 800 men at one time— **2 Samuel 23:8**... *These are the names of the mighty men whom David had: Josheb-basshebeth a Tahchemonite, chief of the captains, he was called Adino the Eznite, because of eight hundred slain by him at one time;*

Jashobeam— He killed 300 men at one time. **1 Chronicles 11:11**...*These constitute the list of the mighty men whom David had: Jashobeam, the son of a Hachmonite, the chief of the thirty; he lifted up his spear against three hundred whom he killed at one time.*

Benaiah— He killed a lion in a pit on a snowy day and killed a huge Egyptian warrior with his own spear. **1 Chronicles 11:22–23**... *Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, the son of a valiant man of Kabzeel, mighty in deeds, struck down the two sons of Ariel of Moab. He also went down and killed a lion inside a pit on a snowy day. 23 He killed an Egyptian, a man of great stature five cubits tall. Now in the Egyptian's hand was a spear like a weaver's beam, but he went down to him with a club and snatched the spear from the Egyptian's hand and killed him with his own spear.*

These were some of King David's mighty men. Listen, every born-again believer is capable of mighty deeds because greater who is in us than he who is in the world. King Jesus takes it personally when the world (*who has rejected His gracious offer of salvation*) masses itself against believers, the church He loves, and the Jewish nation.

2 Samuel 10:8–10... *The sons of Ammon came out and drew up in battle array at the entrance of the city, while the Arameans of Zobah and of Rehob and the men of Tob and Maacah were by themselves in the field. 9 Now when Joab saw that the battle was set against him in front and in the rear, he selected from all the choice men of Israel, and arrayed **them** against the Arameans. 10 But the remainder of the people he placed in the hand of Abishai his brother, and he arrayed **them** against the sons of Ammon.*

As the army of the mighty men approached the Ammonite city, they found themselves surrounded. *In front of them* were the Ammonites in battle array

at the entrance of the gate. Behind them were the Arameans in the field. It looked bad for the army of Israel.

Joab had only one strategy in battle—*attack*. Joab called the army to courage and faith and told them to press on. He made no allowance for the possibility of ultimate defeat in his conflict with Ammon. I love his motivational speech to the men before they encountered the enemy. He made 3 powerful points. This is a great Scripture to lean on when we fight spiritual battles . . .

2 Samuel 10: 11-12... He said, "If the Arameans are too strong for me, then you shall help me, but if the sons of Ammon are too strong for you, then I will come to help you. 12 "Be strong, and let us show ourselves courageous for the sake of our people and for the cities of our God; and may the LORD do what is good in His sight."

(1) We Help Each Other (11).

In these fever-pitch spiritual battles, we call out for help when we find ourselves in trouble. In spiritual warfare you can't afford to be a *"lone ranger."*

(2) Courage And Strength Is Mandatory (12).

"For the sake of our people and for the cities of our God"—We are fighting for something that is bigger than ourselves—*our family, our future, and our Lord and His kingdom*. Collierville needs this church to maintain strong, biblical convictions concerning the Word of God and the gospel itself.

(3) The Lord Will Give Us Strength (12).

"May the Lord do what is good in His sight"—Trust Him. Don't be afraid. Stand up for the truth!

Ephesians 6:10... Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might.

2 Samuel 10:13–14... So Joab and the people who were with him drew near to the battle against the Arameans, and they fled before him. **14** When the sons of Ammon saw that the Arameans fled, they also fled before Abishai and entered the city. Then Joab returned from *fighting* against the sons of Ammon and came to Jerusalem.

This mercenary army fled before the army of the mighty men because God was with them. God promised this kind of blessing upon an obedient Israel.

Deuteronomy 28:7... "The LORD shall cause your enemies who rise up against you to be defeated before you; they will come out against you one way and will flee before you seven ways."

Here's what I want you to see. If we follow King Jesus, we will always win!

Psalms 2:7–12... "I will surely tell of the decree of the LORD: He said to Me, 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You. **8** 'Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, And the very ends of the earth as Your possession. **9** 'You shall break them with a rod of iron, You shall shatter them like earthenware.' " **10** Now therefore, O kings, show discernment; Take warning, O judges of the earth. **11** Worship the LORD with reverence And rejoice with trembling. **12** Do homage to the Son, that He not become angry, and you perish *in* the way, For His wrath may soon be kindled. How blessed are all who take refuge in Him!

Revelation 19:19–21... And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies assembled to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army. **20** And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone. **21** And the rest were killed with the sword which came from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse, and all the birds were filled with their flesh.

2 Samuel 10:15–19... When the Arameans saw that they had been defeated by Israel, they gathered themselves together. **16** And Hadadezer sent and brought out the Arameans who were beyond the River, and they came to Helam; and Shobach the commander of the army of Hadadezer led them. **17** Now when it was told David, he gathered all Israel together and crossed the Jordan, and came to Helam. And the Arameans arrayed themselves to meet David and fought against him. **18** But the Arameans fled before Israel, and David killed 700 charioteers of the Arameans and 40,000 horsemen and struck down Shobach the commander of their army, and he died there. **19** When all the kings, servants of Hadadezer, saw that they were defeated by Israel, they made peace with Israel and served them. So the Arameans feared to help the sons of Ammon anymore.

The enemies of Israel wouldn't quit after one defeat. They were persistent and came back to fight again. David gathered the rest of the army of Israel to prevent this army of Syrian reinforcements from crushing the army of the mighty men. The result was glorious. The Arameans lost miserably.

David's kingdom points to Jesus' everlasting kingdom (2 Samuel 7:16)!

David's earthly dynasty did not continue as an uninterrupted succession of reigning kings. The promise ultimately points beyond David to the Messiah. The New Testament makes this connection explicit:

Luke 1:32–33: Jesus receives the throne of His father David and reigns forever.

Acts 2:29–36: Peter connects God's promise to David with Jesus' resurrection and exaltation.

Romans 1:3–4: Jesus is described as descended from David according to the flesh and declared Son of God in power through the resurrection.

David was a king over Israel for a time. Jesus is the promised Son of David whose kingdom will never end!