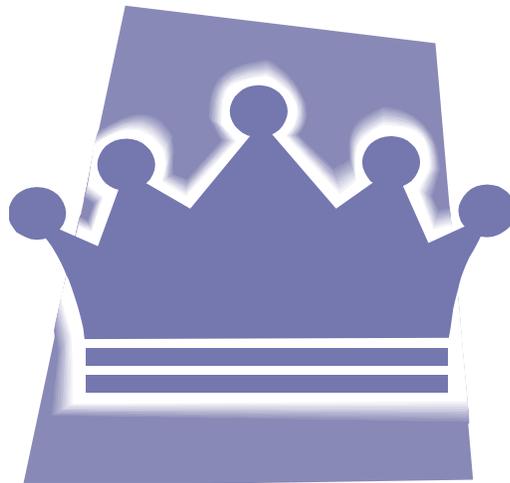


The United Kingdom

Part 2



By Angela Wisdom

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The United Kingdom

Part 2, CHARACTERS

CHARACTERS

There are many characters in the United Kingdom. Here is a list of most of them. Refer back to this as you study your lessons, so you will remember who they are.

SAUL -- He was the first king of the United Kingdom.

DAVID -- He was the second king of the United Kingdom.

ABIATHAR and ZADOK -- The priests of Israel. Abiathar was a son of the priest Ahimelech.

ASAPH, HEMAN and JEDUTHAN -- The song leaders of Israel from the tribe of Levi (I Chr. 15:19; 16:7; II Chr. 5:12; Neh.12:46).

TALMAI -- King of Geshur and grandfather of Absalom.

NATHAN -- A prophet of God.

JONATHAN -- Saul's son.

ZIBA -- A servant of King Saul.

MEPHIBOSHETH -- A son of Jonathan who was lame.

HANUN -- The king of the Ammonites.

JOAB -- He was the commander over the army of David's mighty men. He was the son of Zeruiah and his brothers were Abishai and Asahel.

ABISHAI -- The brother of Joab ; one of David's mighty men and one of his captains.

ZERUIAH -- She was the sister of David and the mother of Joab and Abishai (I Chr. 2: 13 - 16).

HADAREZER -- The king of the Syrians.

BATHSHEBA -- She was the wife of Uriah the Hittite. She committed the sin of fornication with king David, and eventually married him. Her father was Eliam and her grandfather was Ahithophel, one of David's wise advisors (II Sam. 11:3; 23:34; II Sam. 15:12).

URIAH THE HITTITE -- One of King David's mighty men.

ABSALOM -- David's third son. He was the brother of Tamar.

AMNON -- David's first-born son (II Sam. 3:2), who fell in love with his half-sister Tamar.

TAMAR -- David's daughter. A sister to Absalom and a half-sister to Amnon.

TAMAR -- Absalom also had a daughter named Tamar who was very beautiful. Her daughter Maachah became the wife of Rehoboam, Solomon's son (II Sam.14:27; I Kings 15:2; II Chron. 13:2).

JONADAB -- The son of David's brother Shimeah (II Sam. 13:3) ; he was a cousin and friend of Amnon.

WOMAN OF TEKOAH -- Joab sent her to David after Absalom had Amnon killed.

AHITHOPHEL -- A wise counselor of David's, who decided to help Absalom become king. He was also the grandfather of Bathsheba, David's wife.

CHERETHITES and PELETHITES -- Mighty men of King David's. They were David's strongest soldiers who stayed in Jerusalem.

SHIMEI -- A relative of King Saul's who cursed King David as he left Jerusalem. He was from the tribe of Benjamin.

HUSHAI -- A friend of David's that gave advice to Absalom, that defeated the advice of Ahithophel.

JONATHAN -- (This is not the same Jonathan who was King Saul's son.) Abiathar's son who sent messages from Jerusalem to King David.

AHIMAAZ -- Zadok's son who sent messages from Jerusalem to King David.

SHOBI, MACHIR, and BARZILLAI -- They met David at the Jordan with food, furniture and help when Absalom was chasing David.

ITTAI THE GITTITE -- A commander of David's army, leader of the Gittites.

AMASA -- Absalom chose him to be over his army instead of Joab. Then he became a captain of David's army. He was also a cousin of Joab (II Sam. 17:25). His mother, Abigail, was a sister of David (I Chr. 2:17).

CHINHAM -- A servant of Barzillai.

SHEBA -- A troublemaker in David's kingdom from the tribe of Benjamin.

GIBEONITES -- Descendants of the Amorites who were servants of Israel.

RIZPAH -- The mother of two of Saul's sons. She was a concubine of Saul (II Sam. 3:7).

ISHBEBENOB -- A giant of the Philistines who thought he could kill David.

GAD -- A prophet of God.

ARAUNAH THE JEBUSITE -- He owned the threshing floor where David built an altar to God.

JASHOBEAM -- One of David's mighty men who killed 300 enemies with his spear.

ELEAZAR -- A mighty man of David's. He fought a battle until he could not let go of his sword.

SHAMMAH -- One of David's most mighty men.

BENAI AH -- One of David's mighty men who was captain over the Cherethites and Pelethites. He was also over Solomon's army.

PHILISTINES -- Some enemies of God's people.

SOLOMON -- The son of King David and Bathsheba. He became the king of Israel after David, and he would build a house for the Lord.

ABISHAG THE SHUNAMMITE -- She was given to King David to nurse him and keep him warm in his old age.

ADONIJAH -- The fourth son of David (I Chron. 3: 2 - 3). He wanted to be king.

KING HIRAM -- The king of Tyre who loved King David and sent trees from Lebanon to build the temple.

HIRAM -- A man of Tyre who King Hiram sent to Solomon to work with his craftsmen.

QUEEN SHEBA -- The queen of Arabia who heard of King Solomon's fame and came to see for herself.

REZON -- An adversary of Solomon's kingdom.

HADAD -- An adversary of Solomon's kingdom.

JEROBOAM -- God took ten tribes from Solomon and gave them to him.

AHIJAH -- A prophet of God.

REHOBAM -- The son of King Solomon who became king after Solomon's reign.

AZARIAH -- The son of Zadok and high priest during Solomon's reign.

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Part 2, LESSON 1

VOCABULARY WORDS:

Lust: To have a strong desire for something. David had a strong desire for Bathsheba, but he had no right to desire her because she already had a husband.

Consequences: The effects or results because of one's actions. David had consequences or results because of the sins he did.

Establish: To build up something permanent.

Fulfill: To complete; to carry out a prophecy or promise. God fulfilled the prophecy of establishing David's throne forever.

Fornication: When a man and woman live together like a married couple, only they are NOT married to each other. This is a terrible sin, and God has never wanted His people to commit this terrible sin.

INTRODUCTION: (Read I Samuel 13:14; Acts 13:22; II Sam. 12: 10 -14; I Chron. 15: 1; 17:10; II Sam. 7: 11 - 14)

As we begin the second half of the United Kingdom, David is the king of all Israel. David was a good king. God said that David was a man after His own heart (I Sam. 13:14; Acts 13:22). This did not mean that David was perfect though. David was far from perfect. David sinned many times and made many mistakes. The first half of the United Kingdom records some of his sins and mistakes: David tried to move the ark of the covenant in a way that God did not approve. A man named Uzzah was killed by God because of this sin. David sinned again in a way that affected him and his family the rest of David's life. He saw a beautiful woman named Bathsheba bathing, and he **lusted** after her. His **lust** led him to murder Bathsheba's husband, Uriah the Hittite. Bathsheba had a baby with David because they sinned the sin of **fornication**.

Because of David's sin with Bathsheba there would be many **consequences** of the sin for the rest of his life (II Sam. 12: 10 - 14). The **consequences** were:

- (1) **The sword would never depart from David's family.** We will see in this quarter of study that even though David finally defeats his enemies he can never quit running from the sword and those who want to kill him.

(2) **There would be trouble within his own family.** We will see this quarter that many terrible things happen in David's family.

(3) **His wives would be sinned with openly.** This will happen in our study this quarter.

(4) **His child would die.** This has already been fulfilled by the time we start our study.

As we study the second part of the United Kingdom, remember these consequences of David's sin. We will see all of them **fulfilled** as we study the reign of David.

David was a man after God's own heart because after he sinned he repented of his sins and turned back to God. During the first part of his reign, David learned that for God to be pleased with Israel, Israel must do things the way that God wanted them done. David was concerned for the things of God.

David loved God and wanted to build Him a house. He was concerned that the ark of God was in a tent while he lived in a house made of cedar. However, God told David that he would not be the one to build him a house, his son Solomon would. We will study about Solomon building God a house this quarter.

God told David that He would build David a house and **establish** his kingdom forever. This meant that through the throne of David, Christ would come many years later and bless all nations. God's promise to do this for David was a step in fulfilling the spiritual promise that God had made to Abraham hundreds of years before.

During David's reign over Israel the Tabernacle is at Gibeon. The ark of the covenant is in a special tent that David built for it in Jerusalem, the city of David.

David gave certain jobs to the tribe of Levi. Three Levites were appointed as the chief song leaders for Israel: Asaph, Heman, and Jeduthan (also called Ethan). These three men wrote some of the Psalms that we have in the Bible.

MAP WORK: Find Jerusalem and Gibeon

Do you know this? *The book of Psalms is a book of songs that the children of Israel sang. David wrote a lot of them, but not all of them. Some of the psalms are ones that the people sang as they made their way up to the temple on feast days. All of them are beautiful Hebrew poetry and they help us learn how to express our emotions to God. We will be learning some of the Psalms.*

NOTE about your memory work:

*We are going to be learning Psalms 19: 7 - 11. Verse 7 is your memory verse for this lesson, and for lesson 2. As we learn new verses, add them to the one you learned previously, saying them all together. You will need to **study your memory verse at home** as there is not enough time to memorize verses in class. **Be prepared to say your memory work in class.***

MEMORY WORK

Psalms 19:7

The law of the LORD *is* perfect, converting the soul:
the testimony of the LORD *is* sure, making wise the simple.

MATCH

(Draw a line from the words on the left to phrase on the right.)

City of David	A man after God's own heart.
Priests	Where the Tabernacle is
House	Chief song leaders for Israel
David	Jerusalem
Asaph, Heman, Jeduthan	The results of one's actions
Consequences	Abiathar and Zadok
Gibeon	God built this for David

QUESTIONS

1. Who is the king of Israel in our lesson today? _____

2. Name the 4 consequences of David's sin with Bathsheba:

(1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

(4) _____

3. Think! How did God establish David's throne forever? _____

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Part 2, LESSON 2

READ: II Samuel 13: 1 - 39

VOCABULARY WORDS:

Virgin -- A woman who has never been in a marriage relationship with a man.

Fool -- One who is stupid.

Disgrace -- To be in shame.

Desolate -- To be destroyed or ruined

Sheepshearers -- Men who cut the fleece or wool off the sheep.

Lust: To have a strong desire for something. Amnon lusted for his half-sister Tamar.

AMNON'S SIN AND ABSALOM'S REVENGE

King David had a son named Absalom. Absalom had a beautiful sister named Tamar. David also had a son named Amnon, but he did not have the same mother as Absalom and Tamar did.

One day Amnon decided that he was in love with his half-sister Tamar, however, it was not real love he had for her but **lust**.

Amnon continued to think about his sister to the point that he was sick, and it seemed impossible that he could have her because she was a **virgin**.

Amnon had a friend who was also his cousin. His name was Jonadab. One day Jonadab said to Amnon, "You are the son of the king, yet every day I see you get thinner and thinner. What is bothering you?"

Amnon said, "I am in love with Tamar, my brother Absalom's sister."

Jonadab told Amnon a plan to see Tamar. He said, "Pretend to be sick and lay down on your bed. When your father comes to see you, say, "Let Tamar come and give me bread, and prepare the food in my sight so that I can see it and eat it from her hand."

So, Amnon went to bed and pretended to be sick. When his father David came to see about him he said, "Please let my sister Tamar come and make some bread before me so that I can take bread from her hand."

King David sent word to Tamar's house and told her to go to Amnon's house and prepare some food for him. Tamar went to Amnon's house, and when she got there he was in the bed. She took some dough and made some cakes where he could see her, and baked the cakes. When the cakes were baked she brought them to him but he refused to take them. He told her, "Send everyone away." So everyone left except Tamar.

Amnon said to Tamar, "Bring the food into my bedroom so that I can eat it from your hand."

Tamar took the bread she had prepared and took it to Amnon in his bedroom. But, when she took it to him he grabbed her and said, "Come to bed with me, my sister."

Tamar said, "Don't my brother. Do not force me to do such a thing. I would be in **disgrace**, and as for you, you will be as a **fool** in Israel. Please speak to the king. He will not keep me from being married to you."

But Amnon would not listen to her, and since he was much stronger than her he forced her to go to bed with him.

After Amnon sinned with Tamar, he hated her, and his hatred was greater than the love he had thought he had for her. He said to her, "Get up and get out!"

"No", said Tamar. "Sending me away is more wicked than what you have already done to me."

But Amnon would not listen to Tamar. He called one of his servants and said, "Get this woman out of my sight and lock the door after her."

The servant put Tamar out and locked the door. She was wearing a coat of many colors -- a coat like all the **virgin** daughters of the king wore. She was so upset that she put ashes on her head and tore the coat that she was wearing. She put her hand on her head and went away crying loudly.

When her brother Absalom saw her he asked her, "Has Amnon your brother been with you? Hold your peace and don't take this thing to heart."

After this, Tamar lived in her brother Absalom's house as a **desolate** woman.

When King David heard about these things he was very angry. Absalom would not speak to his brother Amnon either good or bad. He hated his brother because of what he had done to his sister.

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Two years passed and one day Absalom invited all his brothers to come to Baalhazor because his **sheepshearers** were there. Absalom went to the king and said, "My sheepshearers have come, so will you and your servants please join us?"

David said, "No my son. We will only be a burden to you."

Absalom urged his father to come, but his father would not. However, he gave Absalom his blessing. Then Absalom said to David, "If you will not come will you please let Amnon come?"

David said, "Why should he go with you?"

But Absalom kept insisting and David let Amnon come with the rest of his sons. Absalom talked to his servants and told them, "Notice when Amnon has had too much to drink, and when I tell you to, kill Amnon. Don't be afraid to do this because I have given you the order to do it. Be strong and brave."

So the servants of Absalom did as Absalom commanded them. They killed Amnon and when they did all of David's sons got on their mules and fled. While they were on their way back someone brought word to David saying, "Absalom has killed all your sons and not one of them is left."

David was so upset at hearing this that he got up and tore his clothes, and lay down on the ground. His servants tore their clothes also.

Jonadab was there and he said to the king, " Don't let the lord my king think that all of your sons are dead. Only Amnon is dead. Absalom has planned to do this since the day that Amnon sinned with his sister Tamar. Don't take it to heart, only Amnon is dead."

Meanwhile, Absalom fled.

There was a young man keeping watch and he saw many people coming from the road on the hillside behind him. Jonadab said to David, "Look, your sons are coming just as I told you."

When Jonadab finished speaking, the king's sons came in **weeping** loudly. The king wept and his servants also.

Absalom fled to Geshur, to his grandfather Talmai the king of Geshur's home. He stayed there for three years. David mourned for his son every day.

**THINK ABOUT IT:**

**Amnon and his father David had both committed the sin of fornication. But, Amnon's attitude was different from his father David's attitude. Amnon did not repent and was not sorry for the sin that he did.**

**When David sinned he repented and turned back to God. God was pleased with David after he corrected his sin. Look back at Lesson 1 and read the consequences of David's sin. Do you think the sin of Amnon with his half-sister was a consequence of David's sin?**

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**MEMORY WORK**

**Psalms 19:7**

The law of the LORD *is* perfect, converting the soul:  
the testimony of the LORD *is* sure, making wise the simple.

## USE YOUR BIBLE

Who was Absalom's mother? II Samuel 3:3 \_\_\_\_\_

Who was David's firstborn child? II Samuel 3: 2 \_\_\_\_\_

## TRUE OR FALSE

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Amnon was David's son.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Tamar was David's daughter.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Absalom was Amnon's cousin.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Amnon pretended to have a broken leg.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Tamar lived as a desolate woman after Amnon sinned with her.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Absalom wanted to forgive Amnon.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Absalom's servants killed all of David's sons.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Absalom fled to Geshur.

### ***WHAT DOES IT MEAN ?***

*When Tamar was upset she tore her clothes and put ashes on her head. David and his servants tore their clothes when they were upset.*

*In Bible days people showed their emotions differently than we do. When they were upset or grieving about someone who had died they would tear their clothing. Sometimes they would sprinkle ashes or dust on their head as a sign of great sorrow. Sprinkling ashes on the head was sometimes done when a person was humiliated. These were customs of the day and of the area that they lived in.*

**MAP WORK:** Find **Geshur** on your map.

# The United Kingdom

## Part 2, LESSON 3

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**READ: II Samuel 14: 1 - 33; 18:18**

### **VOCABULARY WORDS:**

**Mourning** - To feel or express grief or sorrow. People mourn when someone close to them has died, or some other tragic event has happened.

**Widow** - A woman whose husband has died.

**Banished** - To force to go away; to withdraw from.

**Avenger of Blood** - The Old Law said that when a man was killed his next of kin could kill the killer. This man would be called the "avenger of blood". There were cities that the killer could escape to, to prevent the "avenger of blood" from killing him. (Numbers 35)

**Blemish** - A spot or stain.

### **ABSALOM RETURNS TO JERUSALEM AND RENEWS HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH DAVID**

Joab knew that King David was concerned about his son Absalom so he decided to do something about it. Joab sent to Tekoa for a wise woman and said to her, "Pretend that you are a **mourner** and dress in **mourning** clothes. Don't anoint yourself with oil, but pretend that you have been **mourning** for a long time. Then go speak to the king and tell him what I want you to say."

The woman from Tekoa came before King David and bowed down to the ground in respect. She said, "Help me, O king".

The king said, "What is your trouble?"

The woman said, "I am a **widow**, and my husband is dead. I had two sons, and one day when they were in a field they got into a fight. There was no one to separate them so one son killed the other son. Now my whole family wants me to give them the son that is left so that they may kill him. But if they kill him they will destroy the only one left to carry on my husband's name."

King David said, "Go home and I will send you orders on what will be done for you."

Then the woman said to David, "If there is any blame from the action you take, let the blame be on me and not on you."

David said, "If anyone says anything to you about this, bring him to me and he will not bother you again."

The woman said, "Please King, ask your God that the **avenger of blood** not destroy my son."

David answered, "As the Lord lives, not one of the hairs of your son will fall to the ground."

Then the woman said, "Please let me speak a word to you my king".

David said, "Speak."

She said, "Why have you planned this thing against the people of God? When you made this decision you made yourself guilty because you have not brought home your own **banished** son. All of us are going to die and when we do we are like water that has been spilled on the ground and cannot be gathered up. God does not take away life, but gives the **banished** person a way to come back to Him."

"Now I have come to say this to you when the people made me afraid for my son. I thought, 'I will go to the king and hope he will help me. You have helped me, and you are able to decide between good and evil like the angel of God. May God be with you.'"

David said to the woman, "I am going to ask you a question, and please don't hide the answer from me."

"Let my king speak", said the woman.

"Did Joab have something to do with all this?", asked David.

The woman answered, "No one can hide anything from you my king. Yes, it was Joab that told me what to say. But it was for you to change the situation between you and your son. You are as wise as an angel to know everything."

Then David called for Joab and said, "I have decided to do this thing. Bring back the young man Absalom."

Joab fell with his face to the ground to show David honor and he blessed the king. Joab said, "Today I know that I have found favor in your eyes because you have done what I asked."

Then Joab went to Geshur and brought Absalom back to Jerusalem. But King David said, "Absalom must go to his own house and must not see my face."

Absalom went to his own house and did not see the face of his father the king for two years.

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Now there was no one in Israel that was praised as much for his good looks as Absalom. He did not have a **blemish** on him from the sole of his feet to the top of his head. He would cut his hair every year because it was so heavy, and the hair he cut off would weigh about six pounds.

Absalom had three sons and a very beautiful daughter named Tamar.

One day Absalom sent for Joab because he wanted Joab to send him to his father the king. But Joab would not come. He sent for Joab a second time, but Joab would not come again.

So, Absalom called for his servants. He said, "See Joab's barley field next to mine? Go and set it on fire."

When Joab saw that his field was burned he came to Absalom and said, "Why have your servants set my field on fire?"

Absalom said, "I sent word to you that I wanted you to send me to the king. I want to ask him why he wanted me to return from Geshur. It would have been better if I had stayed there. I want to go before the king and if I am guilty of anything, let him kill me."

So Joab went to king David and told him what Absalom wanted. David had Absalom come before him, and Absalom bowed down before David with his face to the ground. David kissed his son Absalom.

MEMORY WORK

Psalms 19:7 - 8 (say both verses together, you should already know v. 7)

7 The law of the LORD *is* perfect, converting the soul:
the testimony of the LORD *is* sure, making wise the simple.

8 The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart:
the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes;

TRUE OR FALSE

1. _____ The woman from Tekoa was really mourning her son.
2. _____ Absalom wanted the woman from Tekoa to go see King David.
3. _____ David wanted to help the woman from Tekoa.
4. _____ King David suspected that Joab had sent the woman from Tekoa to him.
5. _____ Absalom was an ugly man.
6. _____ David had not seen Absalom for two years.
7. _____ When Joab would not send for Absalom, Absalom burned down his house.
8. _____ King David welcomed Absalom with a kiss.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Did you notice that the woman from Tekoa and Joab both bowed themselves down to the ground when they came in to see David? Bowing down to the ground was a manner of showing respect. Both of them showed respect to the fact that David was king, and God's anointed.

MAP WORK -- Find Tekoa

The United Kingdom

Part 2, LESSON 4

READ: II Samuel 15: 1 - 37

VOCABULARY WORDS:

Vow - A thing promised

Concubine - A servant wife

Cherethites and Pelethites - Some of David's strongest soldiers, who usually stayed in Jerusalem. They were most likely his bodyguards. Watch for them as we study the rest of the quarter.

Rebel - One who resists or fights against authority, instead of obeying.

Conspiracy - Secret planning to do something wrong.

Flee - To run away in a hurry.

ABSALOM REBELS AND DAVID MUST FLEE FROM HIM

After Absalom was reunited with his father David he provided for himself a chariot, horses and fifty men to run ahead of him. He would get up early in the morning and stand by the side of the road that led to the city gate. When anyone would come down the road to see King David about a problem, Absalom would call out to them and say, "What town are you from?"

When the person would say, "I am from one of the tribes of Israel", Absalom would tell the person, "You have a problem that needs to be taken care of, but the king has no one to hear a problem like that. If only I were judge in the land! Then anyone who came to me would see that their problems would be taken care of."

And it happened that when anyone approached Absalom to bow down to him, Absalom would take them by the hand and kiss him. He did this to all the Israelites who came to see King David about a problem. And Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel.

Four years passed and one day Absalom came to his father David and said, "Let me go to Hebron and keep a **vow** that I have made to the Lord. I **vowed** to the Lord while I was in Geshur that if He would bring me back to Jerusalem I would serve Him."

David said, "Go in peace."

Absalom went to Hebron, and along with him two-hundred men went with him as invited guests. They knew nothing about what Absalom was planning to do.

Absalom sent spies throughout the twelve tribes of Israel. He told them that when they heard the sound of trumpets they were to say, "Absalom is king in Hebron!"

While Absalom was offering sacrifices in Hebron he called for one of his father's wisest counselors named Ahithophel. Ahithophel joined with Absalom in his quest to be king. The **conspiracy** grew strong and more and more people began to follow Absalom instead of David.

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One day a messenger came to King David and said, "The hearts of the men of Israel are with Absalom."

David realized the danger he was in. He said to all his servants, "Come! We must **flee** from Jerusalem before Absalom overtakes us. We must leave immediately or he will catch us within the city and kill everyone."

David's servants answered, "We are ready to do whatever you want us to do."

The king left with all the people in his house, except for ten **concubines** who he wanted to stay and take care of his palace. When they came to a place far away from the city they stopped to see who was coming with them.

All of David's servants passed before him, along with all the **Cherethites** and **Pelethites**, and six-hundred Gittites.

When David saw the Gittites he said to their leader Ittai, "Why are you going with us? Go back and stay with king Absalom. This is not the land of your birth. You have not been with us long. Why should you go with us when we do not even know where we are going? Go back and take your men with you, and may the Lord show love and faithfulness to you when you go."

Ittai answered King David, "As the Lord lives, and as you love, wherever you may be I will be with you. In life or in death I will not leave you."

David said, "Go then, march on with us then." So Ittai, along with his men and their families marched on with David and his men.

David and his followers crossed the Kidron Valley and on toward the wilderness. The people of Israel were crying when they saw David and his followers pass by.

The priests Zadok and Abiathar went with David. The Levites came with them carrying the ark of the covenant. They sat down the ark and did not pick it up until all the people following David had left the city of Jerusalem.

Then David went to Zadok and said, "Carry the ark back to Jerusalem. If I find favor with God, He will bring me back to Jerusalem to see it and His dwelling place again. But if I do not find favor with God let Him do whatever He wants to do with me. Go back to the city with your son Ahimaaz, Abiathar, and Abiathar's son Jonathan. I will wait in the wilderness at the fords of the Jordan until I hear from you."

So Zadok and Abiathar carried the ark of the covenant back to Jerusalem. David went up the Mount of Olives. He was barefoot and crying as he went. The people with him had their heads covered and they were crying also.

Then someone came to David and said, "Ahithophel your counselor has joined with Absalom."

David prayed, "O Lord, turn the advice that Ahithophel gives to Absalom into foolishness."

When David came to the top of the Mount of Olives Hushai came to meet him. Hushai's coat was torn and he had dust on his head. David said to him, "If you go with me you will be a burden to me.

Return to the city and tell Absalom that you will be his servant. This is the way you can help me defeat the advice that Ahithophel will give Absalom."

"Zadok and Abiathar will be with you in the city. You can tell them anything that you hear in the king's palace. Ahimaaz and Jonathan are with them and you can send them to tell me anything that you hear."

So Hushai went back to Jerusalem and arrived at the same time that Absalom was entering the city.

### **THINK ABOUT IT**

Was Absalom right in the ways he got the people to follow after him instead of his father David? \_\_\_\_\_

Was Absalom honest with the people? \_\_\_\_\_

Who had chosen David to be king over Israel? \_\_\_\_\_ Who chose Absalom? \_\_\_\_\_

A lot of the people of Israel began to follow Absalom. Do we judge whether a thing is right or wrong by how many people are doing it? \_\_\_\_\_

What book should we use to decide whether a thing is right or wrong? \_\_\_\_\_

**FOLLOW WHAT GOD WANTS YOU TO DO,  
NOT WHAT YOUR FRIENDS WANT YOU TO DO !**

### **MEMORY WORK**

#### **Psalms 19:7 - 8**

7 The law of the LORD *is* perfect, converting the soul:  
the testimony of the LORD *is* sure, making wise the simple.

8 The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart:  
the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes;

### **MAP WORK**

**Find these places on your map: Jerusalem, Hebron, Jordan River,  
Mount of Olives, Kidron Valley**

# WHO IS IT ?

**Absalom, David, Hushai, Ahithophel, Zadok and Abiathar,  
Cherethites and Pelethites, Ahimaaz, Jonathan**

(Use the names above to match to the following statements.)

1. He was one of David's wise counselors: \_\_\_\_\_
2. They were David's strongest soldiers who left Jerusalem with him:  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. The priests of Israel who went back to Jerusalem with the ark of the covenant: \_\_\_\_\_
4. The son of Zadok who went back to Jerusalem with the priests:  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. The son of Abiathar who went back to Jerusalem with the priests:  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. He stole the hearts of the men of Israel and wanted to be king:  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. He was the King of Israel anointed by God: \_\_\_\_\_

## ***Did you know?***

*Ahithophel, the advisor of David's, was the grandfather of Bathsheba who was one of David's wives. Ahithophel had a son named Eliam, who was Bathsheba's father.*

*( II Sam. 11:3; 23:34). So, not only was Ahithophel one of David's advisors, he was also in the family of his wife.*

# The United Kingdom

## Part 2, LESSON 5

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**READ: II Samuel 16: 1 - 14**

### **VOCABULARY WORDS:**

**Wilderness** - An unoccupied place; a wild, barren region.

**Restore** - To bring back. The idea of returning back to the starting point.

**Curse** - To make light of; to make small and despised.

**Belial** - Wicked, evil, ungodly.

**Weary** - Thirsty and tired.

### **DAVID MEETS ZIBA AND SHIMEI**

*Mehibosheth is mentioned in this lesson. Mephibosheth was the grandson of King Saul, and the son of Jonathan. When Mephibosheth was 5 years old the word came that his father Jonathan and grandfather Saul had been killed. His nurse picked him up to hurry and run away, but he fell and became lame in both of his feet. King David showed Mephibosheth kindness for his father Jonathan's sake, and allowed him to eat at the king's table in Jerusalem. ( II Sam. 4:4; 9: 1 - 13; I Sam. 20: 15 - 16). Ziba was Mephibosheth's servant.*

#### **WHAT IS HAPPENING?**

*As our lesson begins David is fleeing Jerusalem because his son Absalom wants to set himself up as king. Absalom has won the hearts of many men in Israel and even one of David's wisest advisors has joined with Absalom in his quest to be king.*

When David had gone a little past the top of the hill he met Ziba the servant of Mephibosheth. Ziba had a couple of donkeys that were bearing 200 loaves of bread, 100 clusters of raisins, 100 summer fruits and a bottle of wine.

King David said to Ziba, "Why have you brought these?"

Ziba replied, "The donkeys are for the king's family to ride on, the bread and fruit are for the young men to eat, and the wine is to refresh those who become exhausted in the **wilderness**."

Then David asked Ziba, "Where is Mephibosheth, your master's son?"

Ziba said, "He is staying in Jerusalem. He said, "Today the house of Israel will **restore** my grandfather's kingdom."

So David said, " All that belongs to Mephibosheth is yours."

"I give honor to you my lord", replied Ziba, "May I find favor in your eyes, O king."

David traveled on to Bahurim. In Bahurim lived a man named Shimei who was a relative of King Saul. As David came into Bahurim, Shimei came out **cursing** as he came and throwing stones at David and his servants. He even threw stones at David's mighty men who were on the right and left of David. As Shimei threw the stones he **curse**d David saying, "Get out ! Get out you bloody man, you man of **Belial!** The Lord has repaid you for all the people you killed in Saul's family, where you now reign as king. The Lord has given the kingdom into your son Absalom's hand, and you are ruined because you are a man of blood."

When Abishai, one of David's mighty men, heard what Shimei had to say he said to David, " Why should this dead dog **curse** my lord and my king? Let me cut off his head."

David said to Abishai, and to all of his servants, "What am I going to do with you? You see how my son, who came from my body, wants to kill me. Why shouldn't this man from the tribe of Benjamin **curse** me? Let him alone. Perhaps the Lord has asked him to do this. Maybe the Lord will see my distress and repay me with good because of the **cursing** I am receiving today."

So David and his men continued traveling down the road while Shimei continued along beside them **cursing**, throwing stones and flinging dust at them.

Finally David and all the people with him arrived at the river Jordan. They were **weary** and they rested there.

### THINK ABOUT IT

Absalom had carefully planned taking the kingdom away from his father. He won the people's hearts first. Then he sent spies throughout the kingdom, and even won over David's wisest counselor to himself. Can you see why David was afraid for his life?

But even through all of this trouble, David continued to trust in God. He would not let Abishai kill Shimei because he thought that perhaps God wanted Shimei to do what he did.

David wrote some of the Psalms while he was fleeing from his son Absalom. Here is a verse from one of them: Psalm 3:1 "*Lord, how are they increased that trouble me! Many are they that rise up against me.*"

God did take care of David, as we will see in our next lessons. We will also see some of the consequences that David had to suffer because of his sin with Bathsheba.

***What Does It Mean?*** When Shimei called David a "*man of blood*" (II Sam. 16:8) he was referring to the people that David had killed, or had others kill. David had been a man of war (or soldier) with the enemies of God and had killed many people.

Because David was a "*man of blood*" God would not let him build the Lord a house. Remember this because we will study about this later in the quarter.

## MEMORY WORK

Psalms 19: 7 - 9

**7** The law of the LORD *is* perfect, converting the soul:  
the testimony of the LORD *is* sure, making wise the simple.

**8** The statutes of the LORD *are* right, rejoicing the heart:  
the commandment of the LORD *is* pure, enlightening the eyes.

**9** The fear of the LORD *is* clean, enduring for ever:  
the judgments of the LORD *are* true *and* righteous altogether.

*(Be able to say all three verses together.)*

## MAP WORK

Find: Jerusalem, Hebron, Jordan River, Mount of Olives

## True or False

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Mephibosheth was the son of Ziba.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Shimei was a relative of King Saul.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ David threw stones at Shimei.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Abishai wanted to cut off Shimei's head.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ David trusted in God to take care of him and his family.

# The United Kingdom

## Part 2, LESSON 6

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**READ: II Samuel 16: 15 - 17:29**

### **VOCABULARY WORDS:**

**Abhorred** -- To smell bad, to stink.

**Smite** - To kill.

**Counsel** - Advice, telling someone what they think would be wise to do.

**Concubine** - A servant wife.

**Fornication:** When a man and woman live together like a married couple, only they are NOT married to each other. This is a terrible sin, and God has never wanted His people to commit this terrible sin.

**Flee** - To escape or run away quickly.

## **ABSALOM RECEIVES COUNSEL FROM HUSHAI AND AHITHOPHEL**

**WHAT IS HAPPENING?** *King David and his men are at the fords of the Jordan River. David had sent his friend Hushai back to Jerusalem (see Lesson 4), and he is coming into Jerusalem at the same time that Absalom and his men are coming into the city.*

*Remember that David had sent the priests Zadok and Abiathar back to Jerusalem also, along with the ark of the covenant. Their sons Jonathan and Ahimaaz have gone back to Jerusalem as well so that they can bring messages back to King David about what is happening in Jerusalem.*

Absalom, Ahithophel and the men of Israel went into the city of Jerusalem. Hushai saw them coming into the city and he began to say, "God save the king", "God save the king".

Absalom said to Hushai, "Is this the way you show kindness to your friend David? Why didn't you go with your friend?"

Hushai replied, "No, I am for the man whom God, the people and all the men of Israel have chosen as their king. I will take my place with him. After all, whom should I serve if not my master's son? I will serve you as I served your father."

Then Absalom said to Ahithophel, "Give us your **counsel**. What should we do?"

Ahithophel said, "Your father left his **concubines** to take care of the palace. Go to bed with them as your wives and all of Israel will hear that you are **abhorred** by your father. Then the hands of everyone with you will be strong."

So they set up a tent on top of the palace roof and Absalom went into the tent with his father's concubines and committed **fornication** with them. And all of Israel could see that this was happening.

Ahithophel also told Absalom, "Let me choose twelve thousand men and we will go after King David tonight. We will come upon him while he is weak and tired, and we will make him afraid. All the people with him will **flee** and then I will **smite** only the king. I will bring all the people back to you, and when David is dead the people will return and there will be peace."

Absalom and all the elders of Israel liked the **counsel** that Ahithophel gave. Then Absalom said, "Call Hushai and let us hear what he has to say."

When Hushai came, Absalom told him the **counsel** that Ahithophel had given and then asked, "Shall we follow Ahithophel's **counsel**? If not, what should we do?"

Hushai said, "The **counsel** that Ahithophel has given you is not good at this time. You know that your father and his men are mighty fighters and he will be like a wild bear robbed of her cubs. Your father is an experienced soldier and he will not stay with his men at night, but is probably hidden in a cave somewhere. If some of your men are killed when they first attack, whoever hears about it will say that your men have been defeated. Then even your bravest soldiers will be afraid because all of Israel knows that your father is a fighter and that his soldiers are brave."

"My advice to you is that you gather an army from all of Israel, so big that it will be as the sand on the seashore. We will find him and fall on him like the dew that falls on the ground, and not one of his men will escape. If he is in the city, we will bring ropes to the city and drag it into the river until not even one stone can be found."

When Hushai was through speaking Absalom and his men said, "The advice of Hushai is better than Ahithophel's advice." (*It was the Lord's will that Ahithophel's counsel be defeated so that disaster would come on Absalom.*)

Afterwards, Hushai went to the priests, Zadok and Abiathar, and told them the advice he had given to Absalom. He told them, "Send a message quickly to David and tell him that he is not to spend the night in the wilderness at the river's crossing, or he and all the people with him will be destroyed."

Zadok and Abiathar sent a maidservant to tell their sons Jonathan and Ahimaaz the message they were to give to King David. They were waiting at the spring of Enrogel so that they would not be seen entering the city of Jerusalem, and the maidservant came to them regularly to tell them what was happening so that they could go tell King David. But, a young boy saw the maidservant talking to Jonathan and Ahimaaz, and he went to tell Absalom.

Jonathan and Ahimaaz left quickly and went to a man's house in Bahurim who had a well. They climbed down into the well to hide, and the man's wife put a covering over the well and spread grain out over it, and no one knew they were there.

When Absalom's men came to the woman at the house they asked, "Where are Ahimaaz and Jonathan?" The woman said, "They have gone over the brook of water."

The men searched for Jonathan and Ahimaaz and could not find them, so they returned back to Jerusalem.

After Absalom's men left, Jonathan and Ahimaaz came out of the well and went to tell King David. They said, "Get up and cross the river quickly because Ahithophel has advised Absalom against you."

David and all the people got up, and by daybreak everyone had crossed the river Jordan. They came to Mahanaim, and when they arrived there Shobi, Machir and Barzillai met them there. They brought David beds, bowls, pottery, grain, beans, honey, butter, sheep and cheese for the people to eat because they were **weary** and thirsty.

When Ahithophel heard that his **counsel** had not been taken he saddled his donkey and went home. He put his business affairs in order and then he hanged himself.

Absalom put Amasa in charge of his army instead of Joab, and his army camped in the land of Gilead.

### **THINK ABOUT IT:**

*Look back at Lesson One and read the consequences of David's sin with Bathsheba. The consequences are fulfilled in this lesson. David's wives (concubines) are sinned with openly by his very own son, Absalom. David had much trouble in his very own family, and he had to run away from his own son to keep from being killed.*

*This is a lesson for us! Even though we may receive forgiveness from God for the wrong things we do, we will still have to suffer the consequences for those wrong things.*

*OUR SIN HAS CONSEQUENCES !*

### **MAP WORK**

**Find: Jordan River, Jerusalem, Mahanaim, Gilead**

### **MEMORY WORK**

Psalms 19: 7 - 9

**7** The law of the LORD *is* perfect, converting the soul:  
the testimony of the LORD *is* sure, making wise the simple.

**8** The statutes of the LORD *are* right, rejoicing the heart:  
the commandment of the LORD *is* pure, enlightening the eyes.

**9** The fear of the LORD *is* clean, enduring for ever:  
the judgments of the LORD *are* true *and* righteous altogether.

*(Be able to say all three verses together.)*

## FILL - IN - BLANKS

( Fill-in-the-blanks using the following words. Some may be used more than once.)

**Amasa**

**Hushai**

**Ahithophel**

**Concubines**

**Zadok and Abiathar**

**Jonathan and Ahimaaz**

**Shobi, Makir and Barzillai**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ came to meet Absalom saying, "Long live the king ! Long live the king!"
2. Absalom said to \_\_\_\_\_, "Give us your advice. What shall we do?"
3. Ahithophel said to Absalom, "Your father left his \_\_\_\_\_ to take care of the palace. Go to bed with them as your wives and all of Israel will hear that you are abhorred by your father."
4. Absalom said, " Call \_\_\_\_\_ here. Let's hear what he has to say."
5. Hushai went to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and told them the advice he had given Absalom.
6. The Lord defeated the advice of \_\_\_\_\_.
7. A young man saw the maidservant talking to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, and went to tell Absalom.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ climbed down into a well to hide from Absalom's men.
9. \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ met David and his followers bringing them food and supplies.
10. Absalom put \_\_\_\_\_ in charge of his army instead of Joab.

# The United Kingdom

## Part 2, LESSON 7

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**Read: II Samuel 18: 1 - 33; 19: 1 - 8**

### **VOCABULARY WORDS:**

**Cushite** - A foreign man, probably from Ethiopia.

**Weep or wept** - To cry

**Watchman** - Men who were appointed to give notice of an approaching enemy to a city. Sometimes they were placed on a watchtower.

**Mourning** - To feel or express deep sorrow or grief.

**Victory** - To be rescued or delivered from something; to be saved, to be in safety.

## **THE DEFEAT OF ABSALOM AND DAVID'S GRIEF FOR HIM**

**WHAT IS HAPPENING?** *Absalom did his best to take the kingdom from his father. He took his father's concubines and committed fornication with them so that all of Israel would know that he had taken everything that belonged to his father, even his servant wives.*

*Absalom also took David's wisest advisor Ahithophel, convincing him to join with him in taking the kingdom from David. However, another of David's friends, Hushai, was at the palace in Jerusalem working to defeat Absalom through giving different advice. Abiathar and Zadok's sons, Jonathan and Ahimaaz, were hiding and waiting to send messages to King David.*

*Ahithophel knew that Absalom could not win by taking Hushai's advice, so he hanged himself.*

*David and his men were camped at Mahanaim, and Absalom's army were in the land of Gilead.*

David knew that his son Absalom was preparing an army to defeat him, so David prepared his own army. He numbered the people that were with him and placed officers over them. He divided his army into three groups: a third of them under Joab his commander, a third of them under Abishai (Joab's brother), and a third of them under Ittai the Gittite.

David told them, "I will go out with you too." But when his men heard him say this they answered him, "No, you must not go with us! If we are forced to run from Absalom's army they will not care for us, or if half of us die they will not care for us. But you are worth more more than ten thousand of us. It is better that you stay in the city and send us help."

David said, "Whatever seems best to you, I will do." And he stood by the gate of the city as his men marched out. As they marched out, David gave his commanders Joab, Abishai and Ittai orders. He said, "For my sake, deal gently with the young man Absalom." And all the men heard David when he gave this order to his commanders.

David's army marched out and the battle was to take place in the woods of Ephraim. There were twenty thousand men of Israel killed in the battle by David's army. The battle was spread out over the countryside and more men were killed that day by fighting in the forest than were killed by a sword.

During the battle, Absalom happened to come upon some of David's men. Absalom was riding a mule, and as the mule went under the branch of a large oak tree his head caught in the branches. His mule continued to travel and Absalom was left hanging in the tree above the ground.

A certain man saw what had happened to Absalom, so he went to tell Joab. Joab said, "When you saw Absalom why didn't you kill him there to the ground. I would have given you ten pieces of silver and a warrior's belt if you had killed him."

But the man said to Joab, "Even if I had the silver in my hand I would not kill the king's son. We heard King David tell you, Abishai and Ittai that we were to protect the young man Absalom. On the other hand, if I had killed Absalom you would have been against me, for nothing is hidden from the king."

Joab told the man, "I am not going to waste any more time with you." Then he took three darts in his hand and went to where Absalom was hanging. He thrust the darts through Absalom's heart while he was still alive in the oak tree. Then ten of Joab's armor bearers gathered around Absalom to beat him and kill him."

Joab blew the trumpet to signal to the people that the battle was over. They took Absalom's body and threw it into a big pit in the forest and piled a big heap of rocks over the pit. And all the men in Israel ran home to his own tent.

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Ahimaaz, the son of Zadok, went to Joab and said, "Let me run and tell King David how the Lord has delivered him from his enemies."

But Joab said, "You are not to carry him the news today. You may take him news another day, but not today because his son is dead."

Then Joab said to a **Cushite** man, "Go tell the king what you have seen." And the **Cushite** bowed down to Joab and then ran to tell David.

Ahimaaz said to Joab again, "Come what may, let me also run after the **Cushite**."

Joab replied, "Why do you want to go my son, when you will receive no reward for the news?"

Ahimaaz said, "Whatever happens, I still want to run."

Joab said, "Run." And Ahimaaz ran down the road, going a different way than the **Cushite**, outrunning the **Cushite**.

Meanwhile, King David was sitting between the two gates of the city waiting. A **watchman** looked out and saw a man coming, running alone, and he cried out to tell the king. King David said, "If he is alone he has good news."

The man running came nearer and nearer, and then the **watchman** saw another man running and called out to the doorman, "Look, there is another man running alone."

David said, "This one is also bringing good news."

Then the **watchman** said, "I can see that the first man runs like Ahimaaz, the son of Zadok."

David said, "He is a good man and comes with good news."

As Ahimaaz came closer he called out, "All is well." Then he came in the gate and bowed before the king saying, "Blessed be the Lord God who has delivered you from those who wanted to harm you."

David asked, "Is the young man Absalom safe?"

Ahimaaz answered, "Just as Joab was to send the **Cushite** and me, I saw a great confusion, but I didn't know what it was."

King David said, "Stand aside and wait over here."

Then the **Cushite** came in and said, "There is good news for my lord the king! The Lord has saved you from those who were against you."

David said to the **Cushite**, "Is all well with the young man Absalom?"

The **Cushite** answered, "May what happened to him happen to all your enemies that rebel against you."

Then King David became very upset and he went to a room that was over the gate of the city and **wept**. As he went he cried, "O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! If only I had died in your place! O Absalom, my son, my son!"

Joab was told that King David was **weeping** and **mourning** for his son. The day that had been a day of **victory** was turned into a day of **mourning** for all the people. The people heard how the king was grieved for his son, and they secretly came into the city acting ashamed, like people who have lost a battle.

The king continued to **weep** and to cry with a loud voice, "O my son Absalom, O Absalom, my son, my son!"

Joab went to see King David and he said to him, "Today you have shamed all the men who have saved your life, the lives of your sons and daughters, and the lives of your wives and concubines. You love those who hate you and hate those who love you. You have made it clear that your commanders and servants are nothing to you. I think that if Absalom had lived and we had all died today that it would have pleased you!"

"Now get up! Go speak to your soldiers and encourage them because if you don't I swear by the Lord that you will not have a man left to stand by you tonight, and this will be worse than all the bad things that have happened to you from the time you were a young man until now."

When Joab was through talking to David, David got up and went to sit by the gate of the city. When the people heard that he was sitting by the gate, all the soldiers came before the King.

THINK ABOUT IT

Joab knew that David's men needed encouragement, and they needed to know that they had done the right thing by standing against Absalom and his men. Even though it may seem cruel, David needed to hear what Joab said to him.

David loved his son Absalom, but his son had done evil and had disobeyed God. David needed to remember that his love for God and his obedience to God was more important than the love he had for his son.

WE ARE TO REMEMBER THE SAME THING! OUR LOVE FOR GOD IS TO BE MORE THAN OUR LOVE FOR ANYONE OR ANYTHING ELSE.

MEMORY WORK

Psalms 19:7-10

7 The law of the LORD *is* perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD *is* sure, making wise the simple.

8 The statutes of the LORD *are* right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD *is* pure, enlightening the eyes.

9 The fear of the LORD *is* clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD *are* true *and* righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired *are they* than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

(Be able to say verse 10 along with verses 7 - 9.)

MULTIPLE CHOICE (underline the correct answer)

1. David divided his army into (2 , 4, 3) sections.
2. David's three commanders were: (Shobi, Makir, and Barzillai or Joab, Abishai and Ittai).
3. The people told David, ("Please go with us into battle." or "We want you to stay in the city.").
4. The King commanded his officers in front of his soldiers, ("I hope you kill Absalom." or "Deal gently with the young man Absalom.").
5. Absalom rode upon a (Camel , Donkey, Mule).
6. Absalom's (arm , leg , head) became caught in the oak tree.
7. Joab was (happy , unhappy) that the soldier had not killed Absalom.
8. Joab thrust (6, 4, 3) darts into the heart of Absalom.
9. (Ahithophel, Ahimaaz) wanted to run and tell the King what had happened in the battle.
10. Joab sent (Caleb, Cushite) to tell King David what had happened.
11. Ahimaaz asked Joab again if he could go, and Joab (let him go, would not let him go).
12. David was (very happy , very grieved) that his son Absalom had been killed.
13. The victory that day was turned into a (great celebration , a day of mourning).
14. Joab told the King to (go to bed, to get up and speak to his soldiers) .

The United Kingdom

Part 2, LESSON 8

READ: II Samuel 19: 8 - 40

VOCABULARY WORDS:

Gate - The gate of a city was an important part of the city. The gate was often a place where the king would sit and the people would come to him with problems. The prophets would deliver their messages at the gate of the city. Criminals were punished outside the gate. Sometimes there were public markets near the gate where goods would be sold. The gate of a city would be carefully guarded and would be closed at night to protect the people living within the city.

Fled - To run away suddenly; to be chased.

Ford - A crossing place in a river or stream.

lord - Master; to rule. This word was used to show reverence.

Sware - To make a solemn oath or promise.

Slander - To give a false report with the intention of injuring someone.

DAVID RETURNS TO JERUSALEM

WHAT IS HAPPENING? *King David is in Mahanaim. His men have defeated David's son Absalom and Absalom's men. David is in grief and Joab has rebuked him and told him that his soldiers need encouragement. After Joab rebuked David, he went to sit near the city **gate**. The nation of Israel is very disturbed and upset.*

The people in the tribes of Israel were arguing with one another and saying, "King David saved us from our enemies and rescued us from the Philistines. Now he has **fled** out of the land from his son Absalom, and Absalom whom we anointed king over us is dead. So why is no one talking about bringing back king David to Jerusalem?"

David heard what the people were saying about him so he called Zadok and Abiathar to him and said, "Speak to the leaders of the tribe of Judah and ask them why they are last to bring me back to my palace. The things that the people of Israel are saying have reached even me about this."

"Tell them, 'You are my brothers and my own flesh and blood. Why should you be last to bring back the king?'"

"Tell Amasa that he is of my bone and flesh and may God punish me if I don't make him captain of my army in the place of Joab. May God deal with me severely if I don't do this."

When the men of Judah heard what David had to say their hearts were won over by him. They sent word to David that he and his servants were to come back to the city of Jerusalem.

So, David and his men started back to Jerusalem. When they reached the river Jordan the men of Judah were waiting for them on the west side of the river at Gilgal to escort the king over the river.

At the same time, Shimei hurried down to the river with the men of Judah to meet David. Shimei had a thousand men with him from the tribe of Benjamin, Ziba the servant of Saul, and his fifteen sons and twenty servants. They crossed over the **fords** of the river before the king to bring over the river his household and do whatever the king wanted.

As David was about to cross the river, Shimei fell down before David and said, "My **lord** the king, please forget the wrong I did the day you left Jerusalem. I know I have done wrong and that is why I am the first of the house of Joseph to come meet my **lord** the king."

Abishai heard what Shimei said to David and he said, "Shouldn't Shimei be put to death because he has cursed the Lord's anointed?"

David said, "What am I going to do with you? No one will be put to death in Israel today. Don't you know that I am the king over Israel today?"

Then David said to Shimei, "I give you my word that you shall not die." And he **swore** this to Shimei.

Next, Mephibosheth came down to meet King David. Mephibosheth had not taken care of his feet, trimmed his beard or washed his clothes since David had left Jerusalem. When David saw him he said, "Why didn't you go with me Mephibosheth?"

Mephibosheth answered, " My **lord**, O king, my servant lied to me. Because I am lame my servant said that he would saddle a donkey for me to ride so that I could go with you, but my servant **slandered** me to you. But you are like an angel of God, so do whatever seems right to me. All of my grandfather's family deserved death from you, but you gave me a place at your table. What right have I to ask anything more from the king?"

David replied, "Why say anything more? I have decided that you and Ziba are to divide the land."

Mephibosheth said, "Ziba can have everything now that you have come home safely."

Another man who came to cross the Jordan river with David was Barzillai. He was an old man of 80 years. He was very rich and had provided the king with food while he was in Mahanaim. When David saw Barzillai he said, "Come to Jerusalem with me and I will provide for you there."

Barzillai answered him, "I am an old man of 80 years. I am no longer able to enjoy what I eat or drink, or am able to hear singing. Why should I go and be a burden to the king? I will go with you a short way over the Jordan. Why should you repay me with such a reward? Let me go back that I can die in my own city near the graves of my mother and father."

"But, here is your servant Chinham. Let him go with you and do for him whatever you want to do."

David agreed to take Chinham. Then he and all of the people crossed the Jordan river. David kissed Barzillai and blessed him, and Barzillai went back home.

David and his people crossed the Jordan and the men of Judah and part of the men from the other tribes greeted him.

MEMORY WORK

Psalms 19:7-10

7 The law of the LORD *is* perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD *is* sure, making wise the simple.

8 The statutes of the LORD *are* right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD *is* pure, enlightening the eyes.

9 The fear of the LORD *is* clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD *are* true *and* righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired *are they* than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

(Be able to say verse 10 along with verses 7 - 9.)

THOUGHT QUESTIONS

1. Why do you think it was important that David was brought back to Jerusalem? _____

2. Whose commander had Amasa been? (David's or Absalom's) _____

3. Why do you think David made Amasa his new commander in place of Joab? _____

4. What did Shimei do when David was leaving Jerusalem? (Look back at Lesson 5) _____

5. Whose son was Mephibosheth? (II Sam. 4:4) _____

6. What had Ziba told David about Mephibosheth? (Look back at Lesson 5) _____

Map Work

Find: Gilgal; Mahanaim; Jordan River; Jerusalem

Mahanaim; Gilgal

The United Kingdom

Part 2, LESSON 9

READ: II Samuel 19: 41 - 43; 20: 1 - 26

VOCABULARY WORDS:

Rebellion - An armed resistance or fight against one's government. (Sheba led a **rebellion** against King David's kingdom. Absalom had done the same thing.)

Pursue - To follow after; to run after.

Fortified city - A strong city that would be hard to get into. It would probably have a high fence or wall around it to protect it from enemies.

Besieged - To surround with an army and force to surrender or give in.

Despise - To look on something as small and unimportant.

Sheba's Rebellion

What is happening? *King David had been brought over the Jordan River by the men of the tribe of Judah. But since the other tribes of Israel had no part in doing this there is trouble in Israel.*

Soon after David was across the River Jordan all of the men of Israel came to him and said, "Why did the men of Judah secretly bring you and your household and all of your men over the Jordan?"

The men of Judah defended themselves and told the men of Israel, "We brought the king over the Jordan because he is closely related to us. Why are you angry about this? Have we eaten at the king's expense or taken any gifts from him?"

The men of Israel answered the men of Judah and said, "We have ten shares in the king, so we have more right to him than you do. Why do you **despise** us? Weren't we the first ones to talk about bringing the king back to Jerusalem?"

The men of Judah and the men of Israel continued to quarrel about this and the men of Judah's words were more cruel than the men of Israel's.

Now, at this time there was a troublemaker in Israel from the tribe of Benjamin named Sheba. Sheba was with the men of Israel during their quarrel with the men of Judah, and after a time he blew the trumpet and shouted, "We have no part in David the son of Jesse! Every man of Israel, go home!"

So, every man of Israel quit following King David and began to follow Sheba. Only the tribe of Judah were true and loyal to the king and continued to follow him from the Jordan River all the way to the city of Jerusalem.

When David returned to his palace in Jerusalem he took the ten concubines whom he had left to take care of the palace when he fled from Jerusalem and put them in a guarded house. He provided for their needs, but they were no longer considered as his wives.

After David did this he called his commander, Amasa, to him and told him to call the men of Judah together within three days and to be with them.

Amasa went to call the men of Judah together, but he took more time than the three days that David told him to take. So, David called Abishai to him and said, "Sheba is going to cause us more trouble than Absalom did. Take my servants and **pursue** Sheba or he may find a **fortified city** to escape to."

Under Abishai's command went Joab and his men, the Cherethites, Pelethites and all the mighty men of David. They left Jerusalem and **pursued** Sheba.

When they came to the large stone that is at Gibeon, Amasa came out to meet them. Joab was wearing his military armor and around his waist was a belt and a sword in its sheath. As Joab came forward to greet Amasa his sword fell out of its sheath.

Joab said to Amasa, "Are you well my brother?", and he took Amasa by the beard with his right hand to kiss him. Amasa did not notice the sword that Joab had picked up, and Joab plunged the sword into Amasa's belly. His intestines spilled out on the ground and he died.

Joab and his brother Abishai continued to **pursue** Sheba. One of Joab's men who was standing near Amasa said, "Whoever is pleased with Joab and is for David, follow Joab!"

Amasa lay wallowing in his own blood on the highway, and everyone who came near stopped to see him. When the man saw that everyone was stopping to see Amasa, he drug his body into a field and covered it with a garment.

When Amasa's body was no longer on the road, the people continued to follow Joab and **pursue** Sheba.

In the meantime, Sheba had passed through all the tribes of Israel to a city called Abel Beth-maacah. The Berites gathered together and followed Sheba into the city.

As Joab's men came to the city of Abel Beth-maacah they **beseiged** the city and tried to destroy the wall that was surrounding the city.

While they were trying to bring down the wall of the city a wise woman of the city called out to Joab and said, "Listen! Listen! Tell Joab to come here so that I can speak to him!"

Joab came near the wall and the wise woman said, "Are you Joab?"

Joab answered, "I am."

The woman said, "Listen to the words of your servant."

"I'm listening." answered Joab.

Then the woman said to him, "Long ago people who had a problem would come for an answer at Abel Beth-maacah. We are among the peaceful and faithful in Israel, so why are you trying to destroy a city and mother in Israel? Why would you put an end to the inheritance of the Lord?"

Joab answered her, "Far be it! Far be it from me that I should destroy this city! This is not so, but a man named Sheba has lifted up his hand against King David. Hand over this one man and I will leave your city.

The woman said, "His head will be thrown to you over the wall."

Then the woman went to the people of the city with her wise advise. They took Sheba and cut off his head and threw it over the wall to Joab. Joab blew the trumpet and his men left the city. All the men returned home, and Joab returned to David in Jerusalem.

The kingdom of David was restored back to him and Joab was the commander of his army.

THINK ABOUT IT:

Why did Joab kill Amasa? The Bible does not tell us why he did it, but there may be a reason why he did this. David put Amasa over his army after Absalom's death -- and his army had been under Joab's command. (*Look back at the list of Characters in the front of this book and find out the family relationship Joab had with Amasa.*)

Joab killed three men against David's wishes. But, he does not get by with this. Remember this story because we will see what happened to Joab later on. The lesson for us is that we may think that we can get by with doing something wrong for a while, but eventually God will punish us for the wrong things we do. God knew Joab's heart and he knows our hearts.

MEMORY WORK

Psalms 19:7-11

7 The law of the LORD *is* perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD *is* sure, making wise the simple.

8 The statutes of the LORD *are* right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD *is* pure, enlightening the eyes.

9 The fear of the LORD *is* clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD *are* true *and* righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired *are they* than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

11 Moreover by them is thy servant warned: *and* in keeping of them *there is* great reward.

MAP WORK

Find: Jerusalem, Jordan River, Abel Beth-maacah

TRUE OR FALSE

1. _____ The men of Israel brought David over the Jordan River.
2. _____ The men of Israel were angry with the men of Judah because they brought David over the Jordan River.
3. _____ David told Joab to gather the men of Judah together to **pursue** Sheba.
4. _____ Sheba was a peacemaker.
5. _____ Joab killed Abishai with his sword.
6. _____ The wise woman of Abel Beth-maacah said that they would throw Sheba's foot over the wall.

The United Kingdom

Part 2, LESSON 10

REVIEW

1. Look back at lesson one and list the consequences of David's sin with Bathsheba:

2. What consequences of David's sin have we seen happen in our study this quarter? _____

3. How did God establish David's throne forever? (Look back at lesson one if you don't know the answer)

TRUE OR FALSE

(Try to answer these without looking back at previous lessons.)

1. ____ Amnon sinned with his half-sister Tamar.
2. ____ Absalom forgave Amnon for his sin with Tamar.
3. ____ Joab sent a wise woman from Tekoah to talk with David.
4. ____ Absalom stole the hearts of the people.
5. ____ David wanted to stay in Jerusalem when he learned that Absalom had taken over his kingdom.
6. ____ Shimei came out as David left Jerusalem bowing and kissing David's feet.
7. ____ The Lord defeated the advice that Ahithophel gave to Absalom.
8. ____ Absalom committed adultery with his father's concubines in the sight of all Israel.

9. ____ David told his men to be gentle with the young man Absalom.
10. ____ Absalom caught his head in a cherry tree.
11. ____ Joab killed Absalom.
12. ____ David was happy when he heard that Absalom had been killed.
13. ____ Mephibosheth met David at the Jordan River in his new clothes.
14. ____ The men of Israel were unhappy because the men of Judah had brought David over the Jordan.
15. ____ Joab killed Amasa.
16. ____ Sheba said, "We have no part in David, the son of Jesse."
17. ____ The people of Abel Beth-maacah threw Sheba's coat over the wall of the city.
18. ____ The kingdom was never restored back to David.

MEMORY WORK

Be able to say Psalms 19: 7 - 11 from MEMORY !

The United Kingdom

Part 2, LESSON 11

READ: II Samuel 21: 1 - 14; Joshua 9: 1 - 21; II Samuel 21: 15 - 22; I Chron. 20: 4 - 8

VOCABULARY WORDS:

Famine - A period of time when there is no rain and so there is not enough food for the people.

Atonement - To make correction; to pardon; to make good again.

Sackcloth - A coarse cloth used when people were in mourning (people used sackcloth to bag their grain in).

Covenant - An agreement between two people or two parties of people that is ratified (or made good) by eating a meal together.

Jehovah - A name for God that means the eternal one.

David and the Gibeonites

INTRODUCTION: Many years before David was king, during the days of God's leader Joshua, a group of people called the Gibeonites heard about Joshua's victory over the cities of Jericho and Ai. The Gibeonites became afraid that Joshua would destroy them too, so they made a plan.

*As Joshua was camped with the Israelites at Gilgal, the Gibeonites came pretending to be from a far country, only they were not. They traveled with old sacks and dry moldy bread and told Joshua that they wanted to make a **covenant** with Israel.*

*Without asking God about the Gibeonites, Joshua and the men of Israel sat down and made a **covenant** with the Gibeonites. Because of this **covenant**, Israel let the Gibeonites live and did not destroy them, even when they found out that the Gibeonites had lied to them.*

As punishment the Gibeonites became servants of Israel from then on. They were charged with having to cut wood for Israel and get their water.

Sometime during the reign of King Saul, he put the Gibeonites to death and did not keep the promise that Israel had made to them in the days of Joshua.

The Gibeonites were not Israelites. They descended from the Amorite people.

During the time that David was king there was a **famine** in the land for three years. During the three years of **famine** David prayed to **Jehovah**. **Jehovah** said, "The famine is because of Saul and his bloody house because he put the Gibeonites to death."

King David called the Gibeonites to him and said, "What shall I do for you, and how shall I make **atonement** for the wrong that was done to you, so you can bless the inheritance of the Lord?"

The Gibeonites said, "We don't have the right to demand gold or silver from Saul's family. Neither do we want you to put any man to death in Israel."

So David said, "Whatever you say I will do for you."

The Gibeonites answered, "Saul planned to destroy us and leave none of us alive in Israel. Let seven of his sons be given to us and we will hang them before the Lord at Gibeah."

David said, "I will give them to you."

David gave them the seven sons of Saul, but he spared Mephibosheth's life because of the promise he had made to Jonathan. David handed the seven men over to the Gibeonites and they hanged them on the mountain before the **Jehovah**. They were put to death at the beginning of the barley harvest.

Rizpah was the mother of two of the sons. When the men were hanged she spread a **sackcloth** out for herself on a rock and stayed with the dead bodies of the men from the beginning of the barley harvest until the autumn rains came. During the day she did not let the birds touch their bodies and at night she kept the wild animals away.

Someone told King David what Rizpah was doing and when he learned of this he took the bones of Saul and Jonathan from the men of Jabesh-gilead who had stolen them. He took their bones and the bones of the seven men and buried them in the tomb of Kish (Kish was the father of Saul.).

After David did this God listened to Israel's prayers about the **famine**.

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## **Battles with the Philistines**

During the reign of David there was a battle between the Israelites and the Philistines. David went with his men to fight the Philistines, but he became exhausted.

Ishbibenob was a giant who carried a spear weighing 300 shekels of bronze and a new sword. He thought he could kill David.

Abishai came to David's rescue and killed the Philistine. David's men came to him and said, "You will not go out to battle with us again, so that you don't put out the light of Israel."

After this there were two more battles with the Philistines at Gob. In one of the battles a man from Bethlehem killed the brother of the giant Goliath. The giant's spear had a shaft like a weaver's beam.

Another battle with the Philistines was at Gath. A giant with six fingers on each hand and six toes on each foot defied Israel. David's nephew killed him.

## MEMORY WORK

### Psalm 139:1

O LORD, you have searched me and known me!

(ESV)

## MULTIPLE CHOICE

( Underline the correct answer. )

1. There was a famine during David's reign that lasted ( two, ten, three ) years.
2. Jehovah said to David, "The famine is because of Saul because he (let the Gibeonites live, killed the Gibeonites).
3. David told the Gibeonites ( "Whatever you say I will do for you" , "I don't want to do anything for you.")
4. The Gibeonites wanted the (six , seven ) sons of (Saul , David) to be given to them.
5. The Gibeonites (shot , hanged ) the seven sons of Saul.
6. David spared Mephibosheth's life because of a promise he had made to ( Saul, Jonathan ).
7. ( Rahab , Rizpah ) stayed with the dead bodies to keep birds and wild animals away.
8. David buried the bones of the men in the tomb of (Abraham, Kish).
9. After David buried the men, God (did not listen, listened ) to Israel's prayers about the famine.
10. The Gibeonites were (slaves , friends ) of Israel.
11. Ishbibenob wanted to ( save , kill ) David.
12. Abishai (killed, saved ) the giant Ishbibenob.
13. After the battle with Isbibenob, Israel ( did , did not ) want David to go with them to battle again.
14. In the battle at Gath was a giant with (five, six, eight ) fingers and toes on each hand and foot.

# The United Kingdom

## Part 2, LESSON 12

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**READ: II Samuel 24: 1 - 25; I Chronicles 21: 1 - 22; II Samuel 22: 1 - 51**

*Note: You will notice that II Samuel calls the man with the threshing floor "Araunah" and that I Chronicles calls him "Ornan". Araunah and Ornan are the same man. We will call him Araunah in this lesson.*

### **VOCABULARY WORDS:**

**Census** - To count the number of. (The **census** in this lesson was not ordered by God. Every other time Israel was numbered, God had specifically ordered the **census**. God promised to be with His people whether there were few or many and wanted them to trust in Him regardless of how many or few they were.)

**Sackcloth** - A coarse loose cloth used when people were in mourning, or used to bag their grain in.

**Mercies** - Compassion, pity, tender love

**Threshing floor** - When people gathered or harvested their grain they took it to a threshing floor. It was usually a rocky place in a windy spot outside the city. Threshing was done by beating the grain. The grain would be tossed into the air and the shaft or straw would be blown away and the heavy grain would fall back on the ground.

## **DAVID TAKES A CENSUS OF HIS MEN**

The Lord was angry with David and Satan caused David to decide that he would take a **census** of his fighting men in Israel. David called for his commander Joab and told him to go throughout the tribes of Israel, from Dan to Beersheba, and count the number of fighting men, then to report the number back to him.

However, Joab did not like the command that David gave him. He said, "May the Lord add to the people a hundred times more than they are, but my lord the king, aren't they all your servants? But why do you want to do this and bring guilt upon Israel?"

The king's word was stronger than Joab's, so Joab went throughout Israel counting the soldiers. It took nine months and twenty days to count all the men, and there were over a million men that could fight. Joab was displeased with David's order so he did not count the men in the tribes of Levi or Benjamin.

God was displeased with the command David had given for a **census**, so He punished Israel.

After the **census** was taken David's conscience began to hurt him and he said to the Lord, "I have committed a terrible sin in doing this. Please forgive me because I have acted foolishly."

The next morning as David was getting up the Lord was speaking to the prophet Gad. The Lord said to Gad, "Go to David and tell him that I am giving him the choice of three punishments. He is to choose one of the punishments."

So Gad went to David and said, "The Lord has said you have three choices of punishment. The choices are three years of **famine**, three months of being pursued and defeated by your enemies, or three days of plague in the land with the angel of the Lord destroying the territory of Israel. Now consider what answer I am to take back to the One who sent me."

David said, "I am in great distress. Let us fall into the hand of the Lord because His **mercies** are great, but don't let me fall into the hands of men."

So the Lord sent a plague upon the land which lasted from that morning until the time the Lord set. The plague was from Dan to Beersheba and seventy thousand people died. When the angel of the Lord was about to destroy Jerusalem the Lord changed His mind and said, "It is enough, stay your hand." And the angel was standing by the **threshing floor** of Araunah the Jebusite between heaven and earth with a sword in his hand, and it was stretched out over the city of Jerusalem."

David looked up and saw the angel, and he and the elders of Israel who were clothed in **sackcloth** fell upon their faces. David said to God, "Was it not I who gave the order for the people to be numbered? It is I who has done the great sin. The people are like sheep, what have they done? O Lord, let your hand be against me and my family, but do not let this plague remain on your people."

Then the angel of Jehovah told Gad the prophet, "Tell David to build an altar to the Lord on the **threshing floor** of Araunah the Jebusite."

As David went to obey the Lord, Araunah and his four sons had been threshing wheat. When they saw the angel of Jehovah they hid themselves. As David approached them Araunah came forward and bowed down to David with his face to the ground. Araunah said, "Why has my lord come to his servant?"

David said, "To buy your **threshing floor** from you so that I can build an altar to the Lord and this plague will be stopped."

Araunah said, "Take it and offer up whatever seems good to you. Here are oxen for burnt offerings and the threshing tools for wood, along with grain for a meal offering. I give it all to you. May the Lord accept your offering."

David said, "No, I will buy it from you for a price. I will not offer burnt offerings to the Lord with things that cost me nothing." So David paid Araunah 600 shekels of gold for his **threshing floor** and oxen. He built an altar and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings to God. Then the Lord commanded the angel to return the sword to its sheath and the plague was stopped.

David saw that the Lord answered him at the **threshing floor**. Later, when his son Solomon became king, the temple of God would be built there.

## MEMORY WORK

**Psalm 139:1** O LORD, you have searched me and known me! (ESV)

## **SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT.....**

Did you notice that when Araunah offered to give his threshing floor to David that he would not take it as a gift? David told Araunah, "*No, but I will surely buy it of you at a price; neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the Lord my God of that which doth cost me nothing.*"

David knew that for his worship to be pleasing to God **it must cost him something**. Our worship should be the same way today. Our worship to God may cost us money, as it did David. It may cost us time, material possessions, or may even cost us our family. We must love God more than anything else and give ourselves to Him !

Read the following verses and fill-in-the-blanks (we have used the King James Version). These verses tell us about giving ourselves to God:

Matthew 10:37 He that \_\_\_\_\_ father or mother \_\_\_\_\_ than me is not worthy of me: and he that \_\_\_\_\_ son or daughter \_\_\_\_\_ than me is not worthy of me.

Matthew 16:24 Then said Jesus unto His disciples, If any \_\_\_\_\_ will come after me, let him \_\_\_\_\_ himself, and take up his cross, and \_\_\_\_\_ me.

Matthew 22: 37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord thy God with \_\_\_\_\_ thy heart, and with \_\_\_\_\_ thy soul, and with \_\_\_\_\_ thy mind.

## **SOMETHING ELSE TO THINK ABOUT.....**

Why do you think God did not want David to take a census? \_\_\_\_\_

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## **TRUE OR FALSE**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ God wanted David to take a census of the Israelites.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Joab liked David's command to take a census.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Israel had over a million men who could fight.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ David's conscience hurt him after he took the census.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ God was happy that David took the census.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ The prophet Gad told David that he would be rewarded for taking the census.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ The angel of Jehovah killed 70,000 people during the plague.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ David built an altar on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ David was glad to accept the threshing floor as a gift from Araunah.

# The United Kingdom

## Part 2, LESSON 13

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**READ: II Samuel 23: 1 - 39; I Chronicles 11: 10 - 47**

### **VOCABULARY WORDS:**

**Just** - To be right and lawful.

**Lentils** - A podded vegetable, probably like our beans

**Psalms (Psalmist)** - A song; to make music accompanied by the voice; to celebrate in song and music

**Inspired** - To be moved, influenced or guided by God. David was guided by God to say the things he did in his psalms.

**Everlasting** - Eternal; without end

**Harvest** - To gather the crops at the end of the growing season.

**Cherethites and Pelethites** - A group of mighty fighting men who were in David's army.

### **THE LAST WORDS OF DAVID**

David tells us in II Samuel 23 that what is written are his last words. In his last words David describes himself as the son of Jesse, a man raised up on high, the anointed of the God of Jacob, and the sweet **psalmist** of Israel.

David said, "The spirit of the Lord speaks through me and His word is on my tongue." This means that David was **inspired** by God (God told him what to say).

David said that God spoke to him and said that those who rule over men should be **just** and fear God when they rule. He also said that God had made an **everlasting** covenant with him.

### **THE MIGHTY MEN OF DAVID**

David had some men in his kingdom who were his strong supporters and soldiers. Jashobeam was one of these men and he was chief of three of David's most mighty men. At one time he killed 300 enemies with his spear.

After Jashobeam was Eleazar. Eleazar was a great fighter. One day as the men of Israel and David were fighting the Philistines in a barley field Eleazar took his position in the middle of the land. The Israelites were fleeing from the Philistines, but Eleazar continued to fight. He fought until his hand was tired and could not let go of his sword. He kept back the attack of the Philistines and God gave them a great victory that day.

After Eleazar was Shammah. One day the Philistines came to field where **lentils** were growing. The Israelites were fleeing from the Philistines, but Shammah stood his ground in the middle of the field and defended the land. He killed the Philistines and God had a great victory that day.

One day the Philistines were camped in the valley of Rephaim, and their military post was in Bethlehem. It was **harvest** time, and David was camped at the cave of Adullam, a strong place for him to be in. Jashobeam, Eleazar and Shammah came to David at the cave of Adullam, and David said, "How I wish that someone could bring me a drink of water from the well of Bethlehem that is by the gate."

The three mighty men heard what David said, so they went and broke through the Philistine's camp and drew water from the well for king David. Then they brought it back to him at the cave of Adullam.

However, when David received the water he would not drink it but poured it out as an offering to the Lord. David prayed to God, "O Lord, I can't drink this water. Isn't it the blood of the men who risked their lives to get it?"

Another mighty man of David's was Abishai. Abishai was the brother of Joab. One time he killed 300 men with his sword and became the captain of David's men, but he was not equal to Jashobeam, Eleazar and Shammah.

Benaiah was another one of David's mighty men who did many brave acts. He killed two men of Moab, and one snowy day he went down into a pit and killed a lion. He also fought and killed an Egyptian man who was seven and one-half feet tall. David made him captain over his thirty mighty men who were the **Cherethites and Pelethites**.

**THINK ABOUT IT:** *Did you wonder why, after all the trouble David's men had getting water from the well in Bethlehem, he would not drink the water?*

*David was not ungrateful. His men had risked their lives to get what their king wanted. It had cost the men far too much for David to merely drink the water. Offering the water to God did David far more good spiritually than any good the water would ever do for his physical body.*

*David is a good example of a man who was always thinking of how he could please God instead of himself.*

## MEMORY WORK

### Psalm 139: 1 - 2

**1 O LORD, you have searched me and known me!**

**2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up;  
you discern my thoughts from afar. (ESV)**

## MATCH

- |                |                                                                   |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Jashobeam   | ___ Inspired David.                                               |
| 2. Eleazar     | ___ The cave that David and his men were at.                      |
| 3. Shammah     | ___ The sweet psalmist of Israel.                                 |
| 4. Philistines | ___ Captain over the Cherethites and Pelethites                   |
| 5. David       | ___ Military post of the Philistines and where the well was.      |
| 6. God         | ___ Brother of Joab and killed 300 men with his sword             |
| 7. Adullam     | ___ Killed 300 men in one battle                                  |
| 8. Bethlehem   | ___ Killed the Philistines until he could not let go of his sword |
| 9. Abishai     | ___ Fought the Philistines in a field of lentils.                 |
| 10. Benaiah    | ___ Enemies of God's people.                                      |

# The United Kingdom

## Part 2, LESSON 14

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**READ: I Chronicles 22: 1 -19; I Chronicles 23 - 27**

### **VOCABULARY WORDS:**

**Strangers** - Foreigners, or people who were not from the tribes of Israel.

**Mason** - A person who would dig, cut and engrave stone.

**Sanctuary** - A holy place

## **DAVID PREPARES ISRAEL TO BUILD THE TEMPLE**

*WHO WOULD REIGN AFTER DAVID? Not long after David began to reign as king God told him that one of his sons would reign after him (II Sam. 7:11). At that time God did not tell David which son would reign. Amnon was his oldest son, but he had committed sin with his half-sister Tamar, and his half-brother Absalom killed him. Later, David's second son Absalom thought that he had the right to take David's throne, and even tried to take the throne before his father's death. However, Absalom was killed.*

*So, who would follow David to the throne? God is the one who decided that. At some point in time (I Chron. 22:9) God told David that Solomon would be the next king, even though Solomon was the eleventh out of David's seventeen sons (II Sam. 3: 2-5; 5: 13 - 16).*

*In this lesson David begins to prepare the people and his son Solomon for building the temple for Jehovah.*

David told the people of Israel that the Temple would be built, and the altar of burnt offering, in the place where the threshing floor of Araunah had been. Then he gave orders that the **strangers** living in Israel were to gather together. From these people he chose **masons** to cut the stones that the temple would be built with.

David prepared large amounts of iron to make the nails for the doors and gates, and he prepared so much bronze that it could not be weighed. He also had the men from Tyre and Sidon bring great amounts of cedar trees to build with.

David said to Israel, "Solomon my son is young and inexperienced. The house that is built for the Lord must be of great magnificence, fame and splendor in the sight of the nations around us, so I must make preparations for it." Before David died he made many preparations for the temple.

He called Solomon to him and told him that he must build a house for the Lord God of Israel. He said, "My son, I wanted to build a house to honor the Lord my God, but the word of the Lord came to me and said, 'You have fought man wars and shed a lot of blood. You will not build Me a house for My name because you have shed so much blood on the earth. But you will have a son and he will be a man of peace. I will give him peace from all his enemies and his name will be Solomon. I will give Israel peace

and quiet during his reign. Solomon is the one who will build a house for My name. He will be My son and I will be his Father, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom over Israel forever."

"Now, my son, may God be with you, and may you do well in building the house that He said you would build. May only the Lord give you wisdom and understanding when he puts you in command over Israel. If you do the laws and rules that Moses gave to Israel you will be successful. Be strong and have courage, and do not be afraid."

"In my trouble I have prepared for the Lord 100,000 talents of gold (almost 4,000 tons), 1,000,000 talents of silver (nearly 40,000 tons), more bronze and iron than can be measured, as well as stone and timber."

"You have a great number of workers -- stonecutters, **masons**, carpenters, and men skilled to work with gold, silver, bronze and iron. Arise and work! May the Lord be with you!"

David also ordered all the leaders of Israel to help his son Solomon. He said, "The Lord has been with you and given you peace from your enemies. Now seek the Lord with your heart and soul. Get up and build the **sanctuary** of the Lord so that the ark of the covenant and the holy vessels of God can be brought into the house built for the name of the Lord."

David was old when he made Solomon king over Israel.

**NUMBERING THE PEOPLE:** *In II Samuel 24 (Look back at Lesson 12) David numbered the people, but God was not pleased with him numbering the people that time. Why? Because it had not been commanded by God, and it was a source of pride with David to know how many fighting men he had. God always promised to be with His people and He wanted them to rely on Him for strength (Lev. 26: 3 - 8)-- not to feel strong because they had a large number of soldiers. Israel's strength was not to rely on the number of soldiers who could fight, but to rely on God.*

*When David numbered the people this time (I Chron. 23) God was pleased. God had given David the pattern for constructing the temple, and part of that pattern was organizing the Levites for the work in the temple (I Chron. 28:13). Numbering the Levites for efficient work in the temple was approved by God.*

## DAVID ORGANIZED THE LEVITES

David organized the people so that they would be ready to begin the work of building the temple. He gathered all the Levites together and numbered them from the age of 30 years or older. There were 38,000 men. Most of them were to do the work in the temple, some of them were officers and judges, some were gatekeepers and some of them were to lead the Israelites in singing praises to God.

After the temple was built the Levites would no longer have to carry the tabernacle from place to place, so their duties changed some. They would have duties in the courts and rooms of the temple, and take care of the holy things. They would also prepare bread for the tables of shewbread and help the priests in doing their work. It was their duty every morning and evening to stand and thank and praise Jehovah.

During the days of David's kingdom there were two men serving as high priests -- Zadok and Abiathar.

## MEMORY WORK

### Psalm 139: 1 - 2

- 1 O LORD, you have searched me and known me!**  
**2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up;**  
**you discern my thoughts from afar. (ESV)**

## USE YOUR BIBLE

1. David wanted God to give Solomon some things when he became king. What were they? (I Chron. 22:12) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Why didn't the Lord want David to build Him a house? (I Chron. 22:8) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Who was to build a house for the Lord? (I Chron. 22:6) \_\_\_\_\_

## WHO DID THIS?

Use the following names to answer the questions:

**DAVID, SOLOMON, LEVITES**

1. Who made his son king over Israel when he was old? I Chron. 23:1 \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who would be a man of rest, and have rest from his enemies? I Chron. 22:9 \_\_\_\_\_
3. Who did the people of Tyre and Sidon bring much cedar wood to for the temple? I Chron. 22:4 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Who was counted to do service for the house of the Lord? I Chron. 23:24 \_\_\_\_\_

# The United Kingdom

## Part 2, LESSON 15

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**READ: I Chronicles 28: 1 - 29; I Chronicles 29: 1 - 22a**

### **VOCABULARY WORDS**

**Pattern** - A model or likeness something is built by. God had a pattern for the temple.

**Establish** - To fix, prepare, set up; not moveable.

**Sanctuary** - A holy place

### **DAVID TELLS ISRAEL THAT SOLOMON WILL SIT ON HIS THRONE**

King David called all his officers, commanders and mighty men to come to Jerusalem. When they had all assembled David rose to his feet and said to them, "Hear me, my brothers and my people. I wanted to build a house of rest for the ark of the covenant of God. I made preparations for building the house. But, God said to me, "You shall not build a house for My name because you have been a man of war and have taken many lives. Yet the Lord chose me out of my father's house to be a king over Israel forever. He has chosen Judah to be leader, and from the tribe of Judah He chose my father's house. From my father's house God chose me to be king. Out of all my sons the Lord has chosen Solomon to sit on the throne of the kingdom of the Lord over Israel."

"The Lord said to me, 'Your son is the one who will build My house because I have chosen him to be My son and I will be his father. I will **establish** his kingdom forever if he continues to obey my commands.'" Now, said David, "In the sight of you and of God, be careful to obey the Lord's commands so that you may continue to possess this good land and pass it on to your children after you."

After David said these things he began to talk to his son Solomon. He said, "And you, Solomon my son, know the God of your father and serve Him with your whole heart and with a willing mind because God knows every heart and understands what you are thinking. If you seek God you will find Him, but if you do not He will cast you off forever. Be careful because Jehovah has chosen you to build a house for the **sanctuary**. Be strong and do it!"

Then David gave Solomon the **pattern** for the temple and all that would be in it. The **pattern** had been given to him by the Spirit of God. David told Solomon, "The Lord made me understand this in writing from His hand all the works of this **pattern**."

David said to Solomon, "Be strong and of good courage and do your work. Don't be afraid or dismayed because Jehovah God, even my God, is with you. He will not leave you or forsake you, but will stay with you until you have finished all the work for the service of the house of the Lord. And see all the priests and Levites who are assigned to do work in the house of God. Every willing man who has a skill and all the people will be at your command."

Then David began to speak to all the people there. He said, "My son Solomon, the one that God has chosen, is young and inexperienced. The work is great because it is not for man, but for God. I have prepared as much as I could gold, silver, bronze, iron, wood, stone, and precious stones for the temple. In addition I am giving my own silver and gold for the house of God. Now, who else is willing to give and offering to the Lord today?"

After David spoke the leaders, officials and commanders in Israel gave willingly gold, silver, bronze, iron and precious stones for the Lord's house. The people rejoiced because they offered willingly with a whole heart. David rejoiced greatly too. Then David led a prayer in the presence of all the people praising God, thanking Him and telling of His greatness. He said, "Who am I and what is my people that we should be able to offer so willingly? Everything we have comes from You, and it is of the things that You gave us that we are giving to You. O Lord, we've brought together all these things to build a house to Your holy name and everything is Yours. Give my son Solomon a heart to keep all Your commandments and to build the temple with the things I have made ready."

David commanded the people, "Now bless Jehovah your God."

All the people bowed their heads and gave honor to the Lord and to the king. They offered sacrifices and burnt offerings to the Lord. For the second time Solomon was anointed king and Zadok was the priest.

### **DAVID- a good example**

*David really wanted to build the Lord a house, but God would not let him because he had been a man of war and shed much blood. But, when God told him that he could not build the temple he found something he could do! He organized and gathered materials to build with. He organized workers to build it. By the time Solomon began his work building the temple much work had already been done.*

*Many times people want to do some GREAT WORK for the Lord, and they overlook the SMALL WORKS that have to be done -- works that may not be as great, but are just as important.*

*David is an example to us. When he could not do what he wanted to do, he did something he could do. He was always looking for the ways that he could serve God, whether great or small.*

## **MEMORY WORK**

### **PSALM 139: 1 - 3**

- 1 O LORD, you have searched me and known me!
- 2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 3 You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

## USE YOUR BIBLE

1. How did David want Solomon to serve God? I Chron. 28:9 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Who was Solomon to build the temple for? I Chron. 29: 1 \_\_\_\_\_

3. How did the people give the supplies to build the temple? I Chron. 29:9 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. How many burnt offerings did they offer to God? I Chron. 29: 21 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# The United Kingdom

## Part 2, LESSON 16

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**Lesson Text: I Kings 1: 1 - 53; I Chronicles 29: 22 -25**

### **VOCABULARY WORDS:**

**Exalted** - To lift or raise up

**Oath** - A solemn promise

**Amen** - So be it

**Virgin** - A woman who has not been in a marriage relationship with a man.

**INTRODUCTION:** *In this lesson David is still the king over Israel. Solomon has not yet taken the throne of his father, even though David has already made it clear to Solomon and to the leaders of Israel that Solomon is to be the next king.*

*David is an old man in this lesson. He is around 70 years old, and no longer able to go about his business. He is bedfast and dying.*

### **David's son Adonijah wants the Throne**

King David was an old man. He couldn't get warm, not even when they covered him with clothes. So David's servants said to him, "Let's look for a young **virgin** woman that can take care of you. She can lie beside you and keep you warm."

A search was made throughout all Israel for a beautiful young woman and they found Abishag the Shunammite and brought her to the king.

The girl was very beautiful and she took care of David, but she never became as a wife to him.

It was about this time that David's son Adonijah **exalted** himself saying, "I will be king." Then he prepared for himself chariots and horsemen, and fifty men to run ahead of him.

Adonijah was a very handsome man and he was born after Absalom, so he thought he had the right to be the next king. David had never, in Adonijah's whole life, displeased Adonijah or asked him, "Why do you do the things that you do?"

Adonijah talked to Joab and Abiathar the priest and told them what he wanted to do. They gave Adonijah their support.

But, Zadok the priest, Benaiah, Nathan the prophet, Rei, Shimei, and the mighty men of David were not with Adonijah in what he wanted to do.

One day Adonijah went to Enrogel and invited all his brothers and all the men of Judah who were the servants of David. He sacrificed sheep, oxen, and fattened cattle there. But, he did not invite Nathan the prophet, Benaiah, David's mighty men or Solomon his brother.

When Nathan heard about this he went to Bathsheba, the mother of Solomon, and said, "Have you heard that Adonijah has become king and David does not know about it? Now, let me advise you on how you can save your life and the life of your son Solomon. Go in at once to King David and say to him, "Didn't you promise me that Solomon would reign after you as king and sit on your throne? Then why is Adonijah king?""

"While you are still talking to King David, I will come in and tell him that the things you are telling him are true."

So Bathsheba went to David's room to see him. Abishag was taking care of him. Bathsheba bowed down low to king David and David said, "What do you desire?"

Bathsheba said, "My lord, you swore to me by the Lord your God that Solomon would reign after you and sit on your throne. But now Adonijah has become king and you do not even know about it. He has sacrificed many oxen, cattle and sheep, and he has called all your sons, Abiathar the priest, and Joab your captain to come to him. But, he has not called your son Solomon."

"My lord the king, all the eyes of Israel are on you now to learn from you who will sit on the throne after you. If you do not tell them, then when you have died, Solomon and I will be treated as criminals."

While Bathsheba was talking to David, Nathan the prophet arrived. David's servants announced, "Nathan the prophet is here."

Nathan went before David and bowed his head to the ground. He said, "My lord the king, have you declared that Adonijah will be king after you? Today he has gone down and sacrificed great numbers of sheep, cattle and oxen. He has invited all of your sons, Joab and Abiathar the priest. And look! Right now they are eating and drinking with him and saying, "Long live King Adonijah!" But he did not invite me or Zadok, Benaiah or Solomon."

"Is this something you have done without telling us, that this is who you wanted to sit on the throne after you?"

Then David said, "Call Bathsheba to me."

Bathsheba came and stood before king David. Then David took an **oath** before them and said, "As sure as the Lord lives, and has saved me from all my troubles, I will keep the promise that I made to the God of Israel that Solomon will reign after me and will sit on my throne. I will do this on this very same day."

Bathsheba bowed herself to the ground and gave reverence to the king saying, "Let my lord, king David, reign forever."

David said, "Call Nathan the prophet, Zadok the priest, and Benaiah to me." And they came before the king.

David said to them, "Take my servants with you and put Solomon on my mule, then take him to Gihon. When you get there, have Nathan and Zadok anoint Solomon as king over Israel. Blow the trumpet and shout, "Long live king Solomon!" Then you are to come up with him and he will sit on my throne and reign in my place. I have appointed him as ruler over Israel and Judah."

"**Amen!**" answered Benaiah. "May the Lord God say so too. May the Lord be with Solomon as He has been with you and may his throne be even greater than yours has been!"

Zadok, Nathan, Benaiah, the Cherethites and Pelethites went down and had Solomon ride on David's mule, and they took Solomon to Gihon. Zadok the priest took a horn of oil and anointed Solomon king. They blew the horn and all the people said, "Long live King Solomon!" Everyone was rejoicing and playing flutes, and the noise of their rejoicing was so loud that the earth shook with the noise.

Adonijah and his guests were finishing their feast when they heard the noise of the rejoicing. When they heard the sound of the trumpet Joab asked, "What is the meaning of all this noise in the city?"

While Joab was speaking, Jonathan the son of Abiathar arrived. Adonijah said to Jonathan, "Come in! A worthy man like you must be bringing good news!"

Jonathan answered, "King David has made Solomon king. David sent Solomon with Zadok, Nathan, Benaiah, and his mighty men, and they have put Solomon on David's mule. Zadok and Nathan have anointed Solomon king at Gihon. They have left there rejoicing and the whole city is rejoicing. That is the noise you hear."

"Also, Solomon sits on the throne of the kingdom. David's servants have come to him saying that they hope Solomon's kingdom will be greater than his. David said, "May the God of Israel be praised who has given one to sit on my throne this day, my own eyes seeing it happen."

When all the guests of Adonijah heard what Jonathan had to say they became afraid and they went home. Adonijah was afraid of Solomon. He fled to the altar of the Lord and took hold of the horns of the altar.

Someone came to Solomon and told him about Adonijah. He said, "Adonijah is afraid of you and is clinging to the horns of the altar. He wants you to swear to him that you will not put him to death."

Solomon replied, "If Adonijah will show himself to be a worthy man, not a hair on his head will be hurt. But if evil is found in him he will die."

Then Solomon sent some men to get Adonijah down from the altar. Adonijah came to Solomon and bowed down to him. Solomon said to him, "Go to your home."

**THINK ABOUT IT:** *Abiathar and Joab had been loyal friends of King David. It seems strange that while David was still king they would support Adonijah as the new king of Israel. Adonijah probably thought that he should be king because he was the next oldest son after Absalom. However, Adonijah, Abiathar, and Joab forgot something very important! They were not the ones to choose the new king -- GOD was! It was God's will that Solomon be king, not David's will.*

*When we forget that our lives are to be ruled by GOD'S will, and not our own, we get into trouble. Just because we think something is a good idea does not make it so in God's eyes. We need to live our lives by God's will and standard -- the Bible. Only then will we be what God's wants us to be!*

**MAP WORK -- Find Enrogel and Gihon (these places are in the city of Jerusalem).**

## MEMORY WORK

### PSALM 139: 1 - 3

- 1 O LORD, you have searched me and known me!
- 2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 3 You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

## Figure it out!

Read II Samuel 5:4 and see if you can figure out David's age when his son became king of Israel.

1. David was \_\_\_\_\_ years old when he began to reign.
2. David reigned \_\_\_\_\_ years.

Add the answers to question 1 & 2 together to find out David's age \_\_\_\_\_.

## Multiple Choice

(Underline the Correct Answer)

1. David was ( old , young, middle-aged ) and he could not get warm.
2. ( Absalom, Abiathar, Abishag ) was the beautiful young virgin that David's servants found for him.
3. (Abiathar, Abishag, Adonijah ) wanted to be king of Israel.
4. (Zadok, Nathan, Benaiah ) told Bathsheba to talk to King David about Adonijah.
5. King David ( knew , did not know ) that Adonijah reigned as king of Israel.
6. Adonijah had ( David, Nathan, and Benaiah or Joab and Abiathar ) on his side.
7. David wanted (Nathan and Zadok; Abiathar and Joab ) to anoint Solomon king of Israel.
8. David told Zadok and Nathan to have Solomon ride upon his ( camel , horse, mule ).
9. When Adonijah learned that Solomon had been anointed king he was ( glad, afraid).
10. Solomon let Adonijah (die, live ).

# The United Kingdom

## Part 2, LESSON 17

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**LESSON TEXT: I Kings 2: 1 - 46; I Chronicles 29: 26 - 30; II Sam. 3:26**

### **VOCABULARY WORDS:**

**Prosper** - To have success

**Girdle** - A belt

**Charge** - To command; to set in order

**The way of all the earth** - This phrase means that one is going to die. All men die.

**City of David** - The city of Jerusalem. David reigned in the city of Jerusalem. Look for this term as you continue to study the old and new testaments.

### **David's last words of advice to Solomon**

When the time was close for King David to die he **charged** Solomon saying, "I go the **way of all the earth**. You need to have courage and keep the commandments of the Lord your God. If you keep God's laws you will **prosper**. God will keep the promise that he made to me -- that if my children after me keep God's word with all their heart and soul there will always be a man on the throne of Israel."

"Remember what Joab did to me and the two commanders of Israel's army. He killed Abner and Amasa in a time of peace as if he were in a battle, and put the blood of war on his **girdle** and the shoes of his feet. Do with Joab according to your wisdom, but do not let his gray head go down to the grave in peace."

"Be kind to the sons of Barzillai and let them eat at your table because they helped me when I was fleeing from Absalom your brother."

"Remember Shimei, who called out curses to me on the day I went to Mahanaim. I promised him I would not put him to death on the day he met me at the Jordan River. But, do not consider him innocent. You are wise and will know what to do to him, but bring down his gray head to the grave with blood."

After this David died and he was buried in the **city of David**. He had reigned 40 years over Israel and had enjoyed much riches and honor during his life.

### **Solomon sits on the throne**

Solomon sat on the throne of his father David and his rule was firmly established over Israel. One day his brother Adonijah, who was the son of David and Haggith, came to Bathsheba the mother of Solomon. Bathsheba asked Adonijah, "Do you come in peace?"

Adonijah answered, "Yes, peacefully. I have something to say to you. "

Bathsheba said, "Say on."

"As you know", said Adonijah, "the kingdom of Israel was mine. All of Israel expected me to be the next king. But things changed and the kingdom went to my brother Solomon because the Lord wanted him to have it. Now, I have one request to make of you. Please don't refuse me."

"Say on." said Bathsheba.

"Please speak to Solomon", he said, "for he will not tell you no. Ask him to give me Abishag the Shunammite for a wife."

"Very well," said Bathsheba, "I will speak to the king for you."

Bathsheba went to King Solomon on behalf of Adonijah. When Solomon saw his mother he rose up to meet her and bowed before her. Then he sat on his throne and asked that a throne be brought for her to sit on his right side. She sat down beside Solomon and said, "I have one small request to make of you; please don't say no."

Solomon said, "Ask me my mother for I will not say no to you."

So, Bathsheba said, "Let your brother Adonijah have Abishag for his wife."

Solomon did not like this request and he answered his mother, "Why do you ask that Abishag be given to Adonijah my brother? You might as well ask that the kingdom be given to him too, for he is my older brother. Yes, and Abiathar and Joab are on his side."

Then Solomon made a solemn promise to the Lord and said, "May the Lord deal with me severely if Adonijah does not pay for this request with his life. The Lord had kept His promise and established the throne of my father David. Adonijah shall be put to death today!"

Solomon gave Benaiah orders to kill Adonijah, and he went out and killed him.

Then Solomon called for Abiathar the priest. He said to him, "Go to your own fields in Anathoth because you deserve to die. But I will not put you to death now because you carried the ark of the covenant before David my father, and because you helped him when he was in trouble."

Then Solomon removed Abiathar from being a priest in Israel.

When Joab heard the news about Abiathar he went in haste to the tabernacle of the Lord and caught hold of the horns on the altar.

Someone went to Solomon and told him that Joab was at the tabernacle beside the altar. Solomon sent Benaiah to Joab and said, "Go, strike him down."

Benaiah went to the tabernacle and said to Joab, "The king has commanded that you come out!"

Joab answered, "No, I will die here!"

So, Benaiah sent word to Solomon telling him what Joab had said. The king replied, "Do as he has said. Kill him and bury him, and take away from me and my father's house the blood that Joab shed without a cause. The Lord will punish him for the two innocent men he killed, Abner and Amasa. But for David and his throne there will be peace forever from the Lord."

Benaiah killed Joab and he was buried in his own house in the wilderness. Solomon made Benaiah commander of his army in Joab's place, and he replaced Abiathar with Zadok as priest.

Then Solomon sent for Shimei and said to him, "Build yourself a house in Jerusalem and live there, but do not go anywhere else. For on the day you leave Jerusalem and cross the Kidron Valley you will certainly die, and your blood will be on your own head."

Shimei answered Solomon and said, "What you say is good. I will do as you have said."

Shimei obeyed Solomon for three years. Then one day two of his servants ran away to king Achish in Gath. Someone told Shimei that his servants were in Gath, so he went there to search for them. He found them and brought them back to Jerusalem. But, when someone told Solomon what Shimei had done he sent for Shimei and said to him, "Didn't I make you swear before God and warn you that on the day you left to go somewhere else you would die? You told me that you would obey. Why didn't you keep your promise to the Lord and obey the command I gave you? You know in your heart all the wrong that you did to my father David. Now the Lord will repay you for your wrongdoing."

Then Solomon gave Benaiah orders to kill Shimei.

Solomon's authority over the kingdom of Israel was now complete.

### ***SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:***

*As David was dying he told Solomon to remember the things that Joab and Shimei had done, and to do to them according his wisdom. David did not tell Solomon this because of any personal anger toward Joab and Shimei, but because he wanted Solomon's kingdom to be secure and safe from enemies. He knew that Joab and Shimei would be enemies of Solomon's kingdom.*

*It was the custom of that time for a king to inherit the wives of the previous king. Solomon had inherited the wives of David. When Adonijah his brother requested Abishag, a wife of David, his request was a subtle request for the kingdom as well. This is why Adonijah's request angered Solomon so.*

*Adonijah had not wanted to submit to God's will. He did not like the fact that Solomon was king and that he was not. Abiathar and Joab knew that Solomon was God's choice, but they sided with Adonijah anyway. They did not want to do things the way God wanted them done.*

*When God tells us what He wants done, and the way He wants it done, it is our responsibility to do it, whether we like it or not!*

## **MEMORY WORK**

### **Psalms 139 1 - 4**

- 1 O Lord, you have searched me and known me!**
- 2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar.**
- 3 You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.**
- 4 Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.**

## FILL -IN-THE-BLANKS

1. When it was about time for David to die he told Solomon to have courage and keep the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ killed Abner and Amasa.
3. David was buried in the city of \_\_\_\_\_.
4. David reigned \_\_\_\_\_ years over Israel.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ sat on the throne of his father David.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ wanted Bathsheba to ask Solomon if he could have Abishag for a wife.
7. When Solomon heard Adonijah's request, he said that Adonijah would be put to \_\_\_\_\_ that day.
8. Solomon told \_\_\_\_\_ that he deserved to die, but he would not put him to death because he had carried the ark of the covenant during David's reign.
9. Solomon replaced Abiathar with \_\_\_\_\_ as priest.
10. Solomon told \_\_\_\_\_ that he was not to leave the city of Jerusalem or he would die.
11. \_\_\_\_\_ killed Shimei.

### THOUGHT QUESTION:

1. David told Solomon that God would cause him to prosper, but only if he would do what? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Why did Solomon make Zadok the priest, replacing Abiathar? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Why do you think it was important that Joab, Abiathar and Shimei be punished for the things they did? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# The United Kingdom

## Part 2, LESSON 18

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### REVIEW

1. Name the three kings of the United Kingdom:

(1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

(3) \_\_\_\_\_

2. How did God establish David's throne forever? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Multiple Choice (underline the correct answer)

1. The Gibeonites wanted the sons of (Saul , David) to be given to them.
2. The Gibeonites were ( Slaves , Friends ) of Israel.
3. ( Joab , God) was displeased with the command David had given for a census, so he (rewarded , punished ) Israel.
4. The angel of Jehovah told ( Joab , Gad) the prophet, "Tell David to build an ( altar , temple ) to the Lord on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite.
5. David told Araunah, " I will not offer burnt offerings to the Lord with things that cost me ( everything, nothing ).
6. David's mighty men were the ( Levites and Jebusites, Cherethites and Pelethites ).
7. ( David , God ) decided who the next king would be after David.
8. God did not want David to build the temple because he had (been king of Israel, shed a lot of blood).
9. During the days of David's kingdom ( Zadok and Amasa, Zadok and Abiathar) were high priests of Israel.
10. David told Israel that ( Adonijah, Solomon ) would sit on his throne.
11. The ( Levites , Spirit of God ) gave David a ( hammer, pattern) to build the temple by.
12. ( Abishag , Abiathar ) was brought to king David to keep him warm.
13. David's son Adonijah exalted himself and said, "I will be (priest , king).
14. When Adonijah heard that Solomon was anointed king before Israel he fled to the ( Gibeonites , altar of the Lord).
15. Adonijah wanted ( Bathsheba , Abishag) for his wife.

16. ( Benaiah , Solomon ) killed Adonijah, Joab and Shimei.

17. Joab, Adonijah and Shimei were (enemies , friends ) of Solomon and his kingdom.

## **MEMORY WORK**

### **Psalms 139: 1 - 4**

- 1 O Lord, you have searched me and known me!**
- 2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar.**
- 3 You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.**
- 4 Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.**

# The United Kingdom

## Part 2, LESSON 19

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**LESSON TEXT: I Kings 3:1 - 15; 9: 16,24; II Chronicles 1: 1 - 13; 8:11**

### **VOCABULARY WORDS:**

**Alliance** - A union to promote common interests. Solomon made alliances with other kings and nations to promote peace and interest on behalf of Israel.

**Knowledge** - Something learned and kept in the mind.

**Wisdom** - Judging and knowing how to use the knowledge one has.

**Harlot** - A woman who commits and makes a practice of the sin of fornication.

### **Solomon Marries and Makes an Alliance with Egypt**

When Solomon was king he made an **alliance** with Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, and married his daughter. He brought her to the city of David where she stayed until he finished building his palace, the temple and the wall around Jerusalem.

Pharaoh the king of Egypt attacked and captured the city of Gezer. He set it on fire and killed the Canaanites in that city. Then Pharaoh presented the city as a wedding gift to his daughter. Solomon rebuilt Gezer as an Israelite city.

Solomon built his wife her own house. He said, "She must not live in the palace of King David because the places where the ark of the Lord has been are holy."

### **Solomon's Wisdom**

Solomon was strengthened in his kingdom and God was with him and made him very great. He loved the Lord and kept the laws of David his father.

Solomon spoke to all the leaders in Israel. Then he, and all the people with him, went to the high place in Gibeon. The Tabernacle of God was there, and in front of the tabernacle was the bronze altar. (The ark of God was in a tent that David had prepared for it in Jerusalem.)

Solomon went to the bronze altar and offered a thousand burnt offerings upon it. That night the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and asked him, "Ask, what shall I give you?"

Solomon replied to the Lord, "You have shown great loving-kindness to my father David because he was faithful and righteous to You. You have continued to show this loving-kindness to him by giving him a son to sit on his throne this very day."

"And now, O Jehovah my God, you have made me king instead of David my father. I am like a little child and do not know the things I should do. I am a part of a great people that you have chosen, a great

people that are so many they cannot be counted. Please give your servant **wisdom** and **knowledge** so that I may know right and wrong. For who can rule this great people of Yours?"

God was pleased that Solomon had asked for this, so God answered Solomon, "Because this was in your heart, and because you have not asked for riches, wealth, honor, or the lives of your enemies -- neither have you asked for a long life, but have only asked for **wisdom** and **knowledge** that you may judge My people, I will do what you have asked."

"**Wisdom** and **knowledge** will be given to you, and I will also give you wealth, riches and honor such as no king has ever had before or will ever have again. And if you walk in My ways, and keep My laws and My commandments, just as your father David did, I will also give you a long life."

Solomon awoke, and he realized that it had been a dream. Then he went to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the Lord. He offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings and made a feast for all of his servants.

### **Solomon Uses His Wisdom**

One day two women who were **harlots** came before King Solomon and stood before him. One of them said, "My lord, this woman and I live in the same house. I had a baby while she was with me. On the third day after my child was born, this woman also had a baby. We were alone and no one else was in the house with us."

"During the night, this woman's baby son died because she lay upon him. So she got up in the middle of the night while I was asleep and took my son from my side and laid the dead child with me. Then she put my son by her. When I rose in the morning to nurse my son he was dead. But when I looked more closely at him in the morning light I saw that it was not my son!"

Then the other woman began to say, "No! The living one is my son, the dead one is yours."

But the first woman insisted, "No! The living son is mine and the dead one is yours."

The two women continued to argue before King Solomon. Then the king said, "This one says, 'My son is alive and your son is dead', while the other one says 'No! Your son is dead and my son is alive' Bring me a sword."

So a sword was brought to King Solomon and then Solomon gave an order. He said, "Cut the child in two. Give one half to one and half to the other."

When King Solomon said this the woman whose son was alive was filled with love for her child and said to the king, "Please my lord! Give her the living baby! Don't kill him!"

But the other woman said, "He shall not be mine or yours! Cut him in two!"

King Solomon answered and said, "Give the first woman the living child and do not kill him because she is the mother."

When all of Israel heard how Solomon had judged this case they feared and had reverence for him. They said that the wisdom of God was in him to judge them.

**THINK ABOUT THIS:** In Deuteronomy 7: 2 - 3 Moses told Israel that they were not to enter into any agreements with other nations around them, or to marry their sons and daughters. This was God's law!

Deuteronomy 7:4 tells us why they were not to do this -- because people from others nations would turn them away from the true God to serve their gods. God wanted His nation to be a HOLY PEOPLE and serve ONLY HIM! The only way they could do this was by their obedience to GOD'S will.

At this point in Solomon's life he wanted to serve God, and God had promised him wisdom, knowledge, riches, honor and a long life. BUT, Solomon could only have these things IF HE OBEYED GOD! (I Kings 3:14).

Watch Solomon as we study about him and see if he used the gifts that God gave him to serve God with. Watch and see what happened because of the agreements that Solomon made with other nations, and because of the wives Solomon married from other nations.

Keep this in mind: GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES !

## MEMORY WORK

Proverbs 3:5

**5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. (KJV)**

## QUESTIONS

1. Who made Solomon a great king? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Whose daughter did Solomon marry? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Why did Solomon build her a house? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What did God ask Solomon in a dream? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What things did Solomon ask God for? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. What did God give Solomon? \_\_\_\_\_

# The United Kingdom

## Part 2, LESSON 20

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**LESSON TEXT: I Kings 4: 1 - 31; 5: 1 - 18; 7: 13 - 14; II Chronicles 2: 1 - 18**

### **VOCABULARY WORDS:**

**Provision** - Food

**Proverb** - A short, wise saying used for a long time by many people.

## **Solomon's Wisdom and the Condition of His Kingdom**

Solomon was the king over all Israel. During his reign the high priest was Azariah. Azariah was the son of Zadok the high priest.

The captain over Solomon's army was Benaiah.

Solomon had twelve officers over all Israel. Israel was divided into twelve districts and the people in each district were to supply Solomon's kingdom with food and supplies for one month out of each year. The officers would make sure that everything was supplied in his month so that the king's household would have everything they needed. They took care that nothing was overlooked.

Solomon and his household required quite a lot of provisions for one day. They used 185 bushels of flour, 375 bushels of meal, 10 fattened oxen, 20 oxen out of the pastures, 100 sheep in addition to deer, gazelles, roebucks and choice fowl.

Solomon brought horses out of Egypt and he had 40,000 stalls for his chariot horses, and 12,000 horses in his cavalry. The officers of each district would also make sure that enough barley and straw was supplied for the horses.

The people in Judah and Israel were as numerous as the sand on the seashore, and they were happy. They had plenty to eat and drink, and they lived safely. Each family had its own grape vines and fig tree.

Solomon ruled over all the kingdoms from the Euphrates river to the land of the Philistines, to the border of Egypt. They brought gifts to Solomon and served him all the days of their lives. Israel had peace from every side around them.

God gave Solomon much wisdom and understanding. His understanding was as measureless as the sand on the seashore. His wisdom was greater than all the men in the East, and more than all the wisdom in Egypt. He was wiser than ALL men, and the fame of his wisdom spread to the nations around them.

Solomon spoke 3,000 proverbs and 1,005 songs. He described all kinds of plant life and taught about animals, birds, reptiles and fish. Men of all nations from all the kings of the earth came to hear the

wisdom of Solomon. *(Solomon wrote the books of Song of Solomon, Ecclesiastes, most of the book of Proverbs and two of the Psalms.)*

## Solomon's Plans to Build the Temple

King Hiram of Tyre heard that Solomon was king of Israel and because he had always loved Solomon's father David, he sent word to Solomon.

Solomon was determined to build a house of the Lord and a house for his kingdom, so he selected 70,000 men to bear burdens and 80,000 men to quarry stone in the mountains. He chose 3,600 men to oversee them and this work. Then he wrote to King Hiram and said, "You know that my father David was not able to build a house for the Lord because of the wars he had to fight. Now God has given my kingdom peace from their enemies, so I intend to build a temple for the name of the Lord my God. God told my father, 'I will put your son on the throne in your place to build a temple for My Name.'"

"The temple I build will be dedicated to God for burning incense before Him, for setting out the shewbread before Him and for making burnt offerings every morning, evening and on the Sabbaths, New Moons and at appointed feast days. The house I build will be great because our God is greater than all gods. But, who is able to build a temple for God, since the heavens and even the highest heavens cannot contain Him? Who am I to build a temple for Him, except as a place to burn sacrifices before Him?"

"As you dealt with my father David, and sent him cedars to build him a house, deal with me. Send me cedar, pine and alnum trees from Lebanon, for I know your men are skilled in cutting trees there. My men will work with you and I will pay your men whatever wages you desire. Provide me with plenty of lumber because the temple I build must be large and magnificent!"

"Send me too a man skilled to work in gold, silver, bronze and iron. Also in purple, red and blue yarn. A man experienced in the art of engraving that can work with my skilled craftsmen."

King Hiram replied to King Solomon's letter. He said, "Praise be to the Lord, for He has given David a wise son to rule over this great nation. The Lord has made you king because He loves His people. I will do all you want in providing cedar and pine logs. My men will haul them down from Lebanon to the sea and float them by rafts to Joppa. From there you can take them to Jerusalem, and in return you send us wheat, barley, olive oil and wine as payment. I am also sending you a man of great skill named Hiram. His mother is from the tribe of Dan and his father is from Tyre. He can do all the things you want and work with your craftsmen."

**KEEP THIS IN MIND:** *Solomon said, "Who is able to build a temple for God, since the heavens and even the highest heavens cannot contain Him?" Solomon realized that the temple would only be a place where God's presence would be with His nation Israel. The tabernacle that Moses built had served the same purpose. God is too powerful and great for a building to contain Him!*

*Solomon also said, "Our God is greater than all gods." He said this because all other gods are FALSE gods. The ONLY true God is JEHOVAH GOD!*

*Notice the rest of Solomon's life. See if he remembered these things he said about God.*

## MEMORY WORK

### Proverbs 3:5

**5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.** (KJV)

## MULTIPLE CHOICE

**(Underline the correct answer.)**

1. The high priest over Solomon's kingdom was ( Nathan , Azariah, Hiram).
2. The people of Israel were (happy, unhappy ) during Solomon's reign.
3. Solomon was wiser than ( some , all ) men.
4. Solomon got his wisdom and understanding from (David, God ).
5. Solomon wrote a letter to ( Azariah , Hiram ).
6. Solomon wanted King Hiram to send him ( plants , cedar and pine trees ).
7. King Hiram told Solomon that he would send him trees by ( hauling them by camels , floating them on rafts on the sea).
8. King Hiram sent Solomon a craftsman named ( Dan , Hiram).

**Map Work: Tyre, Euphrates River, Egypt**

# The United Kingdom

## Part 2, LESSON 21

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**LESSON TEXT: I Kings 6: 1 - 7:50; II Chron. 3: 1 - 4:22**

### **VOCABULARY WORDS:**

**Jachin** - He shall establish

**Boaz** - In its strength

**Dedicated** - A sacred place or thing

**Forsake** - To leave

## **SOLOMON BUILDS THE TEMPLE**

By this time it had been four hundred and eighty years since the children of Israel had come out of Egyptian bondage. Solomon had been reigning as the king of Israel for four years and he began to build the temple in the second month of that year. He built the temple on Mount Moriah. This was the same place where the Lord had appeared unto David while he was on the threshing floor of Araunah (or Ornan) the Jebusite.

The Lord spoke to Solomon while he was building the temple. He said, "Now concerning this house that you are building -- if you follow My laws and commands, and obey them, I will do for you what I promised your father David. I will live among the children of Israel and not **forsake** them."

It took Solomon seven years to finish building the Temple for the Lord. Solomon's builders and King Hiram's builders prepared the stone and lumber to build the Temple with. The stones were made ready before they were even brought to the mountain. When they built the Temple there was not a sound of a hammer, axe, or any tool heard.

The inside of the temple was paneled with cedar wood and the stones that it was built with could not be seen. The cedar wood was carved with buds and flowers. The floor of the temple was covered with cypress wood. The whole house was overlaid with gold.

The Temple was divided into three main sections: The Most Holy Place, The Holy Place, and the Court. The main part of the building was about 90 feet long, 30 feet wide and 45 feet high.

On the front of the Temple was a porch. Along the sides of the temple were storerooms. These rooms were 3 stories high and they held the supplies and treasures that had been **dedicated** to the Lord.

On either side of the front doors were great bronze pillars. The pillar on the right was called **Jachin** and the one on the left was called **Boaz**.

The first room in the Temple was called the Holy Place. This where the daily sacrifices of incense were offered on the altar of incense. There were ten tables of shewbread and ten candlesticks (five on

each side of the room). The tables were wood covered with gold and the candlesticks were made of pure gold.

The second room of the Temple (or the inner sanctuary) was the Most Holy Place. In it were two cherubim made of olive wood and covered with gold. The cherubim were about 15 feet high and their wings were extended so that one wing tip touched the wall on one side and the other wing tip touched the wing tip of the other cherubim in the middle of the room. The ark of the covenant was placed beneath their wings.

In between the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place were two doors, a curtain (or veil) and a gold chain. The veil was fine linen with cherubim of blue, purple and red woven in it.

The Court of the Temple was surrounded by a wall of stone with cedar beams at the top. Inside the Court was the Altar of Burnt Offerings. This altar was made of bronze, and they offered all their animal and grain sacrifices on it.

The craftsman named Hiram made a great Sea for the priests to wash themselves in. It was made of bronze and was placed in the courtyard in front of the temple. It was round and was about seven and one-half feet deep and forty-five feet across. It sat on the backs of twelve bronze bulls -- three of them facing north, three facing south, three facing east, and three facing west.

There were 10 lavers of water -- five on the north side of the Temple and five on the south side. These were used to wash the animals that they offered on the altar of burnt offerings.

### ***Do You Remember This??***

*One day when David was king, God sent a plague to destroy Jerusalem because David had told his rulers to go number Israel. Right before God was going to destroy the city David prayed to Him and He told the angel to stay his hand and not destroy it after all. Afterward, David offered sacrifices to God on the threshing floor of Araunah, and he said that the temple would be built there. It is in this same place that Solomon built the Temple for God.*

## **MEMORY WORK**

### **Prov. 3: 5- 6**

**Pro 3:5** Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

**Pro 3:6** In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

## USE YOUR BIBLE

1. What did God tell Solomon he would have to do in order for Him to keep His promise to David? (I Kings 6:12 )

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2. How many years did it take Solomon and Israel to build the Temple? (I Kings 6:38)

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3. What was unusual about the building of the temple? ( I Kings 6: 7 )

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4. What was special about the ark of the covenant? (Exodus 25:22)

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5. How did Solomon know how to build the Temple? (II Chron. 3:3; I Chron. 28:11,12, 19)

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6. Does God give us a pattern (or way) to worship Him today? (John 4:24) \_\_\_\_\_

# The United Kingdom

## Part 2, LESSON 22

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**LESSON TEXT: I Kings 6: 37 - 38; 7: 2 - 22, 51 - 8:66; 9: 1 - 9 II Chronicles 5: 1 - 7; 8: 11 - 16; 9: 17 -19**

### **VOCABULARY WORDS:**

**Ivory** - The tusks of elephants

**Dedicate** - To hallow or make holy; sanctify

**Consume** - To burn up completely

## **SOLOMON DEDICATES THE FINISHED TEMPLE**

When Solomon was finished building the Lord's Temple he brought in all the things that his father David had **dedicated**. The silver, gold, and furnishings were put in the treasuries of the Temple. Then Solomon called together all the elders of Israel, the heads of the tribes, and the chief fathers of the children of Israel to the city of Jerusalem. He wanted to bring up the ark of the covenant from the city of David and put it into the Temple.

All the men of Israel assembled to King Solomon in the seventh month of the year, which was during their feast time. The Levite priests carried the ark of the covenant and they brought it, along with the Tabernacle that was at Gibeon, and all the furniture and vessels of the Tabernacle.

King Solomon and all the men assembled were before the ark of the covenant, and they sacrificed so many sheep and oxen that they could not count them. Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant into the Most Holy Place of the Temple and placed it beneath the wings of the cherubim.

While this was happening, the Levite song leaders Asaph, Jeduthan, and Heman, along with their sons and relatives, stood on the east side of the altar and played cymbals, harps and instruments of music. They were accompanied by 120 priests blowing trumpets. All of them joined together singing and praising God. They sang, "*The Lord is good, His love endures forever!*"

When the priests came out of the Holy Place the cloud filled the Temple. The glory of the Lord filled the Temple. Then Solomon spoke, "The Lord said that He would dwell in a dark cloud. I have built a magnificent Temple for You. A place for you to dwell in forever."

Solomon turned around and blessed the whole assembly of Israel. He said, "Praise be to God, for He has kept the promise He made to my father David. David wanted to build the Temple for the Lord, but the Lord would not let him. The Lord has kept His promise to David for now I sit on the throne of David and have built a Temple for the Lord God of Israel. I have placed the ark in the Temple and inside the ark is the covenant that God made with His people when He brought them out of Egypt."

Then Solomon, standing on a platform before the altar of burnt offerings, raised his hands toward heaven and prayed to the Lord before Israel. He prayed, "O God, there is no God like you in heaven or earth. You keep Your promises with Your servants when they do Your will. You have kept the promise to my father David. But will God dwell on earth? The heavens and the highest heavens cannot contain You, much less this temple that I have built. But, please hear Your servant's prayer that I am praying to You today. May Your eyes be toward this Temple day and night, and hear the prayers of Your servants that pray toward this place. Hear our prayers from Your dwelling place in heaven. And when You hear us, please forgive us."

Solomon finished his prayer and he stood and blessed all the children of Israel. He said, "Praise be to the Lord who has given His people rest. He has kept all His promises. May God be with us, as He was with our Fathers. May He continue to be with us, and may we walk in His ways. May all the people of the earth know that there is One God and no other. But we must be fully committed to God and live by His commands."

As Solomon finished his prayer fire came down from heaven and **consumed** the burnt offering and sacrifices. When the people saw this they fell on their faces and worshipped God saying, "He is good. His mercy endures forever."

Then Solomon offered sacrifices to God, and he and all Israel **dedicated** the temple to God. The people continued to celebrate for seven days before they returned home rejoicing over all the good things God had done.

King Solomon kept the commandments that Moses had given the children of Israel about the sacrifices they were to offer to God. The sacrifices were offered every day, as well as the sacrifices for the special feast days.

He also gave the Levites duties -- leading singing, helping the priests, gatekeepers, etc.

## **SOLOMON BUILDS HIS OWN HOUSE AND WEALTH**

When Solomon finished building the Temple he began to build his own palace. It took him thirteen years to build it and was called "The House of the Forest of Lebanon" because so many cedar trees from Lebanon were used to build it. It was 150 feet long, 75 feet wide and 45 feet high. He built a throne hall called the Hall of Justice, and this is where he judged the people. It was covered from floor to ceiling with cedar wood, as well as his living quarters and the living quarters of his wife.

Solomon put his throne in the Hall of Justice, and it was made of **ivory** covered with gold. Six steps went up to the throne and beside each armrest of the throne was a lion. Twelve lions stood on the six steps leading up to the throne.

All the drinking vessels and household articles were made of gold in Solomon's palace. None were made of silver because silver was of little value in Solomon's day. He had a navy with King Hiram that had a fleet of ships on the shore of the Red Sea in the land of Edom. The ships went to Tarshish with the servants of King Hiram, and they had a knowledge of the sea. Once every three years the ships would come in with gold, silver, **ivory**, apes, peacocks, precious stones and almug wood.

Solomon had more riches and wisdom than all the kings of the earth. Kings from other nations wanted to come hear the wisdom that God had given Solomon. They brought him gifts of gold, silver, clothes, spices, horses and mules at a set rate every year. He received gold from traders and merchants,

surrounding kings and governors of the land. He had 4,000 stalls for his horses and 12,000 horses imported from Egypt that he kept in different cities and in Jerusalem.

### **THINK ABOUT THIS...**

During the days of Samuel, God told Israel: *"A king will take your sons for his chariots and horses. They will be his soldiers and farm his land. He will take your daughters to work for him. He will take the best of your crops for his household. He will tax you and he will take your servants for his own. You will become his slaves. One day you will cry out because of the king you have chosen and I WILL NOT HEAR YOU !"* I Samuel 8: 11 - 18

Can you see what Solomon is doing to his people? Solomon has his people working for him every year. Some are soldiers in his army, some are in his navy on his fleet of ships, some are helping King Hiram's men bring the trees out of Lebanon, some are working hard in their fields at home to supply the king's household with food and supplies, and some are busy building the Lord's temple and the palace for Solomon. So far, the people have been happy -- but how long will this be? Can you see that Solomon is doing EVERYTHING that the Lord said a KING would do?

Although this is a happy time, and prosperous time in Israel's history, can you see that there are some things that will cause them problems later on?

When Solomon prayed to God on the day he **dedicated** the Temple he said that he wanted to serve Him. Pay attention to the rest of Solomon's life and see if Solomon keeps this promise to God.

### **MEMORY WORK**

#### **Prov. 3: 5- 6**

**Pro 3:5** Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

**Pro 3:6** In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

## MATCH

- |                             |       |                                   |
|-----------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Levite priests           | _____ | Had a navy with King Solomon.     |
| 2. Asaph, Jeduthan, & Heman | _____ | Carried the ark of the covenant.  |
| 3. Ivory                    | _____ | Filled the temple.                |
| 4. The glory of the Lord    | _____ | Were all made of gold.            |
| 5. Solomon                  | _____ | Song leaders of Israel.           |
| 6. Drinking vessels         | _____ | Prayed to God and blessed Israel. |
| 7. King Hiram               | _____ | Solomon's throne.                 |

## MAP WORK: Red Sea, Edom

# The United Kingdom

## Part 2, LESSON 23

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**LESSON TEXT: I Kings 9: 10 - 28; 10: 1 - 13; 11: 1 - 13; II Chron. 8: 1 - 18; 9: 1 - 28**

### **VOCABULARY WORDS:**

**Prove** - To test or try

**Cupbearer** - A butler; one who served the king.

**Clave** - To be joined close together

**Rend** - To tear; to cut out.

**Concubine** - A servant wife

*IN THIS LESSON: We will see the downfall of Solomon and his kingdom. Think about how his kingdom started with such promise. His heart was right with God in the beginning of his reign, and God blessed him with wisdom, knowledge, riches and honor. He built God a house and dedicated it to God. We could see into his heart as he prayed to God on that day.*

*However, the things that the Lord warned Israel about in I Sam. 8: 11 - 18 began to take place. This was a time when Solomon could have accomplished great things in God's kingdom of Israel because God had blessed him with everything he needed to do so. But those blessings had conditions.*

*Israel was at peace and was prosperous. But it was also a time when Satan began to work on Solomon and Israel, turning them away from God.*

*As we study Solomon's life it consisted of four things: (1) Wisdom; (2) Works; (3) Wealth; and (4) Wives.*

## **SOLOMON PAYS KING HIRAM**

Solomon had been king for twenty years when he finished the temple and his palace. At the end of those twenty years King Solomon gave King Hiram twenty cities in the land of Galilee. King Hiram had supplied Solomon with all the gold, cedar and pine trees that he had wanted, but when he came down to see the cities that Solomon had given him he was not pleased. Hiram said, "What sort of cities have you given me, my brother?" And Hiram called the cities the land of Cabul.

Hiram had been a great help to Solomon because he had sent him over 4 tons of gold.

## THE QUEEN OF SHEBA

The queen of Sheba from Arabia heard of Solomon's fame. She decided to go see Solomon in Jerusalem to **prove** him with hard questions. She arrived in Jerusalem with a very large caravan. There were camels carrying spices, large amounts of gold and precious stones. She talked to Solomon about all that was on her mind, and Solomon could answer every question that she had -- nothing was too hard for him. She saw his wisdom, his riches, his palace, the abundance of good on his table, his servants, their apparel, **cupbearers**, and burnt offerings at the temple.

As the queen of Sheba left Solomon she said to him, "Everything I heard about you was true, and has exceeded the report I heard about you. Your servants and officials who continually stand before you must be happy to hear your wisdom! Blessed by your God who delighted in you and set you on the throne." She gave Solomon about 4 1/2 tons of gold, spices and precious jewels.

In return, Solomon gave the queen of Sheba all she desired. She left with her attendants and went back to her own country.

## SOLOMON'S HEART IS TURNED AWAY FROM GOD

King Solomon loved many foreign women. In addition to Pharaoh's daughter from Egypt, he married Hittite, Moabite, Ammonite, Edomite and Sidonian women. These women were from the nations around them, and although God had given the Israelites instructions saying, "You shall not enter into marriage with them, for they will turn away your heart from God.", he did not listen and **clave** to these women in love.

Solomon had 700 wives and 300 **concubines**. These women turned Solomon's heart away from God. He even began to follow their gods, not following the Lord with a complete heart. He built high places for their idol gods too. In doing all this Solomon did what was evil in the sight of Jehovah God. He followed after Milcom, the god of the Ammonites. He followed after Ashtoreth, the god of the Sidonians. He built high places for Chemosh, the god of the Moabites, and for Molech, the god of the Ammonites. He did this for his foreign wives so they could make sacrifice and offerings to their foreign gods.

The Lord appeared to Solomon twice in visions and had commanded him not to go after other gods. He was angry because Solomon's heart was turned away from Jehovah and had not kept His commands. So the Lord said to Solomon, "Because you have done these things and not kept My covenant and laws that I commanded you, I will most certainly **rend** the kingdom away from you and will give it to your servant. However, for the sake of your father David I will not do it in your lifetime, but I will **rend** it out of the hand of your son. I will not take all the kingdom from your son, but I will give your son one tribe for the sake of my servant David, and for Jerusalem's sake which I have chosen."

## MEMORY WORK

### Proverb 3: 5 - 7

**Pro 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart;  
and lean not unto thine own understanding.**

**Pro 3:6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.**

**Pro 3:7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.**

## THINK ABOUT IT

**Read Deuteronomy 17: 16 - 20 and answer the following questions YES or NO:**

1. Was Israel's king to have many horses? \_\_\_\_
2. Did Solomon have many horses (I Kings 4:26)? \_\_\_\_
3. Was Israel's king to have much silver and gold? \_\_\_\_
4. Did Solomon have much silver and gold? \_\_\_\_
5. Was Israel's king to have many wives? \_\_\_\_
6. Did Solomon have many wives? \_\_\_\_
7. Was Israel's king to know what God's will was? \_\_\_\_
8. Did Solomon have any excuse for not knowing or doing God's will? \_\_\_\_

## **MULTIPLE CHOICE:** (underline the correct answer)

1. King Solomon gave King Hiram ( 10, 30, 20 ) cities in Galilee.
2. Hiram called the cities the land of ( milk and honey, Israel, Cabul).
3. The Queen of Sheba came to prove ( David , Solomon ) with hard questions.
4. When the Queen of Sheba saw the wisdom and wealth of Solomon she said, " ( Happy , Unhappy ) are your servants."
5. Solomon loved ( one woman, many foreign women).
6. Solomon ( continued, did not continue ) to serve the Lord God of Israel.
7. Solomon's wives turned his heart (toward, away from ) God.
8. The Lord was (pleased , angry ) with Solomon for going after false gods.
9. The Lord (did, did not ) punish Solomon for going after other gods.

# The United Kingdom

## Part 2, LESSON 24

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**LESSON TEXT: I Kings 11: 14 - 43; II Chronicles 9: 29-31**

### **Vocabulary Words:**

**Adversary** - An enemy or opponent.

**Rent** - To tear.

**Rend** - To tear or cut out.

**Forsaken** - To leave.

**House of Joseph** - This term referred to the tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh.

**Behold** - See

## **ADVERSARIES RISE UP AGAINST SOLOMON**

### **Hadad**

God had warned Solomon that he would **rend** the kingdom of Israel away from Solomon because of his sins. God began to do this by allowing **adversaries** to rise up against Solomon and his kingdom.

During the time that David was king of Israel, David sent Joab to Edom to battle the Edomite people. The battle lasted six months and during that time Joab and his men killed all of the male Edomites and buried them.

Sometime during the battle a young boy named Hadad and some of his father's servants fled to Egypt to escape. Hadad was in the royal family in Edom. When they came to Egypt they went to Pharaoh king of Egypt and Pharaoh gave them food, a house and some land. As Hadad grew he was very pleasing to Pharaoh, so much so that Pharaoh gave Hadad the queen's sister for a wife.

Hadad and his wife had a son named Genubath, and this son was raised up in the house with Pharaoh's sons.

One day the news came to Hadad in Egypt that King David and his commander Joab were dead. When Hadad heard this he went to Pharaoh and said, "Let me go back to my own country."

Pharaoh said to Hadad, "What have you gone without here that you suddenly want to go back to your own country?"

Hadad replied, "Nothing, but even so, let me go back."

Pharaoh allowed Hadad to go back to Edom. So Hadad was where he would have opportunity to cause trouble for God's people.

## **Rezon**

God allowed another **adversary** against God's people. His name was Rezon and he had fled from his master, the king of Zobah.

Rezon gathered men about him and became their leader after King David had killed many in Zobah. Rezon and his men went to live in Damascus where his followers made him king. He was an **adversary** all the days of Solomon, adding to the trouble that Hadad caused. He hated Israel and reigned over Syria.

## **Jeroboam**

Jeroboam was a man from the tribe of Ephraim and a servant of King Solomon.

Solomon had his men go repair the gap in the wall of the city of David. Solomon noticed that Jeroboam was a very able man who did his work well, so he put Jeroboam as an officer over the entire labor force of the **house of Joseph**.

One day as Jeroboam was traveling from Jerusalem he met the prophet Ahijah. Ahijah was wearing a new garment and as they met he and Jeroboam were alone in a field. Ahijah took off the new garment he was wearing and **rent** it into twelve pieces. Then he said to Jeroboam, "Take ten pieces of the garment for yourself because this is what the Lord has said, "**Behold**, I am going to **rend** the kingdom of Israel out of Solomon's hand and I am going to give ten tribes to you. Solomon will have one tribe for the sake of my servant David and the city of Jerusalem. I am going to do this because they have **forsaken** Me and worshipped the false gods Ashtoreth, Chemosh and Milcom. They have not walked in My ways to do what is right in My eyes. They have not kept my laws and judgments like David did."

"Nevertheless, I will not take the whole kingdom away from Solomon. I will let him be king all the days of his life for the sake of David, Solomon's father. I will take the kingdom away from Solomon's son and give it to you -- ten tribes. To Solomon's son I will give one tribe so there will always be a descendant of my servant David ruling in Jerusalem, the city where I have chosen to put My name."

"If you will listen to all that I command you and walk in My ways by doing My laws and My commandments as David did, I will be with you and build you a sure house as I built for David, and I will give Israel to you. I will punish the descendants of David, but not forever."

King Solomon heard of the things that God told Jeroboam and he tried to kill Jeroboam. But Jeroboam fled to Egypt and stayed there until the death of Solomon.

## **The Death of Solomon**

Solomon was the king over Israel for 40 years and he was buried in the city of David. His son Rehoboam succeeded him as king.

**MAP WORK: Edom, Egypt, Zobah, Damascus**

**Think About This...** Solomon's kingdom was taken away because he did not continue to obey God. God gave Solomon conditions he needed to obey to keep his kingdom. God said, "...Moreover I will establish his kingdom forever, if he be constant to do My commandments and My judgments, as at this day. (I Chron. 28: 7b)

Notice the word "if" underlined in the verse above. God would keep His promises "if" Solomon did his part.

God made a similar promise with conditions to Jeroboam in our lesson today. Jeroboam had to do his part. God said to him, "And it shall be, if thou wilt hearken unto all that I command thee, and wilt walk in my ways, and do that is right in my sight, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as David my servant did; that I will be with thee, and build thee a sure house, as I built for David, and will give Israel unto thee." (I Kings 11:38)

God does not change! He is the same way today! If **we** want to receive God's promises today **we** must OBEY!

As you study the Divided Kingdom next quarter watch Jeroboam to see if he keeps God's commandments.

## QUESTIONS

1. Who were the adversaries of Solomon? \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_  
and \_\_\_\_\_.
2. What is an adversary? \_\_\_\_\_
3. How many pieces of garment did the prophet Ahijah give to Jeroboam? \_\_\_\_\_
4. How many tribes did God say He would give to Jeroboam? \_\_\_\_\_
5. How many tribes would be left for Solomon's son to rule over? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Why did God say He would take the Kingdom away from Solomon? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Read John 14: 23. What condition does God give US to keep before He will keep His promises to US?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## MEMORY WORK

### Proverb 3: 5 - 7

**Pro 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart;  
and lean not unto thine own understanding.**

**Pro 3:6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.**

**Pro 3:7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.**

# The United Kingdom

## Part 2, LESSON 25

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### REVIEW

#### Multiple Choice -- underline the correct answer.

1. God told David that his kingdom would be established ( for a year , forever).
2. David showed kindness to ( Nathan , Ziba , Mephibosheth), a member of Saul's family.
3. ( Abasalom , Joab, Abishai ) was the commander of David's army.
4. David committed adultery with ( Tamar , Bathsheba) , the wife of Uriah the Hittite.
5. A consequence of David's sin with Bathsheba was ( he would be happy the rest of his life , he could never quit running from the sword ).
6. (Abaslom , Amnon ) committed fornication with his half-sister Tamar.
9. Absalom (wounded , killed ) his brother Amnon.
10. Absalom (crushed , stole ) the hearts of the men of Israel.
11. David had to flee Jerusalem to escape his son ( Amnon , Absalom).
12. (Zadok and Abiathar , Nathan and Joab) were the high priests of Israel.
13. David's wise counselor ( Ahithophel , Joab) joined with Absalom against him.
14. (Hushai , Shimei ) followed David as he left Jerusalem cursing and throwing stones at him.
15. Another name for Jerusalem is (city of Israel, city of David).
16. All of the consequences of David's sin with Bathsheba (never happened , were fulfilled).
17. When Absalom was killed, Israel's day of victory was turned into ( a day of mourning , a day of happiness).
18. The tribe of (Ephraim, Judah) brought David over the Jordan River and back to Jerusalem.
19. After Absalom died, David made (Shimei , Amasa ) the commander over his army.
20. (David, Joab, Abiathar) killed Amasa.
21. (Joab, Sheba, Shimei ) was a troublemaker from the tribe of Benjamin and he fled to the city of Abel Beth Maacah.
22. The people of Abel Beth Maacah cut off Sheba's (legs, arms, head) and threw it over the wall of the city.
23. Because David sinned by ( building an altar , counting the people ), God punished Israel with a plague.
24. David said that the temple would be built at (Abel Beth Maacah, the threshing floor of Araunah).

25. The Lord ( would , would not ) allow David to build the temple.
26. When God told David that he could not build the temple he decided that (he would not do anything, he would gather materials and workers to build it).
27. David told the leaders of Israel that ( Absalom , Solomon) would sit on his throne as king of Israel.
28. David's son ( Amnon, Adonijah) decided that he wanted to be king.
29. Solomon asked the Lord for (riches and honor, wisdom and knowledge).
30. Solomon ( did , did not ) want to please God when he first became king of Israel.
31. (Solomon , Adonijah ) built the temple for the Lord.
32. Solomon's ( palace , wives ) turned his heart away from the Lord.
33. God (does not , does ) keep His promises.

**Be able to say Psalm 19: 7 - 11; Psalm 139: 1 - 4 and Proverbs 3: 5 - 7  
from memory !**

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# The United Kingdom

## Part 2, TEACHER'S NOTES

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### LESSON ONE:

David wanted to build God a house, but God built him one. The idea is that God built David a "dynasty". His was a spiritual house that would last until Christ came.

Acts 13:22 tells us that David was a man after God's own heart. Explain that this does not mean David was perfect, but that he wanted to do God's will first and foremost.

Compare the repentance of David after his sin with Bathsheba (II Sam. 12: 7 - 9, 13), to the behavior of Saul (I Sam. 15: 18 - 19, 20). David realized his sin, but Saul didn't. David's heart was right, but Saul's wasn't. Explain that we have to admit to ourselves and to God when we have done wrong.

Bring out also that there are consequences for our actions. David had a right heart and he repented, however he still had consequences for his sin. This is important because the rest of David's life was affected by his sin.

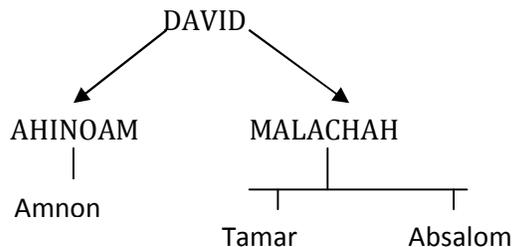
Point out that in the study of the rest of David's life we will see his consequences played out and fulfilled (II Sam. 12: 9 - 14).

Explain : The presence of God was over the ark of the covenant. The Tabernacle was only a tent - not a permanent house.

### LESSON TWO

Explain that a king with many wives would not have had all of his children and wives living with him in the same house. Each wife would have had a home and her children would live with her. There could possibly go long passages of time when each family member would not see other family members.

David's children in this lesson:



Amnon was a Half-brother to Tamar and Absalom. They had the same father, but not the same mother.

SOME APPLICATIONS -- Choose good friends. Notice what kind of friend Jonadab was to Amnon. He upheld him in his sin, and found ways for him to commit it with his half-sister.

Through no fault of her own, Tamar had consequences to bear because of what Amnon did to her. Consequences from sinful actions can last one's whole life even if they are not one's own fault.

Although David heard about what Amnon had done to Tamar, we are not told that he did anything about this sin.

Once Amnon's sinful lust was satisfied, he no longer cared for his sister Tamar and treated her in a shameful manner. His sin was Fornication.

Notice Absalom's behavior. The progression of this sin caused Absalom to plan and meditate to kill his brother Amnon. His sin was Murder.

Notice Jonadab seems to be privy to all the details and tells David that Absalom had planned this murder since the day Amnon sinned with Tamar.

### **LESSON THREE**

Consider how Absalom had been done by his father. After Amnon sinned with Tamar, 2 years passed. Then Absalom killed Amnon and fled to Geshur. Three more years passed. Absalom came home, and two more years passed.

Absalom went for 7 years without much of a relationship with his father David. Can you see the resentment building up in him toward his father?

### **LESSON FOUR**

There are many characters in the life of David. Begin to impress upon your students who each person is. They will revisit some of these over and over.

Remember these 10 concubines that David left at the palace. They will be brought up again later in David's reign.

Let your students see the sorrow of David as he leaves Jerusalem, and the sorrow of all that are with him.

Impress on your students how Absalom drew the people to himself. Although the Bible does not say Absalom announced his coming when preceded by 50 men, chariots and horses, just this action would announce it.

### **LESSON FIVE**

Read about Mephibosheth in II Sam. 4:4; 9: 1,3,7

The word "Son" can be used interchangeably with either "son" or "grandson". Notice David asking "Where is your master Saul's son?" -- he is referring to Saul's grandson.

Notice that Shimei made light of King David and despised him with his actions.

Psalm 3 was written when David fled from Absalom.

### **LESSON SIX**

Remind your students of the consequences of David's sin with Bathsheba (see lesson one).

Ahithophel gave Absalom the advice of going to bed with the 10 concubines his father David had left at the palace. This would not only have been a horrible sin, but doing so would show Israel that the Kingdom was now Absalom's. When a king took over the reign of another king it was the custom for the wives (or harem) to belong to the new king. David would hear about this sin of Absalom and know that

now Absalom was doing everything to take his kingdom away. All of Israel would see this and know that the kingdom was now Absalom's as well.

### **LESSON SEVEN**

Review the list of characters for this lesson and who they are.

The advice that Joab gave to David may seem cruel at the time of Absalom's death, but it was what David needed to hear. Absalom was not God's anointed -- David was. David's actions could make his men lose heart and he might find that Israel would not follow him if he did not encourage them. Doing right was more important than his personal sorrow for his son.

### **LESSON EIGHT**

In this lesson we begin to see a division in Israel between Judah and the rest of Israel. Watch this division because it will become more pronounced as time goes by.

Thought question on page 32: Perhaps David made Amasa his new commander because he wanted to show Israel that although Amasa had been Absalom's commander, he could now be commander over ALL of Israel's army. Another reason is because Joab, David's commander, is the one who killed Absalom.

### **LESSON NINE**

We see again that Israel and Judah are divided. Remind your students to begin watching this division in Israel. *(This division will become manifest in the days of David's grandson, Rehoboam, and the kingdom will divide.)*

Amasa and Joab were cousins.

### **LESSON TEN REVIEW**

### **LESSON ELEVEN**

Fill your students in with the story of the Gibeonites that happened in the days of Joshua (Joshua 9). Do this so they will understand today's lesson.

Under the Old Law, killing another man was a crime, and that crime could not be atoned for unless the murderer's blood was shed. The murderer in this case was Saul, but he was dead and so was his son. So to atone for the Gibeonite's deaths, Saul's grandsons must be killed (Num. 35:31 - 34). The Gibeonites demanded that Saul's posterity be put to death, and David granted what they wanted.

### **LESSON TWELVE**

David's desire to count the men of Israel was one for his personal satisfaction, not an action to please God. God wanted his people to depend on Him for their victories, not to have pride in how many fighting men there were.

David wanted his punishment to come from God, not men. Men will not have the mercy that God has.

Be sure to discuss "Something to think about" on pg. 44. Our service to God must cost us something!

### **LESSON THIRTEEN**

Another definition for "Inspired" is "God breathed".

Point out that one of David's mighty men was Uriah the Hittite -- the husband of Bathsheba.

#### **LESSON FOURTEEN**

Point out that all priests are Levites, but all Levites are not priests. The priesthood came through Kohath. Aaron was the first priest.

Remember, God is the one who chose the King of Israel, NOT the people.

Review what has happened to each of David's sons:

*Amnon* was killed by Absalom because of his sin with Tamar.

*Absalom* was killed by Joab. He tried to take the kingdom away from his father David.

*Adonijah* in next in line, birth wise, BUT God told David that *Solomon* would be the next king.

Reasons why David could not build the temple are in I Chron. 22: 7- 10.

Discuss: David told his leaders to "set your mind and heart to seek the Lord your God" -- Do we have to do this too? How can we do this?

Was it okay for David to number the people this time? Yes. David was not relying on the number of men for strength but learning how to organize the people for worship to God. Numbering the Levites was approved by God.

#### **LESSON FIFTEEN**

Discuss:

God commanded Solomon that He would bless him IF he kept God's promises. He had conditions to receive the blessings.

The people and David gave willingly to build the temple for service to God. Are we to give willing to God?

David couldn't build the temple, but he did what he could do. He didn't expect the same glory from what he did, but he did what he could and that was important to God. We may not get to do the important things in God's kingdom, but we can look for the things we can do, big or small. Our service is to bring glory to God, not ourselves.

God has a pattern and He expects His people to follow it. The pattern in this lesson was the one for the temple ( I Chron. 28: 12,18,19). He had a Pattern for the Tabernacle in Exodus (Ex. 25: 9, 40). He has a Pattern for us too! It is found in the New Testament in the commands for how we are to worship Him (I Cor. 1:10; II Tim. 1:13; Mk. 16:15 - 16; Rev. 22: 18 - 19; I Pet.4:11).

#### **LESSON SIXTEEN**

Discuss "Think About It" on pg. 56 after teaching the lesson. How can we let our lives be ruled by God's will? Does God want us to "exalt" ourselves as Adonijah did?

#### **LESSON SEVENTEEN**

Read Numbers 35:33 -- God told Israel that blood pollutes the land. If a person killed another person it could not be atoned for (or made right) unless the person who did the killing or shedding of blood was killed. Remember this law of God in this lesson about Joab.

Adonijah's request for one of David's wives was a request that only the next king had a right to receive. Adonijah had no right to Abishag. His request showed Solomon that Adonijah was still a threat to his kingdom.

The people that Solomon kills in this lesson were not actions to get revenge for his father, but were actions to secure his kingdom so it would be a peaceful reign. After these people were killed he had complete authority over his kingdom.

### **LESSON EIGHTEEN REVIEW**

### **LESSON NINETEEN**

Read Deut. 7: 2,3,4,6 -- See if Solomon keeps God's laws.

Solomon begins to make one of many alliances in this lesson when he married the Pharaoh's daughter.

We see into Solomon's heart in this lesson, and God is pleased with him. God grants him what he wants and more. People realize that God's wisdom is in him.

Watch Solomon to see if he uses God's wisdom for good or evil in his life.

### **LESSON TWENTY and TWENTY-ONE**

Find a good illustration of the temple to show your class. Be sure to point out that the illustration was drawn by a man -- that we don't know exactly what it looked like, but that this can give us an idea about it.

Notice that God continues to tell Solomon that His promises have conditions -- he must do what God wants.

We see God's approval when His presence moves into the new temple.

### **LESSON TWENTY-TWO**

Read and discuss I Sam. 8: 11 - 18. Samuel warned Israel when they wanted a king of what a king would be like. Notice what Solomon is doing. He is taking Israelites to do his work, to be his soldiers and navy, to build his palace, and to supply food for his servants. Solomon begins to do everything that God said a king would do.

REMEMBER -- God fulfills what He says and Keeps His promises!

### **LESSON TWENTY-THREE**

Cabul: carries the idea of "how little" or "worth nothing".

A sad thing happens in this lesson. We'll see Solomon and Israel begin to leave serving God. The things Solomon sets in place will be the downfall of Israel for years to come. He started out wanting to serve God and we saw into his heart when he prayed, "I am like a little child and don't know how to best serve you" -- He asked God for help. But, Solomon had to serve God with a whole heart to receive God's blessings.

Solomon's life consists of WISDOM, WORKS, WEALTH and WIVES. This summary is good for your students to remember.

## **LESSON TWENTY-FOUR**

In this lesson Solomon has adversaries rise up against him. He has broken God's laws. How sad for a man whom God blessed as He did Solomon. Be sure to point out that just as Solomon was given conditions of obedience by God, Jeroboam was given conditions also.

The kingdom is beginning to divide. We see this as his son Rehoboam comes to power. God wanted to be Israel's king, but Israel rejected him. We are seeing now how God's people are not ruled well by man's devices. Only God can rule man in the way he needs to be ruled.

## **LESSON TWENTY-FIVE REVIEW**