

Summer Study -- A Bible Overview With A Jesus Focus

Lesson 6: 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings

Note: an on-line site like <https://biblehub.com/> -- enables rapid navigation to listed texts

- 1 Samuel recorded the failure of the human-desired king & ended in the deaths of Saul & Jonathan
- 2 Samuel describes the establishment of David's line thru which would come the Messiah

Jesus in 2 Samuel

- Shows God's persistent love as He reaches out to draw David back after his sin--just as He did for each of us; no matter how deep our despair, God's love will always be there to pick us up
- Under David as king, Israel's borders reached the limits God had said they would (**Joshua 1:3-4; v8:1-15**)
- Jerusalem became the "City of David" (**v5:9**) but also the "City of God" where Jesus was presented in the temple (**Luke 2:22**); crucified & raised (**Luke 26-28**) & would reign (**v7:12-13; Revelation 3:12; 21:2**)
- David was a *type* of Jesus in many ways; the Jews knew he would be the Messiah's ancestor
 - **v7:12-14** prophecies near-term of Solomon & long term of Jesus (**Luke 1:32**); David wanted to build God a house, but God promised him one--in descendants from which the Messiah would come (**v7:16**)
 - Other references to the Messiah coming from David include: **Psalms 132:17-18; Isaiah 9:6-7; 11:1-10; 16:5; Jeremiah 23:5; 33:14-26; Amos 9:11; Zechariah 12:8; Micah 5:2**; confirmed in **Luke 1:32**
 - David had gone from shepherd to king (**v7:8**); both ensure protection & provision for those they lead (**Psalms 23; Ezekiel 34:11-24**)--just as Jesus is our Good Shepherd (**John 10:1-18**)
 - David virtually adopted Mephibosheth, Jonathan's son (**v9:11**)--a picture of God's adoption of each of us (**Romans 8:14-17**) despite our sin that made us His enemies (**Colossians 1:21**); further, as David restored Saul's land to Mephibosheth, so we will have restored all Adam's blessings (**Revelation 22:2**)
- David sinned horribly against God, committing adultery & murder (**v11:4,15**) but God forgave him when he fully repented his sin (**v12:13,34-25**), just as Jesus forgave Peter (**Mark 16:7; John 21:15-19**) & all who accept Jesus (**Acts 13:38; Romans 5:1; 6:23; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 2 Peter 3:9; 1 John 2:2**)
- David wept as he left Jerusalem to escape Absalom (**v15:30**); Jesus wept when Lazarus died (**John 11:14-15**) & during Holy Week because so many rejected him & would suffer terribly when Jerusalem was destroyed (**Luke 19:41-44**); truly He weeps today over all that still reject Him (**Revelation 20:15**)
- David knew that every success was a gift from God (**v18:22-29**); he was not perfect, but like Jesus, trusted God (**v22:29-30; 1 Peter 2:21-24**) just as we can trust Jesus (**John 14:1,27; Romans 8:28-29**)

Jesus in 1 Kings

- Solomon started with a heart for God, but was drawn to the world; Jesus is the wise King of Israel & of our hearts; if we focus on Him, the world will not draw us (**Colossians 3:1-4; Hebrews 12:1-2**)
- When God offered Solomon anything, he chose wisdom to govern (**v3:5**); wisdom is the insight needed to live as God intends (**Proverbs 3:13-14**); Jesus is the embodiment of God's wisdom (**1 Corinthians 1:30**)
 - Solomon's wealth was unequalled, yet he came to feel empty (**Ecclesiastes**); Jesus stressed that God's love & care are greater than wealth (**Matthew 6:28-29**) & God's kingdom is our focus (**Matthew 6:33**)
- God's glory filled the temple (**v8:10-11**); but His presence is predicated upon obedience (**v6:11-13--"if"; Isaiah 59:1-2**); His desire to live **with** us is proven in Jesus' first Advent (**John 1:14**) & the Holy Spirit's indwelling (**John 14:15-17**) whereby we are each & together God's temple (**2 Corinthians 6:16; 7:1**)
 - The temple's magnificence paled compared to God's presence & activity (**v8:27; Acts 7:48-50**); this temple was only a shadow of Jesus--a temple that humans did not build (**John 2:19-21; Hebrews 9:24**)
 - Many commentators believe Jesus was the Lord of the temple who appeared to Solomon (**v9:2**)
- Solomon's wisdom was unequalled (**v4:29**) yet he was fool (**v11:2-4**) in not following his own advice (**Proverbs 5:1-12; 18-19; 6:27-29; 7:21-23**); Jesus sends the Holy Spirit to help us (**Romans 8:26-27**)
 - Solomon worshipped other gods so God told him the kingdom would be divided (**v11:6-11,34**)

- God promised that David will “always have a lamp before me in Jerusalem” (**v11:36**)--fulfilled in Jesus
- After Solomon, the northern tribes split from Judea; thus also rejecting the Messiah’s line (**v12:13-16**)
- The northern tribes set up idols to worship--a source of bitterness towards Samaria (**John 4:9,20-26**)
- Elijah forecast 3 years of drought in Israel (**v17:1**); he then went to a Gentile widow & asked for food though she had little; but as he promised, flour & oil were not be depleted until rain returned **v17:14**)
- Jesus also requested from a woman despised by the Jews (**John 4**) & said He was Messiah (**John 4:26**)
- This outcast Samaritan woman went & brought the townspeople to Jesus (**John 4:28-30**)--talk about a great evangelist!--I love how God empowers & uses the outcasts, lowly, sinners, etc., to do His work!
- An “Elijah” (John the Baptist) would return before the Messiah (**Malachi 4:5-6; Matthew 17:9-13**)
- Had a tough day? Try Elijah’s--challenge, then kill Baal’s 450 prophets after calling down heaven’s fire, then run for his life from Jezebel & then lay down wishing to die (**v19:3-5**)
- But God knew & cared; He sent an angel to aid, so Elijah ate & set out on a 40-day trek (**v19:6-9**)
- Elijah learned that though God can shake mountains, He often speaks in a loving whisper (**v19:12-13**), just as Jesus’ disciples saw who He was when He calmed a storm with just “Silence!” (**Mark 4:39**)
- Often during the storms in our lives we need to listen for a whisper to hear God (**Psalms 46:10**)
- Like Ahab, people today often ask when all they want to hear is self-justification rather than truth (**v22:8,14,17**); Jesus always told the truth in love even when people hated what He said (**Mark 12:12**)
- Micaiah also saw Israel as a sheep without a shepherd (**v22:17**); Jesus cited the parallel of the hired hand who flees from danger (**John 10:12-13**) rather than the Good & True Shepherd (**John 10:14-17**)

Jesus in 2 Kings

- As Israel & Judah kept slipping farther away from God, Elijah & Elisha kept calling people back
- Elisha was taken up to heaven (**v2:11-12**), as was Jesus (**Luke 24:51; Acts 1:9**); just as will living believers (**1 Corinthians 15:51-52; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17**)
- Elisha asked for & received a double portion of Elijah’s spirit (**v2:9**) & Elijah left him his cloak (**v2:13**)--thereby “passing the mantle,” as John the Baptist would when He gave witness to Jesus (**John 1:6-7**)
- John baptized Jesus to signal the beginning of Jesus’ ministry; the Holy Spirit descended & the Father declared His approval--a display & testimony of the Holy Trinity (**Matthew 3:13-17**)
- God empowers us to accomplish what He asks--He doesn’t call the qualified, but qualifies the called!
- Elisha’s miracles benefitted people in turmoil (e.g., widow’s oil--**v4:3-7**; a son restored to life; **v4:20,32-36**; poison in the pot--**v4:40-41**; feeding a hundred--**v4:40-41**; Naaman’s leprosy--**v5:10,14**)
- A servant girl recommended Naaman humble himself by going to Elisha (**v5:2-3**) & Elisha gave him a humble task which enraged him (**v5:10-12**); we are to humbly serve as did Jesus (**Mark 10:43-45**)
- Jesus also performed miracles that demonstrated God’s mercy & love for ordinary people, even outcasts & Gentiles; yet many still refused to believe in Him (**John 6:26; 10:31-38**)
- When the Arameans surrounded Elisha in Dothan (**v6:14**) he saw the LORD’s horses & chariots of fire surrounding the Arameans (**v6:16-17**); when we place our trust in Jesus, we are never alone, with angels (**Psalms 34:7; Psalm 91**), Jesus Himself (**Matthew 28:20; 1 John 4:4**) & the Holy Spirit (**John 16:5-16**)
- Jehu killed all of Ahab’s family (**v10:17**) as God had promised (**1 Kings 21:20-21**); He always keeps His promises; we can count on everything Jesus promised us (just two promises of many--**John 3:36; 6:35**)
- Israel suffered the consequences of worshipping idols, disregarding God’s commandments & ignoring His warnings (**v17:6**); God is patient, loving & merciful but also holy--Jesus **will** judge! (**Revelation 20:12**)
- The Hebrews merged worship of the one true God with worship of the culture’s idols (**v18:4**); we must not adopt the world’s values (**Romans 12:2**) & worship God for who He is, not what He does (**John 6:26-27**)
- Josiah was stunned to realize how far the nation had deviated from God’s Word (**v22:13**); Jesus confirmed God’s Word as still valid (**Matthew 5:17**) & urged us to deny self & follow Him (**Matthew 16:24-27**)
- Jerusalem fell (**v25:1-10**) & would again, but Jesus will reign in the New Jerusalem (**Revelation 21-22**)