

8-27-2025 – Journey with King David – Week 8 – King in Hebron

Last week - 1 Sam. 27, 29-30 - David went to Ziklag. Spared from battle.

Meanwhile, King Saul was terrified. Samuel died, God is silent.

- Saul has his advisers find him a medium; He goes disguised.
 - He's outlawed it, she thinks it's a trap. He promises.
- Call up the spirit of Samuel. "An old man wrapped in a robe."
 - Anyone wanting to talk to someone whose passed, pay attention!
- ¹⁵ "Why have you disturbed me by calling me back?" Samuel asked Saul.
- "Because I am in deep trouble," Saul replied. "The Philistines are at war with me, and God has left me and won't reply by prophets or dreams. So I have called for you to tell me what to do." ¹⁶ But Samuel replied, "Why ask me, since the LORD has left you and has become your enemy? ¹⁷ The LORD has done just as he said he would. He has torn the kingdom from you and given it to your rival, David. ¹⁸ The LORD has done this to you today because you refused to carry out his fierce anger against the Amalekites.
- ¹⁹ What's more, the LORD will hand you and the army of Israel over to the Philistines tomorrow, and you and your sons will be here with me. The LORD will bring down the entire army of Israel in defeat."
 - 4 pieces of important info:
 - 1 – Samuel was disturbed.... Our loved ones in heaven are enjoying heaven. Don't want to be pulled back, or come back.
 - 2 – Saul has gone against God, but sin doesn't keep from heaven. Heaven is filled with sinful people. Unbelief.
 - Saul's sin? Not following God's instruction/ Amalekites

Exodus 17- Amalek led an army against Israel (time of Moses). Enemies since

- Moses/Joshua lead army of Israel to defend against the Amalekites.

Hands up. Won. (Aaron & Hur helped hands up)

¹⁴ After the victory, the LORD instructed Moses, "Write this down on a scroll as a permanent reminder, and read it aloud to Joshua: I will erase the memory of Amalek from under heaven." ¹⁵ Moses built an altar there and named it Yahweh-Nissi (which means "the LORD is my banner"). ¹⁶ He said, "They have raised their fist against the LORD's throne, so now the LORD will be at war with Amalek generation after generation."

- **Another reminder:** Those who curse God's people are cursed. **God will avenge.** Our hurts/attacks don't go unnoticed by God. At his set time, God will have retribution.
 - **3** – Saul & his sons are **about to die**. Tomorrow.
 - **4** – **God kept David out of the battle**. Wasn't w/ King Achish, did not fight against Israel, had no part of Saul's death.

God was preparing David to be King. He was ordaining His steps.

- God orchestrated events, miracle after miracle.
- **God was setting up David** to be King; David didn't overthrow Saul.
- 1 Sam. 31** – Philistines attacked Israel; **kill 3 of Saul's sons** (Jonathan).
- **Saul was severely wounded**.
- Asks his armor bearer to kill him/ Philistines torture him, finish him off.
 - Armor bearer was afraid. Refused to kill Saul.
So Saul took his own sword and fell on it. ⁵ When his armor bearer realized that Saul was dead, he fell on his own sword and died beside the king. ⁶ So Saul, his three sons, his armor bearer, and his troops all died together that same day.
 - **Philistines proclaim** this as good news, victory.
 - **Israelites abandon** their towns, fled. Philistines occupy Israel land

Meanwhile – **2 Samuel 1** – David learns Saul & his sons died.

- An Amalekite comes to David, tells story – Saul begged him to kill him.
- Took Saul's crown & armband, brings them to David.
 - **David & his men mourned, wept, & fasted over the deaths.**
 - You **might have expected** David to rejoice – but he **wept**.
 - He wrote a funeral song for Saul & Jonathan.
 - **David asks: Why were you not afraid to kill the Lord's anointed?**
 - David has a man kill the Amalekite.
 - In case you're Q-ing, how did Saul really die?
 - **1 Chronicles 10** tells of armor-bearer & Saul takes his own life.

2 Samuel 2 – David seeks God’s will? Now what? Where do I go?

- God directs David to go to **Hebron**.
- His men/families settle in villages near Hebron.
- **⁴ The men of Judah came to David & anointed him king over the people of Judah.**
 - **Consider this** about David’s life – Samuel came to him; men of Judah came to him. **Anointed twice!**
 - We don’t have to push/fight in life. **God sets us up.**

Abner - commander of Saul’s army – proclaims Saul’s son **Ishbosheth** as King “over Gilead, Jezreel, Ephraim, Benjamin, the land of the Ashurites, and all the rest of Israel.” ¹⁰ **Ishbosheth**, Saul’s son, was 40 years old when he became king, and he ruled from Mahanaim for two years. Meanwhile, the people of Judah remained loyal to David. ¹¹ David made Hebron his capital, and he ruled as king of Judah for seven and a half years.

David is anointed king of Judah. But that wasn’t God’s promise or plan.

1 Samuel 16:16 - The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king.”

- **God’s promise was to be king of Israel. It’s divided right now.**

2 Samuel 3 - a “long war” between those loyal to Saul, those loyal to David.

“As time passed David became stronger and stronger, while Saul’s dynasty became weaker and weaker.”

- Abner is eventually killed. (ch. 3) So is Ishbosheth. (ch. 4)
- **2 Samuel 5** – Tribes of Israel come to David at Hebron.
- “Then all the tribes of Israel went to David at Hebron and told him, ‘We are your own flesh and blood. ² In the past, when Saul was our king, you were the one who really led the forces of Israel. And the LORD told you, ‘You will be the shepherd of my people Israel. You will be Israel’s leader.’”
- **³ So there at Hebron, King David made a covenant before the LORD with all the elders of Israel. And they anointed him king of Israel.**
- **⁴ David was thirty years old** when he began to reign, and he reigned **forty** years in all. ⁵ He had reigned over Judah from Hebron for seven years and six months, and from Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah for thirty-three years.

At age 37-38, David became king over both Israel & Judah.

- He never took out his opposition. Refused to kill Saul, or his son.
- David waited on God... trusted God's timing... God's process... God's preparation.

We're not very good at waiting.

- But studying David's life shows us that God used every event in David's life to prepare him to be King.
 - David lived in a palace, but then learned survival & leadership.
 - David learned to trust God – look to the **size of God**, not the giants
 - David learned to **depend** on God – **not trust in people**
 - Wilderness was his Univ.; **discomfort** forces us to rely on God
 - Instead of being **bitter**, David let God have his heart & life... in doing so, David became a “**better man**.”
 - David waited . . . and he learned **patience** (Abigail), **not revenge**
 - Learned about loss & restoration (Ziklag) - he showed **grace**.
- David let God prepare him... waited on God - lift him up & promote him
 - God had a purpose designed for him from the beginning.
 - **God was faithful** in David's life - the purpose, the prep, promise.
- **God calls us, too.**
 - Even tho we don't understand everything that happens in our lives we can have confidence... **trust in the Good Shepherd**.
 - “**The one who calls you is faithful & he will do it.**” – **1 Thes. 5:24**
 - **God loves us... thru our mistakes, bad choices...**