DAVID BECOMES KING OVER ISRAEL

DAVID CONQUERS JERUSALEM

DAVID DEFEATS THE PHILISTINES

2 SAMUEL 5:1-25
David Becomes King Over Israel

David Conquers Jerusalem

David Defeats the Philistines

Text:

2 Samuel 5:1-25,

1. All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said, "We are your own flesh and blood.
2. In the past, while Saul was king over us, you were the one who led Israel on their military campaigns. And the LORD said to you, 'You will shepherd my people Israel, and you will become their ruler.' "
3. When all the elders of Israel had come to King David at Hebron, the king made a compact with them at Hebron before the LORD, and they anointed David king over Israel.
4. David was thirty years old when he became king, and he reigned forty years.
5. In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months, and in Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years.
6. The king and his men marched to Jerusalem to attack the Jebusites, who lived there. The Jebusites said to David, "You will not get in here; even the blind and the lame can ward you off." They thought, "David cannot get in here."
7. Nevertheless, David captured the fortress of Zion, the City of David.
8. On that day, David said, "Anyone who conquers the Jebusites will have to use the water shaft to reach those 'lame and blind' who are David's enemies. " That is why they say, "The 'blind and lame' will not enter the palace."
9. David then took up residence in the fortress and called it the City of David. He built up the area around it, from the supporting terraces inward.
10. And he became more and more powerful, because the LORD God Almighty was with him.
11. Now Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, along with cedar logs and carpenters and stonemasons, and they built a palace for David.
12. And David knew that the LORD had established him as king over Israel and had exalted his kingdom for the sake of his people Israel.
13. After he left Hebron, David took more concubines and wives in Jerusalem, and more sons and daughters were born to him.
14. These are the names of the children born to him there: Shammua, Shobab, Nathan, Solomon,
15. Ibhar, Elishua, Nepheg, Japhia,
17. When the Philistines heard that David had been anointed king over Israel, they went up in full force to search for him, but David heard about it and went down to the stronghold.
18. Now the Philistines had come and spread out in the Valley of Rephaim;
19. so David inquired of the LORD, "Shall I go and attack the Philistines? Will you hand them over to me?" The LORD answered him, "Go, for I will surely hand the Philistines over to you."
20. So David went to Baal Perazim, and there he defeated them. He said, "As waters break out, the LORD has broken out against my enemies before me." So that place was called Baal Perazim.
21. The Philistines abandoned their idols there, and David and his men carried them off.
22. Once more the Philistines came up and spread out in the Valley of Rephaim;
23. so David inquired of the LORD, and he answered, "Do not go straight up, but circle around behind them and attack them in front of the balsam trees.
24. As soon as you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam trees, move quickly, because that will mean the LORD has gone out in front of you to strike the Philistine army."

25. So David did as the LORD commanded him, and he struck down the Philistines all the way from Gibeon to Gezer. (NIV)

Introduction:

I. “The elevation of David probably occurred only a few weeks after the death of Ish-Bosheth (ca. 1003 B.C.), Smith wrote, although “some scholars postulate an interregnum of five (5) years between the death of Ish-Bosheth and the crowning of David…”

   A. 2 Samuel 5 contains highlights of David’s accomplishments as a great king of the united kingdom, Smith further observed.

   B. Smith also noted that the events addressed are not necessarily related in chronological order.

II. The Pulpit Commentary, however, reads, “As Ish-Bosheth reigned only two (2) years, and David’s reign at Hebron lasted for seven years and a half (7 ½), there is an interval of more than five (5) years to be accounted for; and…it must be placed after the death of Ish-Bosheth.”

III. Smith further wrote, “With both Abner and Ish-Bosheth dead, the northern tribes endorsed David as king.

   A. David had patiently waited for God to work his will and, as Samuel had foretold at the time of his anointing years before, David now was king over all Israel. (See Smith)

   B. According to Smith, David was about thirty (30) years of age when he became king over all Israel.
IV. Coffman observed that David’s successes are the theme of chapters 5-10 while the sins and sorrows of his later years are the focus of chapters 11-20.

Commentary:

David Becomes King Over Israel

2 Samuel 5:1-2, All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said, "We are your own flesh and blood. In the past, while Saul was king over us, you were the one who led Israel on their military campaigns. And the LORD said to you, 'You will shepherd my people Israel, and you will become their ruler.' " (NIV)

I. All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said, …

A. Representatives of all the tribes were their spokesmen.

1. 2 Samuel 7:7, Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, did I ever say to any of their rulers whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" ' (NIV)

2. 1 Chronicles 17:6, Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, did I ever say to any of their leaders whom I commanded to shepherd my people, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" ' (NIV)

3. Abner had laid the groundwork for this coronation.

a. 2 Samuel 3:17-19, Abner conferred with the elders of Israel and said, "For some time you have wanted to make David your king. Now do it! For the LORD promised David, 'By my servant David I will rescue
my people Israel from the hand of the Philistines and from the hand of all their enemies.' "Abner also spoke to the Benjamites in person. Then he went to Hebron to tell David everything that Israel and the whole house of Benjamin wanted to do. (NIV)

B. All Israel came with a “perfect heart,” honestly and sincerely, to Hebron to make David king.

1. 1 Chronicles 12:23-40, These are the numbers of the men armed for battle who came to David at Hebron to turn Saul's kingdom over to him, as the LORD had said: men of Judah, carrying shield and spear-6,800 armed for battle; men of Simeon, warriors ready for battle-7,100; men of Levi-4,600, including Jehoiada, leader of the family of Aaron, with 3,700 men, and Zadok, a brave young warrior, with 22 officers from his family; men of Benjamin, Saul's kinsmen-3,000, most of whom had remained loyal to Saul's house until then; men of Ephraim, brave warriors, famous in their own clans-20,800; men of half the tribe of Manasseh, designated by name to come and make David king-18,000; men of Issachar, who understood the times and knew what Israel should do—200 chiefs, with all their relatives under their command; men of Zebulun, experienced soldiers prepared for battle with every type of weapon, to help David with undivided loyalty-50,000; men of Naphtali-1,000 officers, together with 37,000 men carrying shields and spears; men of Dan, ready for battle-28,600; men of Asher, experienced soldiers prepared for battle-40,000; and from east of the Jordan, men of Reuben, Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh, armed with every type of weapon-120,000. All these were fighting men who volunteered to serve in the ranks. They came to Hebron fully determined
to make David king over all Israel. All the rest of the Israelites were also of one mind to make David king. The men spent three days there with David, eating and drinking, for their families had supplied provisions for them. Also, their neighbors from as far away as Issachar, Zebulun and Naphtali came bringing food on donkeys, camels, mules and oxen. There were plentiful supplies of flour, fig cakes, raisin cakes, wine, oil, cattle and sheep, for there was joy in Israel. (NIV)

2. Abner and Ish-Bosheth were both dead and Jonathan’s son Mephibosheth was disabled and unable to lead the army in battle.

   a. David was the one remaining viable candidate for king of all Israel.

3. This vitally important occasion with such a large assembly required careful preparation and adequate time.

II. “We are your own flesh and blood.

   A. **Reason one** (1) for selecting David as king was that they were all relatives by descent from Jacob…

      1. or because of David’s marriage to Michal, Saul’s daughter, or …

      2. because of the idea that David and the people were of the same mind with compatible goals and purposes.

III. In the past, while Saul was king over us, you were the one who led Israel on their military campaigns.
A. **Reason two (2)** for selecting David as king was that he was a mighty warrior who had a history of leading Israel on previous victorious military campaigns.

IV. And the Lord said to you, ‘You will shepherd my people Israel, and you will become their ruler.’”

A. **Reason three (3)** for selecting David as king was that God had appointed him as ruler over all Israel.

1. 1 Samuel 9:6, 16, *But the servant replied, "Look, in this town there is a man of God; he is highly respected, and everything he says comes true. Let's go there now. Perhaps he will tell us what way to take." "About this time tomorrow I will send you a man from the land of Benjamin. Anoint him leader over my people Israel; he will deliver my people from the hand of the Philistines. I have looked upon my people, for their cry has reached me."* (NIV)

2. 1 Samuel 16:13, *So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came upon David in power. Samuel then went to Ramah.* (NIV)

3. 2 Samuel 3:18, *Now do it! For the LORD promised David, 'By my servant David I will rescue my people Israel from the hand of the Philistines and from the hand of all their enemies.'* (NIV)

B. Smith noted that this is the first time a king of Israel had been called “shepherd” of Israel, a very appropriate designation for David who once had kept the sheep of his father, Jesse, and one frequently used of rulers in the ancient Near East.
1. Ancient kings were often referred to as the shepherds of their peoples. (Anderson)

2 Samuel 5:3, When all the elders of Israel had come to King David at Hebron, the king made a compact with them at Hebron before the LORD, and they anointed David king over Israel. (NIV)

I. When all the elders of Israel had come to King David at Hebron……

A. An assembly gathered at Hebron with the elders serving as their representatives. (See Smith)

1. 1 Chronicles 12:23-40, These are the numbers of the men armed for battle who came to David at Hebron to turn Saul's kingdom over to him, as the LORD had said: men of Judah, carrying shield and spear-6,800 armed for battle; men of Simeon, warriors ready for battle-7,100; men of Levi-4,600, including Jehoiada, leader of the family of Aaron, with 3,700 men, and Zadok, a brave young warrior, with 22 officers from his family; men of Benjamin, Saul's kinsmen-3,000, most of whom had remained loyal to Saul's house until then; men of Ephraim, brave warriors, famous in their own clans-20,800; men of half the tribe of Manasseh, designated by name to come and make David king-18,000; men of Issachar, who understood the times and knew what Israel should do—200 chiefs, with all their relatives under their command; men of Zebulun, experienced soldiers prepared for battle with every type of weapon, to help David with undivided loyalty-50,000; men of Naphtali-1,000 officers, together with 37,000 men carrying shields and spears; men of Dan, ready for battle-28,600; men of Asher, experienced soldiers prepared for battle-40,000; and from east of the Jordan, men of Reuben, Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh, armed with every type of weapon-
120,000. All these were fighting men who volunteered to serve in the ranks. They came to Hebron fully determined to make David king over all Israel. All the rest of the Israelites were also of one mind to make David king. The men spent three days there with David, eating and drinking, for their families had supplied provisions for them. Also, their neighbors from as far away as Issachar, Zebulun and Naphtali came bringing food on donkeys, camels, mules and oxen. There were plentiful supplies of flour, fig cakes, raisin cakes, wine, oil, cattle and sheep, for there was joy in Israel. (NIV)

II. the king made a compact, covenant, contract, agreement with them at Hebron before the Lord, and...

A. Samuel had anointed David king as God had directed and all Israel now, in the solemn presence of the Lord, accepted this appointment as well.

1. 1 Samuel 16:13, So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came upon David in power. Samuel then went to Ramah. (NIV)

B. The terms of this contract, compact are not stated, but all concerned were satisfied with it.

C. “The expression ‘before the Lord’ indicates that solemn religious ceremonies accompanied the making of the covenant between David and the people,” Coffman wrote.

III. they anointed David king over Israel.

A. This was the third (3) time David had been anointed, Smith observed.
1. 1 Samuel 16:13, So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came upon David in power. Samuel then went to Ramah. (NIV)

2. 2 Samuel 2:4, Then the men of Judah came to Hebron and there they anointed David king over the house of Judah. (NIV)

3. 2 Samuel 5:3, When all the elders of Israel had come to King David at Hebron, the king made a compact with them at Hebron before the LORD, and they anointed David king over Israel. (NIV)

B. Anointing was with a mixture of spices in a base of olive oil poured from a container, flask or horn on the head of the person to be anointed. (Anderson)

1. Exodus 30:20-25, Whenever they enter the Tent of Meeting, they shall wash with water so that they will not die. Also, when they approach the altar to minister by presenting an offering made to the LORD by fire, they shall wash their hands and feet so that they will not die. This is to be a lasting ordinance for Aaron and his descendants for the generations to come." Then the LORD said to Moses, "Take the following fine spices: 500 shekels of liquid myrrh, half as much (that is, 250 shekels) of fragrant cinnamon, 250 shekels of fragrant cane, 500 shekels of cassia—all according to the sanctuary shekel—and a hin of olive oil. Make these into a sacred anointing oil, a fragrant blend, the work of a perfumer. It will be the sacred anointing oil.
2. 1 Samuel 10:1, Then Samuel took a flask of oil and poured it on Saul's head and kissed him, saying, "Has not the LORD anointed you leader over his inheritance? (NIV)

3. 2 Kings 9:1, The prophet Elisha summoned a man from the company of the prophets and said to him, "Tuck your cloak into your belt, take this flask of oil with you and go to Ramoth Gilead. (NIV)

4. 1 Samuel 16:1, 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." (NIV)

5. 1 Kings 1:39, Zadok the priest took the horn of oil from the sacred tent and anointed Solomon. Then they sounded the trumpet and all the people shouted, "Long live King Solomon!" (NIV)

2 Samuel 4:4-5, David was thirty years old when he became king, and he reigned forty years. In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months, and in Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years. (NIV)

I. David was thirty (30) years old when he became king, and…

A. David was thirty (30) years of age when he became king over Judah and approximately thirty-seven (37) years of age when he became king over all Israel. (See Smith)

1. Some ten (10) or eleven (11) years had passed since David defeated Goliath. (Pulpit Commentary)
a. At the time of David’s encounter with Goliath, David is thought to have been eighteen (18) or nineteen (19) years of age. (Pulpit Commentary)

II. He reigned forty (40) years, actually forty and one-half (40 ½) years, seven and one-half (7 ½) years in Hebron (1010-1003 B.C.) and thirty-three (33) years in Jerusalem (1003-970 B.C.). (See Smith)

III. In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven (7) years and six (6) months, and …

IV. In Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three (33) years.

**David Conquers Jerusalem**

2 Samuel 5:6-7, The king and his men marched to Jerusalem to attack the Jebusites, who lived there. The Jebusites said to David, "You will not get in here; even the blind and the lame can ward you off." They thought, "David cannot get in here." Nevertheless, David captured the fortress of Zion, the City of David. (NIV)

I. The king, and his men marched to Jerusalem to attack the Jebusites who lived there.

   A. Smith wrote that “David’s first order of business was to establish a new capital closer to the northern tribes which had just endorsed his reign.”

      1. “the king and his men” refers to the army that was loyal to David in Hebron, Anderson wrote.

      2. Jerusalem was an ancient well-fortified city, Smith noted.
a. Joshua 15:63, Judah could not dislodge the Jebusites, who were living in Jerusalem; to this day the Jebusites live there with the people of Judah. (NIV)

b. Judges 1:21, The Benjamites, however, failed to dislodge the Jebusites, who were living in Jerusalem; to this day the Jebusites live there with the Benjamites. (NIV)

c. Judges 1:8, The men of Judah attacked Jerusalem also and took it. They put the city to the sword and set it on fire. (NIV)

d. Psalm 48:2, It is beautiful in its loftiness, the joy of the whole earth. Like the utmost heights of Zaphon is Mount Zion, the city of the Great King. (NIV)

B. 1 Chronicles 11:4-9, David and all the Israelites marched to Jerusalem (that is, Jebus). The Jebusites who lived there said to David, "You will not get in here." Nevertheless, David captured the fortress of Zion, the City of David. David had said, "Whoever leads the attack on the Jebusites will become commander-in-chief." Joab son of Zeruiah went up first, and so he received the command. David then took up residence in the fortress, and so it was called the City of David. He built up the city around it, from the supporting terraces to the surrounding wall, while Joab restored the rest of the city. And David became more and more powerful, because the LORD Almighty was with him. (NIV)

C. Little is known of the ancient Jebusites who occupied Jerusalem (Jebus), but they are thought to have been a Canaanite clan, Smith observed.
D. Clarke reminded us that years before David had killed Goliath and had taken his head to Jerusalem.

1. 1 Samuel 17:54, David took the Philistine's head and brought it to Jerusalem, and he put the Philistine's weapons in his own tent. (NIV)

2. Many Palestinian cities repeatedly changed hands through the years.

3. Judges 19:10-13, But, unwilling to stay another night, the man left and went toward Jebus (that is, Jerusalem), with his two saddled donkeys and his concubine. When they were near Jebus and the day was almost gone, the servant said to his master, "Come, let's stop at this city of the Jebusites and spend the night." His master replied, "No. We won't go into an alien city, whose people are not Israelites. We will go on to Gibeah." He added, "Come, let's try to reach Gibeah or Ramah and spend the night in one of those places." (NIV)

II. The Jebusites said to David, “You will not get in here; even the blind and the lame can ward you off.”

A. 2 Kings 18:19-27, The field commander said to them, "Tell Hezekiah: " 'This is what the great king, the king of Assyria, says: On what are you basing this confidence of yours? You say you have strategy and military strength—but you speak only empty words. On whom are you depending, that you rebel against me? Look now, you are depending on Egypt, that splintered reed of a staff, which pierces a man's hand and wounds him if he leans on it! Such is Pharaoh king of Egypt to all who depend on him. And if you say to me, "We are depending on the LORD our God"-isn't he the one whose high
places and altars Hezekiah removed, saying to Judah and Jerusalem, "You must worship before this altar in Jerusalem"? "'Come now, make a bargain with my master, the king of Assyria: I will give you two thousand horses—if you can put riders on them! How can you repulse one officer of the least of my master's officials, even though you are depending on Egypt for chariots and horsemen? Furthermore, have I come to attack and destroy this place without word from the LORD? The LORD himself told me to march against this country and destroy it.' " Then Eliakim son of Hilkiah, and Shebna and Joah said to the field commander, "Please speak to your servants in Aramaic, since we understand it. Don't speak to us in Hebrew in the hearing of the people on the wall." But the commander replied, "Was it only to your master and you that my master sent me to say these things, and not to the men sitting on the wall—who, like you, will have to eat their own filth and drink their own urine?" (NIV)

B. Jerusalem was well situated on a mountain with valleys on three (3) sides, Smith wrote.

1. The Jebusites were very confident their city was impregnable, that they were secure, but they were badly mistaken. (See Smith)

2. The Jebusites ridiculed David by saying their city was so secure that even the blind and lame could repel David’s attack. (Coffman) (Also see Anderson)

   a. This may be saying that the blind and lame Jebusites were better warriors than David and his men, a definite insult.

III. They thought, “David cannot get in here.”
A. Destruction followed this self-confident, over confident, boasting.

IV. Nevertheless, David captured the fortress of Zion, - the City of David.

A. Zion (dry or arid mountain), which was the original name of Jerusalem, according to Anderson, was a hilltop of about sixty (60) acres on the southwestern side of the city which came to be called the City of David as it was captured by David’s personal troops, Smith wrote.

B. Jerusalem had to be taken by David’s forces because consolidation of his rule over all Israel would have been most difficult as long as this strategically located city was in the hands of enemies. (See Coffman)

2 Samuel 5:8, On that day, David said, "Anyone who conquers the Jebusites will have to use the water shaft to reach those 'lame and blind' who are David's enemies. " That is why they say, "The 'blind and lame' will not enter the palace." (NIV)

I. On that day, David said, “Anyone who conquers the Jebusites will have to use the water shaft to reach those ‘lame and blind’ who are David’s enemies.”

A. David advised that his troops could enter Jerusalem by way of the water shaft, the “tunnel” through which water was brought into the city.

1. David’s forces did not attack the strong, fortified walls of the city, but by unexpected entrance into the city by way of the water shaft.
B. “The first man to strike down a Jebusite would be made commander of the army. This is how Joab won his position.” (Smith)

1. 1 Chronicles 11:4-9, David and all the Israelites marched to Jerusalem (that is, Jebus). The Jebusites who lived there said to David, "You will not get in here." Nevertheless, David captured the fortress of Zion, the City of David. David had said, "Whoever leads the attack on the Jebusites will become commander-in-chief." Joab son of Zeruiah went up first, and so he received the command. David then took up residence in the fortress, and so it was called the City of David. He built up the city around it, from the supporting terraces to the surrounding wall, while Joab restored the rest of the city. And David became more and more powerful, because the LORD Almighty was with him. (NIV)

2. Joshua 15:16, And Caleb said, "I will give my daughter Acsah in marriage to the man who attacks and captures Kiriath Sepher." (NIV)

3. Judges 1:12, And Caleb said, "I will give my daughter Acsah in marriage to the man who attacks and captures Kiriath Sepher." (NIV)

4. 1 Samuel 17:25, Now the Israelites had been saying, "Do you see how this man keeps coming out? He comes out to defy Israel. The king will give great wealth to the man who kills him. He will also give him his daughter in marriage and will exempt his father's family from taxes in Israel." (NIV)

II. That is why they say, “the ‘blind and lame’ will not enter the palace.”
A. David’s enemies would not ever be allowed to enter the palace, certainly not the temple that would later be built.

1. This expression is a reference to the taunting of David’s forces by the Jebusites in verse 6 above.

B. The Lord had decreed that “the blind and the lame shall not enter the house (of worship),” Anderson noted.

1. Genesis 22:14, So Abraham called that place The LORD Will Provide. And to this day it is said, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided." (NIV)

2. 1 Samuel 19:24, He stripped off his robes and also prophesied in Samuel's presence. He lay that way all that day and night. This is why people say, "Is Saul also among the prophets?" (NIV)

3. Leviticus 21:18, No man who has any defect may come near: no man who is blind or lame, disfigured or deformed; (NIV)

2 Samuel 5:9-10, David then took up residence in the fortress and called it the City of David. He built up the area around it, from the supporting terraces inward. And he became more and more powerful, because the LORD God Almighty was with him. (NIV)

I. David then took up residence in the fortress and called it the City of David.

A. Josephus wrote that the Jebusites were expelled from the city.

1. Evidently some remained in the city. (See Smith)
a. 2 Samuel 24:16, When the angel stretched out his hand to destroy Jerusalem, the LORD was grieved because of the calamity and said to the angel who was afflicting the people, "Enough! Withdraw your hand." The angel of the LORD was then at the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite. (NIV)

2. Anderson wrote, “The Jebusites were never expelled nor exterminated, and we do not know what happened to their political or religious leaders.”

II. He built up the area around it, from the (Millo) supporting terraces inward.

A. The Millo appears to be a fortress of some kind that had been a part of the original defenses of the city, Coffman wrote.

1. Later Solomon and Hezekiah strengthened and repaired the Millo, (See Coffman) and king Joash was killed there, the victim of a conspiracy.

a. 1 Kings 9:15, Here is the account of the forced labor King Solomon conscripted to build the LORD's temple, his own palace, the supporting terraces, the wall of Jerusalem, and Hazor, Megiddo and Gezer. (NIV)

b. 2 Chronicles 32:5, Then he worked hard repairing all the broken sections of the wall and building towers on it. He built another wall outside that one and reinforced the supporting terraces of the City of David. He also made large numbers of weapons and shields. (NIV)
c. 2 Kings 12:20, His officials conspired against him and assassinated him at Beth Millo, on the road down to Silla. (NIV)

d. 1 Kings 9:23, They were also the chief officials in charge of Solomon's projects—550 officials supervising the men who did the work. (NIV)

e. 1 Kings 11:27, Here is the account of how he rebelled against the king: Solomon had built the supporting terraces and had filled in the gap in the wall of the city of David his father. (NIV)

III. And he became more and more powerful, because the Lord God Almighty was with him.

A. God blessed David who, therefore, became great and influential. (See Smith)

1. 1 Samuel 1:3, Year after year this man went up from his town to worship and sacrifice to the LORD Almighty at Shiloh, where Hophni and Phinehas, the two sons of Eli, were priests of the LORD. (NIV)

2. 1 Chronicles 11:6-9, David had said, "Whoever leads the attack on the Jebusites will become commander-in-chief." Joab son of Zeruiah went up first, and so he received the command. David then took up residence in the fortress, and so it was called the City of David. He built up the city around it, from the supporting terraces to the surrounding wall, while Joab restored the rest of the city. And David became more and more powerful, because the LORD Almighty was with him. (NIV)
B. The “hosts” over which God is said to be Lord included the army of Israel and the heavenly hosts which were always at Yahweh’s service. (See Anderson)

1. 1 Samuel 17:25, Now the Israelites had been saying, "Do you see how this man keeps coming out? He comes out to defy Israel. The king will give great wealth to the man who kills him. He will also give him his daughter in marriage and will exempt his father's family from taxes in Israel." (NIV)

2. Psalm 33:6, By the word of the LORD were the heavens made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth. (NIV)

3. Psalm 103:21, Praise the LORD, all his heavenly hosts, you his servants who do his will. (NIV)

4. Isaiah 40:26, Lift your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one, and calls them each by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing. (NIV)

5. Isaiah 45:12, It is I who made the earth and created mankind upon it. My own hands stretched out the heavens; I marshaled their starry hosts. (NIV)

2 Samuel 5:11-12, Now Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, along with cedar logs and carpenters and stonemasons, and they built a palace for David. And David knew that the LORD had established him as king over Israel and had exalted his kingdom for the sake of his people Israel. (NIV)

I. Now Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, along with cedar logs and carpenters, and they built a palace for David.
A. This event may have actually occurred some twenty-five (25) years after David captured Jerusalem because Hiram did not become king of Tyre until 979 B.C., late in David’s reign, Smith wrote.

1. Hiram wanted to maintain good relations with Israel to ensure unhampered use of inland trade routes, Smith wrote.

2. 1 Kings 9:10-14, At the end of twenty years, during which Solomon built these two buildings—the temple of the LORD and the royal palace—King Solomon gave twenty towns in Galilee to Hiram king of Tyre, because Hiram had supplied him with all the cedar and pine and gold he wanted. But when Hiram went from Tyre to see the towns that Solomon had given him, he was not pleased with them. "What kind of towns are these you have given me, my brother?" he asked. And he called them the Land of Cabul, a name they have to this day. Now Hiram had sent to the king 120 talents of gold. (NIV)

B. “Cedar logs were well known for their durability,” Anderson observed.

1. Cedar also was resistant to insects, and was of a pleasant fragrance and color.

2. Hiram provided David with the best building materials and the most skilled craftsmen.

C. The Pulpit Commentary presents the view that this Hiram (Huram) was the father of the Hiram who later provided materials for the temple.
1. If this view is correct, David’s palace may have been constructed early in his Jerusalem reign.

II. And David knew that the Lord had established him as king over Israel and…

A. From this international recognition David concluded that God had indeed blessed him.

III. had exalted his kingdom for the sake of his people Israel.

A. David was selected as the Lord’s servant to provide for the welfare of God’s people Israel.

2 Samuel 5:13-16, After he left Hebron, David took more concubines and wives in Jerusalem, and more sons and daughters were born to him. These are the names of the children born to him there: Shammua, Shobab, Nathan, Solomon, Ibhar, Elishua, Nepheg, Japhia, Elishama, Eliada and Eliphelet. (NIV)

I. After he left Hebron, David took more concubines and wives in Jerusalem, and…

A. Smith quoting Youngblood states, “This is the first place where concubines are mentioned in connection with David, and the only time when concubines are mentioned before wives when they are mentioned together.”

B. The Law of Moses forbade the multiplying of wives although many ancient patriarchs (Abraham, Jacob, et.al.) were polygamists.

1. Deuteronomy 17:17, He must not take many wives, or his heart will be led astray. He must not accumulate large amounts of silver and gold. (NIV)
2. The political purpose in having many wives/children was to guarantee David would have descendants to rule Israel following his death.

   a. In this way he sought to firmly establish the Davidic Dynasty.

II. More sons and daughters were born to him.

   A. Six (6) sons were born to David by six (6) wives while he lived in Hebron.

      1. 2 Samuel 3:2-5, Sons were born to David in Hebron: His firstborn was Amnon the son of Ahinoam of Jezreel; his second, Kileab the son of Abigail the widow of Nabal of Carmel; the third, Absalom the son of Maacah daughter of Talmai king of Geshur; the fourth, Adonijah the son of Haggith; the fifth, Shephatiah the son of Abital; and the sixth, Ithream the son of David's wife Eglah. These were born to David in Hebron. (NIV)

   B. Thirteen (13) named sons were born to David while he reigned in Jerusalem.

      1. Other unnamed sons were borne by David’s concubines.

      2. Tamar was one of David’s many daughters.

         a. 1 Chronicles 3:9, All these were the sons of David, besides his sons by his concubines. And Tamar was their sister. (NIV)

         b. Regrettably the status of women in that ancient society was very low. (See Coffman)
c. David’s other daughters remain unnamed in scripture.

III. These are the names of the children born to him there:

Note: Except for Solomon very little is known of the sons of David born at Jerusalem. The sons of wives only are listed here. Sons of concubines are omitted. 1 Chronicles 3:9, All these were the sons of David, besides his sons by his concubines. (NIV)

A. Shammua

1. Shammua was a son of David by Bathsehba.

a. 1 Chronicles 14:4, These are the names of the children born to him there: Shammua, Shobab, Nathan, Solomon, (NIV)

b. 1 Chronicles 3:5, and these were the children born to him there: Shammua, Shobab, Nathan and Solomon. These four were by Bathsheba daughter of Ammiel. (NIV)

B. Shobab

1. Shobab was a son of David by Bathsheba.

C. Nathan

1. Nathan was a son of David by Bathsheba.

a. Nathan was an ancestor of Jesus Christ, in Mary’s lineage.
i. Luke 3:31, Which was the son of Melea, which was the son of Menan, which was the son of Mattatha, which was the son of Nathan, which was the son of David. (KJV)

D. Solomon

1. Solomon was a son of David by Bathsheba who succeeded David as king.

   a. Solomon was an ancestor of Jesus Christ, in Joseph’s lineage.

   i. Matthew 1:6, And Jesse begat David the king; and David the king begat Solomon of her that had been the wife of Urias; (KJV)

E. Ibhar

1. Ibhar was a son of David born at Jerusalem whose mother’s name is not presently known.

F. Elishura

1. Elishura was a son of David born at Jerusalem.

   a. 1 Chronicles 14:5, Ibhar, Elishua, Elpelet. (NIV)

   b. 1 Chronicles 3:6, There were also Ibhar, Elishua, Eliphelet. (NIV)

G. Nepheg

1. Nepheg was a son of David born at Jerusalem.
H. Japhia

1. Japhia was a son of David born at Jerusalem.

I. Elishama

1. Elishama was a son of David born at Jerusalem.

J. Eliada and…

1. Eliada was a son of David born at Jerusalem.

   a. 2 Samuel 5:16, Elishama, Eliada and Eliphelet. (NIV)

   b. 1 Chronicles 14:7, Elishama, Beeliada and Eliphelet. (NIV)

K. Eliphelet

1. Eliphelet was the last son of David born at Jerusalem.

   a. 1 Chronicles 14:7, Elishama, Beeliada and Eliphelet. (NIV)

Note: Two (2) other sons evidently expired in their youth and should be placed between Elishua and Nepheg in the above list. (See Smith)

IV. Lists of David’s sons are found in the following references:

A. 2 Samuel 5:13-16, After he left Hebron, David took more concubines and wives in Jerusalem, and more sons and daughters were born to him. These are the names of the children born to him there: Shammua, Shobab, Nathan,
Solomon, Ibhar, Elishua, Nepheg, Japhia, Elishama, Eliada and Eliphelet. (NIV)

B. 2 Samuel 3:2-5, Sons were born to David in Hebron: His firstborn was Amnon the son of Ahinoam of Jezreel; his second, Kileab the son of Abigail the widow of Nabal of Carmel; the third, Absalom the son of Maacah daughter of Talmai king of Geshur; the fourth, Adonijah the son of Haggith; the fifth, Shephatiah the son of Abital; and the sixth, Ithream the son of David's wife Eglah. These were born to David in Hebron. (NIV)

C. 1 Chronicles 3:6-7, There were also Ibhar, Elishua, Eliphelet, Nogah, Nepheg, Japhia. (NIV)

D. 1 Chronicles 14:6-7, Nogah, Nepheg, Japhia, Elishama, Beeliada and Eliphelet. (NIV)

V. Solomon was the tenth (10) in the line of succession to David’s throne.

A. The political intrigue leading to Solomon’s coronation and the influence of his mother, Bathsheba, on his succession to the throne are very interesting and will be addressed in a later lesson.

David Defeats the Philistines

2 Samuel 5:17-19, When the Philistines heard that David had been anointed king over Israel, they went up in full force to search for him, but David heard about it and went down to the stronghold. Now the Philistines had come and spread out in the Valley of Rephaim; so David inquired of the LORD, "Shall I go and attack the Philistines? Will you hand them over to me?" The LORD
answered him, "Go, for I will surely hand the Philistines over to you." (NIV)

I. When the Philistines heard that David had been anointed king over Israel, they went up in full force to search for him, but…

A. During David’s reign at Hebron he had maintained relative peace with the Philistines, but now that he had been anointed king of all Israel, David appeared to be a threat to the Philistines and they prepared in full force to attack David’s forces. (See Smith)

Note: The Philistine army engaged David’s forces twice (2) as related in 2 Samuel 5, one referenced in verses 18-21 and the second in verses 22-25.

B. The Philistines tried by military action to separate Judah in the south from the rest of Israel in the north, thus negating David’s ruling over all Israel. (See Smith)

C. Following the Philistine victory over Saul on Mount Gilboa, the Philistines were the dominant force in the area.

1. The consolidation of Israel north and south under David was a definite threat to the Philistines’ dominance in the area.

2. The Philistines, therefore, launched an attack on David’s forces.

II. David heard about it and went down to the stronghold.

A. Smith stated that this *stronghold* was probably the old cave of Adullum from which position he could engage in familiar guerrilla warfare.
1. 1 Samuel 22:1, 4, David left Gath and escaped to the cave of Adullam. When his brothers and his father's household heard about it, they went down to him there. So he left them with the king of Moab, and they stayed with him as long as David was in the stronghold. (NIV)

B. Smith concluded that the Philistines were trying to capture David, that they went up in full force in search of him.

III. Now the Philistines had come and spread out in the Valley of Rephaim; …

A. However, the Philistines attacked in the Valley of Rephaim (giants) where David’s forces were weak, Smith wrote.

B. The Valley of Rephaim was the westward approach to Jerusalem (Smith), a valley three (3) miles long and two (2) miles wide. (Pulpit Commentary)

IV. so David inquired of the Lord, “Shall I go and attack the Philistines? Will you hand them over to me?”

A. David did the right thing when he, before taking any action, sought guidance from the Lord.

B. Exactly how David inquired of the Lord is not stated specifically.

1. Smith said David probably inquired of the Lord through the priestly oracle.

V. The Lord answered him, “Go, for I will surely hand the Philistines over to you.”
A. The Lord directed David to go to war against the Philistines, and David obeyed.

2 Samuel 5:20-21, So David went to Baal Perazim, and there he defeated them. He said, "As waters break out, the LORD has broken out against my enemies before me." So that place was called Baal Perazim. The Philistines abandoned their idols there, and David and his men carried them off. (NIV)

I. So David went to Baal Perazim and there he defeated them.

A. Smith wrote that the Philistines were attacked by David from the south.

1. “His forces swept down from the higher ground to break through the Philistine ranks in the plain below,” Smith wrote.

II. He said, “As waters break out, the Lord has broken out against my enemies before me.”

A. Baal Perazim can be translated “Lord of break-through.” (See Smith)

B. Anderson suggested David’s forces rushed down the slopes of Mount Perazim and swept the Philistines away by surprise attack and well executed follow through.

1. Isaiah 28:21, The LORD will rise up as he did at Mount Perazim, he will rouse himself as in the Valley of Gibeon— to do his work, his strange work, and perform his task, his alien task. (NIV)

2. Judges 4:14, Then Deborah said to Barak, "Go! This is the day the LORD has given Sisera into your hands. Has
not the LORD gone ahead of you?" So Barak went down Mount Tabor, followed by ten thousand men. (NIV)

III. So that place was called Baal Perazim.

A. Baal Perazim, the plain or chief of breaches, was the name used here of this place because of the breach which God made in the Philistine army. (See Clarke)

IV. The Philistines abandoned their idols there, and David and his men carried them off.

A. 1 Chronicles 14:12, The Philistines had abandoned their gods there, and David gave orders to burn them in the fire. (NIV)

B. Deuteronomy 7:5, 25, This is what you are to do to them: Break down their altars, smash their sacred stones, cut down their Asherah poles and burn their idols in the fire. The images of their gods you are to burn in the fire. Do not covet the silver and gold on them, and do not take it for yourselves, or you will be ensnared by it, for it is detestable to the LORD your God. (NIV)

C. Isaiah 28:21, The LORD will rise up as he did at Mount Perazim, he will rouse himself as in the Valley of Gibeon—to do his work, his strange work, and perform his task, his alien task. (NIV)

D. Clarke wrote, “It was customary of most nations to carry their gods with them to battle.”

1. The presence of the images gave the Philistines the assurance that their gods were with them, would protect them and give them victory.
E. 2 Chronicles 25:14, When Amaziah returned from slaughtering the Edomites, he brought back the gods of the people of Seir. He set them up as his own gods, bowed down to them and burned sacrifices to them. (NIV)

F. 2 Chronicles 12:3, With twelve hundred chariots and sixty thousand horsemen and the innumerable troops of Libyans, Sukkites and Cushites that came with him from Egypt. (NIV)

2 Samuel 5:22-25, Once more the Philistines came up and spread out in the Valley of Rephaim; so David inquired of the LORD, and he answered, "Do not go straight up, but circle around behind them and attack them in front of the balsam trees. As soon as you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam trees, move quickly, because that will mean the LORD has gone out in front of you to strike the Philistine army." So David did as the LORD commanded him, and he struck down the Philistines all the way from Gibeon to Gezer. (NIV)

I. Once more the Philistines came up and spread out in the valley of Rephaim; ...

A. The Philistines regrouped and attacked with an even larger force (Josephus) intending “to drive a wedge between David and the northern tribes.” (Smith)

II. so David inquired of the Lord, and he answered, “Do not go straight up, but circle around behind them and attack them in front of the balsam trees.

A. Again David did the right thing by first inquiring what the Lord wanted him to do.
B. The Lord directed David to use a different, unexpected military strategy; David obeyed and won a second great victory over the Philistines.

III. As soon as you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam trees, move quickly, because that will mean the Lord has gone out in front of you to strike the Philistine army.”

A. Clarke regarded this as a miracle which would make it clear to David that the victory was the Lord’s and not due to David’s prowess as a warrior.

1. Genesis 3:8, Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. (NIV)

2. Judges 4:14, Then Deborah said to Barak, "Go! This is the day the LORD has given Sisera into your hands. Has not the LORD gone ahead of you?" So Barak went down Mount Tabor, followed by ten thousand men. (NIV)

3. Psalm 68:8, the earth shook, the heavens poured down rain, before God, the One of Sinai, before God, the God of Israel. (NIV)

IV. So David did as the Lord commanded him, and...

A. How much better this world would be if we would all ask God what he wanted us to do and then do it!

V. he struck down the Philistines all the way from Gibeon to Gezer.

A. Gibeon (Geba) was about eight (8) miles northwest of the Valley of Rephaim. (Smith)
1. 1 Chronicles 14:16, So David did as God commanded him, and they struck down the Philistine army, all the way from Gibeon to Gezer. (NIV)

B. Gezer was some fifteen (15) miles farther in the lowlands, some nineteen (19) miles northwest of Jerusalem. (Smith)

1. 1 Kings 9:16, Pharaoh king of Egypt had attacked and captured Gezer. He had set it on fire. He killed its Canaanite inhabitants and then gave it as a wedding gift to his daughter, Solomon's wife. (NIV)

C. The Philistines were in full retreat.

1. God gave David the victory!

Conclusion:

I. David was made king over all Israel, a position he held for the next thirty-three (33) years.

II. David now defeated the Jebusites and made Jerusalem his capital in view of the fact that it was more centrally located than Hebron.

III. David took concubines and wives in Jerusalem and his family increased significantly.

IV. David became victorious over the Philistines in two battles by means of which he consolidated his control over the southland.
Questions

2 Samuel 5:1-25

(Questions based on NIV text.)

1. How much time passed between the death of Ish-Bosheth and David’s becoming king over all Israel? Give reasons for your answer.

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2. Are the events of 2 Samuel 5 related in chronological order? Give reasons for your answer.

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3. Why was David chosen to be king over all Israel and why was he anointed at this particular time?

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4. How does the focus of 2 Samuel 5-10 differ from the focus of chapters 11-20?

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________________________________________________________________________
5. How large was the assembly which gathered at Hebron to make David king of all Israel? ________________________________

6. How many times was David anointed king? What were the circumstances of each anointing? ________________________________

7. David entered a compact with all Israel “before the Lord.” What does the expression “before the Lord” mean? ________________________________

8. With what was David likely anointed? ________________________________
9. How old was David when he killed Goliath? ___________________ How long did David reign in Hebron? _____________________________ How old was David when he became king over all Israel? ___________________ How long did David reign in Jerusalem? ______________________________ How old was David at the time of his death? __________________________

10. Why did David move his capital from Hebron to Jerusalem? ____________________________________________________________

11. How did David capture Jerusalem? How did Joab demonstrate his valor during this battle? What promotion was given Joab because of his success at Jerusalem? ____________________________________________________________

12. Why was Jerusalem difficult to capture? Why were the Jebusites so confident David could not take the city? __________________________

13. Exactly what was Zion? What was Millo? ______________________________
14. What was the attitude of the Jebusites toward “the lame and blind?” Were they allowed to enter the house of the Lord? If not, why not? ____

15. Why did King David prosper? ______________________________

16. What were the “hosts” over which God was Lord? ______________

17. Who was Hiram? What did he do for David? When and why did he do these things? _____________________________________________

18. What led David to believe “the Lord” had established him as king over Israel? ______________________________
19. In what way had God exalted David “for the sake of his people Israel?”

20. Why did David marry more concubines and wives? Was he acting in keeping with God’s will when he married these women?

21. Why was Solomon selected to succeed David as king when he was not David’s firstborn?

23. Why did the Philistines take military action against David when they heard he had been anointed king over all Israel? ___________________
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__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
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24. In what stronghold did David go for refuge from the Philistines? ___
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__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________

25. Where was the first battle with the Philistines fought? What strategy did David use? Who won this battle? ___________________________
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__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________

26. Before David attacked the Philistines, what did he do? What response did he get? ________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
27. Before going to battle with the Philistines a second time, what did he do? What response did he receive? __________________________

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“_________________did as the __________________ commanded him.”

28. Where was the Valley of Rephaim? Where was Baal Perazim? ____

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________________________________________________________

29. Why did the Philistines carry their idols with them into battle? What is the significance of the fact that they abandoned them? What did David and his men do with them? ____________________________

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30. Explain “the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam trees.” What caused this? What did it mean? ____________________________

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