

Deuteronomy to 2 Samuel

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DEUTERONOMY

DATE	BOOK	KEY THOUGHT	CONTENT	KEY LESSONS	JESUS IN THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE
	Old Testament				
	Pentateuch				
1445-1405 BC	Deuteronomy 34 Chapters	Remembrance and Reward	Israel is reminded of God's love and favor, laws repeated, warning and exhortations in preparation for entering the promised land and the death of Moses.	God wants a love relationship.	Jesus becomes the curse for us

DEUTERONOMY

The word "Deuteronomy" comes from the Greek word for "the second law" or "the law copied or repeated."

In the book of Deuteronomy, Moses is writing a series of 3 speeches to the people of Israel in the plains of Moab on the day before they entered the land of Canaan, the promised land. These messages are intended to speak to every member of the congregation of Israel, not just the religious.

Unlike the unconditional covenant God made with Abraham, the covenant between Yahweh and Israel was bilateral—a two-way street. God would keep His promise to bless the nation if the people remained faithful.

The purpose of Moses was to remind them of God's law, and everything that God did for them, and every promise God made to them.

Moses explained to them that their new life in the land of Canaan would be blessed or cursed depending on their ability to walk after God and His law.

These words were spoken to them on the 11th month of the final year of Israel's wandering in the wilderness, the 40th year after they had left Egypt.

DEUTERONOMY

Chapters 1-4: Moses reviews some of the details of the past history of Israel such as the Exodus and the wandering in the wilderness. He then urges that they obey the Laws of God.

Chapters 5-28: Moses restates the Ten Commandments to the Israelites. Moses explains the principles and instructions for living a Godly life as God's chosen nation. These include how to love the Lord, laws of worship, laws regarding relationships (like divorce), and also the consequences and penalties if these laws are broken.

Chapters 29-30: There is a move by the Israelites, as a nation, to follow God. This consists of not only knowing the many laws that God has commanded, but also obeying them and placing God first.

DEUTERONOMY

Chapters 31-34: The leadership of Israel is passed to Joshua.

Moses, the one who has been leading them the entire time, hands over his authority to Joshua, and commissions him.

Moses blesses the tribes, which reminds us of Jacob blessing his sons almost 450 years earlier.

Also in chapter 34, God shows Moses the promised land, although he cannot enter it. After this, Moses the servant of the Lord dies on Mt. Nebo at the age of 120 years old. The Lord buried him in a valley near Beth Peor in Moab in an unknown place.

DEUTERONOMY

Deut. 4: 2

2 “You shall not add to the word which I am commanding you, nor take away from it, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you.

Matt. 5: 18-19

18 “For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

19 “Whoever then annuls one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others *to do* the same, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever keeps and teaches *them*, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Rev. 22: 18-19

18 I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues which are written in this book;

19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book.

DEUTERONOMY

Deut. 32: 45-47

45 When Moses had finished speaking all these words to all Israel,

46 he said to them, “Take to your heart all the words with which I am warning you today, which you shall command your sons to observe carefully, *even* all the words of this law.

47 “For it is not an idle word for you; indeed it is your life. And by this word you will prolong your days in the land, which you are about to cross the Jordan to possess.”

DEUTERONOMY

Moses' address to the Hebrews reviewed all the time of the forty years since they left Egypt. The Ten Commandments are repeated once again (Deuteronomy 5: 7-21).

The setting aside of the tribe of Levi to work for the Lord and not to have land portions in the Promised Land was described (Deuteronomy 10: 8-9).

Once again, Moses reminds them about what to eat and not to eat (Deuteronomy 14: 3-21).

The rule that every 7 years people must "cancel debts" (Deuteronomy 15: 1) was mentioned -- called the Year of Release.

DEUTERONOMY

Moses' instructions to set up three Cities of Refuge (Deuteronomy 19: 2-3) are the same as in the Numbers account.

The rule for anyone who is a false witness against someone was given as: "...life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot." (Deuteronomy 19: 21).

It was pointed out that cross-dressing was wrong for either sex (Deuteronomy 22: 5).

LESSONS IN DEUTERONOMY

1a. The book of Deuteronomy underscores the importance of God's Word. It is a vital part of our lives.

1b. Although we are no longer under the Old Testament law, we are still responsible to submit to the will of God in our lives.

1c. Simple obedience brings blessings, and sin has its own consequences.

LESSONS IN DEUTERONOMY

Deut. 30: 19-20

19 “I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. So choose life in order that you may live, you and your descendants,
20 by loving the Lord your God, by obeying His voice, and by holding fast to Him; for this is your life and the length of your days, that you may live in the land which the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give them.”

2a. Our relationship with God is to be marked by faithfulness, loyalty, love, and devotion.

2b. It is by the grace of God that He wanted to make a covenant with Israel.

LESSONS IN DEUTERONOMY

3. None of us is “above the law.” Even Moses, the leader and prophet chosen by God, was required to obey. The reason that he was not allowed to enter the Promised Land was that he disobeyed the Lord’s clear command.

Num. 20: 9-13

9 So Moses took the rod from before the Lord, just as He had commanded him;
10 and Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly before the rock. And he said to them, “Listen now, you rebels; shall we bring forth water for you out of this rock?”

11 Then Moses lifted up his hand and struck the rock twice with his rod; and water came forth abundantly, and the congregation and their beasts drank.

12 But the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, “Because you have not believed Me, to treat Me as holy in the sight of the sons of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given them.”

13 Those *were* the waters of Meribah, because the sons of Israel contended with the Lord, and He proved Himself holy among them.

LESSONS IN DEUTERONOMY

4. Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us.

Deut. 21: 22-23

22 “If a man has committed a sin worthy of death and he is put to death, and you hang him on a tree,

23 his corpse shall not hang all night on the tree, but you shall surely bury him on the same day (for he who is hanged is accursed of God), so that you do not defile your land which the Lord your God gives you as an inheritance.

Gal.3: 13-14

13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”—

14 in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we would receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

LESSONS IN DEUTERONOMY

6. As Israel remembered God's faithfulness, so should we.

The crossing of the Red Sea, the holy presence at Sinai, and the blessing of manna in the desert should be an encouragement to us as well.

A great way to keep going forward is to take some time to look back and see what God has done.

LESSONS IN DEUTERONOMY

7. During the time of His testing in the wilderness, Jesus quoted from the book of Deuteronomy three times (Matthew 4). In so doing, **Jesus illustrated for us the necessity of keeping God's Word in our hearts that we might not sin against Him.**

Ps. 119: 11

11 Your word I have treasured in my heart,
That I may not sin against You.

LESSONS IN DEUTERONOMY

8. In Deuteronomy we see a loving God who desires a relationship with His children. The Lord names love as the reason that He brought Israel out of Egypt “with a mighty hand” and redeemed them.

Deut. 7: 7-9

7 “The Lord did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any of the peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples,
8 but because the Lord loved you and kept the oath which He swore to your forefathers, the Lord brought you out by a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

9 “Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments;

LESSONS IN DEUTERONOMY

9. It was necessary to perfectly keep the Mosaic Law. Nevertheless, it was an impossibility.

The endless sacrifices necessary to atone for the sins of the people—who continually transgressed the Law—would find their fulfillment in the final “once for all” sacrifice of Christ. Because of His atoning work on the cross, we would need no further sacrifices for sin.

Heb. 10: 10

10 By this will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

LESSONS IN DEUTERONOMY

10. God's choosing of the Israelites as His special people foreshadows His choosing of those who would believe in Christ.

1 Peter 2: 9-10

9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for *God's* own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

10 for you once were not a people, but now you are the people of God; you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

LESSONS IN DEUTERONOMY

11. Moses prophesies of another prophet—the ultimate Prophet to come — who is the Messiah. Like Moses, Jesus would receive and preach divine revelation and He would lead His people.

Deut. 18: 15-19

15 “The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your countrymen, you shall listen to him.

16 “This is according to all that you asked of the Lord your God in Horeb on the day of the assembly, saying, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the Lord my God, let me not see this great fire anymore, or I will die.’

17 “The Lord said to me, ‘They have spoken well.

18 ‘I will raise up a prophet from among their countrymen like you, and I will put My words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him.

19 ‘It shall come about that whoever will not listen to My words which he shall speak in My name, I Myself will require *it* of him.

Jn. 6: 14

14 Therefore when the people saw the sign which He had performed, they said, “This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world.”

Joshua

DATE	BOOK	KEY THOUGHT	CONTENT	KEY LESSONS	JESUS IN THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE
	Old Testament				
	Israel's History				
1405-1385 BC	Joshua 24 Chapters	Promised land entered	Israel enters, conquers and divides the promised land – Canaan.	Obedience is the Path of Success.	Commander of the army - the Lord

Joshua

Joshua leads the children of Israel to cross into the Promised Land. (Joshua 1: 1-5: 12)

Joshua conquers the Promised Land. (Joshua 5: 13;12: 24)

The first eight chapters in Joshua cover the first battle for Israel - Jericho.

In chapters 9-12 the army continues fighting with Joshua as their leader. They conquer and obtain more of the Promised Land, with one great miracle being the sun stopping in the sky. (Joshua 10: 12-14)

Joshua

In chapters 13-22 Joshua and the Israelites divide the lands they conquered among the tribes.

In chapters 23-24 Joshua challenges the children of Israel to obey and serve the Lord.

Joshua

Joshua took over after Moses died. At one point, the Jordan River became dry and allowed all the Hebrews to cross (Joshua 3: 12-17).

Joshua, at 110, died.

The final burial of the bones of Joseph that had been carried all the time since the Exodus from Egypt was reported (Joshua 24: 32).

Joshua

Victory over the city of Jericho

SPECIFIC: special, distinctive or unique and explicit

God gave the children of Israel “**specific**” instructions on how to defeat the city of Jericho.

Joshua

Joshua 6: 2-10

2 The Lord said to Joshua, “See, I have given Jericho into your hand, with its king *and* the valiant warriors.

3 “You shall march around the city, all the men of war circling the city once. You shall do so for six days.

4 “Also seven priests shall carry seven trumpets of rams’ horns before the ark; then on the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets.

5 “It shall be that when they make a long blast with the ram’s horn, and when you hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city will fall down flat, and the people will go up every man straight ahead.”

6 So Joshua the son of Nun called the priests and said to them, “Take up the ark of the covenant, and let seven priests carry seven trumpets of rams’ horns before the ark of the Lord.”

7 Then he said to the people, “Go forward, and march around the city, and let the armed men go on before the ark of the Lord.”

8 And it was so, that when Joshua had spoken to the people, the seven priests carrying the seven trumpets of rams’ horns before the Lord went forward and blew the trumpets; and the ark of the covenant of the Lord followed them.

9 The armed men went before the priests who blew the trumpets, and the rear guard came after the ark, while they continued to blow the trumpets.

10 But Joshua commanded the people, saying, “You shall not shout nor let your voice be heard nor let a word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I tell you, ‘Shout!’ Then you shall shout!

Joshua

The children of Israel followed God's instructions in Joshua 6: 14-20. This resulted in victory.

Isaiah 55: 8-9

8 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," declares the Lord.

9 "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways And My thoughts than your thoughts.

There is a big difference between God's Ways and man's ways.

The Purpose of the book of Joshua

1. The book of Joshua was written to teach us about the faithfulness of God and His ability to give His people the victory when they trust in Him.
2. The book of Joshua demonstrates the severity of God's judgment upon sin and disobedience.

The Purpose of the book of Joshua

3. The promise given to Abraham in Genesis 17: 8 that His descendants would inherit Canaan was finally fulfilled!

God is faithful!

Themes in the book of Joshua

A. God fulfills His promises.

Even though man continues to sin, from Abraham's deception (Gen. 12: 10-20), to the golden calf incident in the wilderness (Exod. 32), to the thievery and disobedience of Achan (Josh. 7), God still kept His covenant and gave the land to His people in spite of their failures.

Themes in the book of Joshua

B. God fights for His people.

When the people trusted and obeyed, God fought their battles (Josh. 10: 42). What seemed impossible a generation earlier, was now taking place: victory for Joshua's people. It was God who caused the walls of Jericho to fall (Josh. 6: 1-21), who gave the winning strategy to Joshua (Josh. 8: 1) and who stopped the sun for him to have more time (Josh. 10: 1-2; 13).

Themes in the book of Joshua

C. Sin will be judged.

In Joshua 8 Achan, along with all of his family and possessions are stoned and then burned because he took something he desired unlawfully.

It seems like a rather harsh punishment for disobeying the Lord and stealing a Babylonian cloak and some gold and silver. God was making a point that sin will be judged. He was not against the individual, whether Israelite or Canaanite, He was against the sinful practices.

Themes in the book of Joshua

D. Serve the Lord.

In the very first verse of the first chapter, Moses, who has died, is described as “the Lord’s servant”. Joshua was Moses’ assistant, and is now commissioned as the new leader of the Israelites; he is God’s new servant, called to stay close to the Lord by meditating upon God’s Word.

The book concludes with Joshua calling together all the people and exhorting them to choose whether or not they will serve the Lord. He vows his allegiance to God and gravely warns them about the ease of falling into idolatry.

Joshua

A. In the book of Joshua there are accounts of faithfulness:

1. Rahab the harlot (Joshua 2: 1–21)
2. The battle of Jericho (Joshua 6: 1–27)
3. Caleb the warrior (Joshua 14: 6–14).

Joshua

B. In the book of Joshua there are accounts of disobedience and its consequences:

1. Achan's sin (Joshua 7-8)
2. The resulting loss at Ai (Joshua 7: 5)
3. The failure of some tribes to annihilate the enemy as God commanded, even Joshua making a treaty with the Gibeonites without first seeking the Lord (Joshua 9: 1–27)

Joshua

C. God is the ultimate promise-keeper.

As faithful and present as He was with Israel, so He is with us.

Joshua 1: 7-9

7 “Only be strong and very courageous; be careful to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, so that you may have success wherever you go.

8 “This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success.

9 “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Joshua

God keeps His Word. He raised up a nation from one man and brought that nation into their its own land. His promise to Abraham in Genesis was fulfilled in the book of Joshua.

God was patient and long-suffering. Along the way, there were many occasions of sin and failure, yet God's plan and promise was ultimately fulfilled.

We can trust Him; we can trust His written Word and we can trust that He will complete the work that He has begun in us.

Phil. 1: 6

6 *For I am* confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.

Joshua

In this life, we will have many battles. They will not necessarily be physical battles but they will be times of intense conflict and struggle.

In these times, it is important to remember Joshua and his trust in the Lord as the walls toppled down amidst the shouts of God's people in the 6th chapter of Joshua.

God is able to fight our battles for us. We need to trust Him and we need to do what Joshua did: meditate day and night upon the Word of the Lord, be strong and courageous and not afraid.

Joshua

God takes sin seriously.

1. It comes with a high price tag, as Achan learned in Joshua 7-8.
2. After all, the reason that the Canaanites were being defeated by God is because of their evil practices.

Lev. 18: 24-25

24 'Do not defile yourselves by any of these things; for by all these the nations which I am casting out before you have become defiled.

25 'For the land has become defiled, therefore I have brought its punishment upon it, so the land has spewed out its inhabitants.

Joshua

God takes sin seriously.

3. We must fear the Lord and fight against a casual attitude toward sin. It breaks our relationship with God.
4. We rejoice that sinners find forgiveness as they turn to God and enter into a relationship with Him and His people.
 - 4a. Rahab turned to God.

Joshua 6: 17

17 “The city shall be under the ban, it and all that is in it belongs to the Lord; only Rahab the harlot and all who are with her in the house shall live, because she hid the messengers whom we sent.

Joshua

God takes sin seriously.

4b. The Gibeonites accepted God.

Joshua 9: 17-19

17 Then the sons of Israel set out and came to their cities on the third day. Now their cities *were* Gibeon and Chephirah and Beeroth and Kiriath-jearim.

18 The sons of Israel did not strike them because the leaders of the congregation had sworn to them by the Lord the God of Israel. And the whole congregation grumbled against the leaders.

19 But all the leaders said to the whole congregation, “We have sworn to them by the Lord, the God of Israel, and now we cannot touch them.

Joshua

Christians are faced with choices.

1. **Christians can serve the Lord, as Joshua and his family did.**

Joshua 24: 15

15 “If it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve: whether the gods which your fathers served which were beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”

2. **Christians can serve gods of their own choosing, as most of the Israelites eventually did.**

Judges 2: 1-2

1 Now the angel of the Lord came up from Gilgal to Bochim. And he said, “I brought you up out of Egypt and led you into the land which I have sworn to your fathers; and I said, ‘I will never break My covenant with you,
2 and as for you, you shall make no covenant with the inhabitants of this land; you shall tear down their altars.’ But you have not obeyed Me; what is this you have done?”

3. **The choice Christians make is a daily choice.**

Choosing to serve the Lord means that we are choosing to meditate on His Word, obey Him with our choices and honor Him with our lives.

JUDGES

DATE	BOOK	KEY THOUGHT	CONTENT	KEY LESSONS	JESUS IN THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE
	Old Testament				
	Israel's History				
1043 BC	Judges 21 Chapters	Israel lives among and wars with the Canaanites	Israel lives through cycles of bondage and deliverance from the Canaanites; God appoints judges such as Gideon and Samson.	Disobedience brings Judgment	Jesus delivers us from injustice

Judges in the Bible

1. Moses before Judges
2. Joshua before Judges
3. Othniel
4. Ehud
5. Shamgar
6. Deborah
7. Gideon
8. Abimelech ruled as a king for 3 years Judges 9: 22
9. Tola
10. Jair
11. Jephthah
12. Ibzan
13. Elon
14. Abdon
15. Samson
16. Eli after Judges
17. Samuel after Judges

JUDGES

Judges covers a period of approximately 300 years, with a series of judges serving Israel.

The judges often made poor, unethical choices because they didn't seek God for their decisions but did things on their own.

JUDGES

The period of the judges began after the death of Joshua in the early fourteenth century BC (Joshua 24: 29) and continued until Saul was crowned king of Israel by the prophet Samuel in 1051 BC (1 Samuel 10: 24).

The book of Judges acts as the sequel to the book of Joshua. It is linked by comparable accounts of Joshua's death (Joshua 24: 29–31; Judges 2: 6–9).

Events within the book of Judges span the geographical breadth of the nation, happening in a variety of cities, towns, and battlefields. Some of the judges ruled simultaneously in separate geographical regions.

JUDGES

The contents of Judges were likely not written chronologically. The final few chapters (Judges 17–21) give an overview of the moral climate during those days.

Rather than occurring after the period of the judges listed earlier in the book, they probably happened in and around the times of various judges mentioned in earlier chapters.

JUDGES

In the book of Judges we read of Israel's cycle of sin. The nation underwent political and religious turmoil as the people tried to possess those parts of the land that had not yet been fully conquered.

The tribes fought among themselves, as well, nearly wiping out the tribes of Manasseh (Judges 12) and Benjamin (Judges 20–21).

The pattern of behavior in the book of Judges is clear: the people rebelled through idolatry and disbelief, God brought judgment through foreign oppression, God raised up a deliverer, or judge, and the people repented and turned back to God. When the people fell back into sin, the cycle started over again.

JUDGES

The book of Judges is a tragic account of how Yahweh [God] was taken for granted by His children year after year, century after century. Judges is a sad contrast to the book of Joshua which chronicles the blessings God bestowed on the Israelites for their obedience in conquering the land. In Judges, they were disobedient and idolatrous, leading to their many defeats.

God has never failed to open His arms in love to His people whenever they repent from their wicked ways and call upon His name.

Judges 2: 18

18 When the Lord raised up judges for them, the Lord was with the judge and delivered them from the hand of their enemies all the days of the judge; for the Lord was moved to pity by their groaning because of those who oppressed and afflicted them.

Judges is a cycle of sin and deliverance:

A. The Israelites are dwelling in the promised land.

Judges 2: 1

1 Now the angel of the Lord came up from Gilgal to Bochim. And he said, "I brought you up out of Egypt and led you into the land which I have sworn to your fathers; and I said, 'I will never break My covenant with you,

**Judges is a cycle of sin and deliverance:
B. The Israelites prove their unfaithfulness to
YAHWEH.**

Judges 2: 2

2 and as for you, you shall make no covenant with the inhabitants of this land; you shall tear down their altars.’ But you have not obeyed Me; what is this you have done?

Judges is a cycle of sin and deliverance:

C. The Israelites fall into a repetitive cycle of sin.

Judges 2: 11-12

11 Then the sons of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord and served the Baals,

12 and they forsook the Lord, the God of their fathers, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt, and followed other gods from *among* the gods of the peoples who were around them, and bowed themselves down to them; thus they provoked the Lord to anger.

**Judges is a cycle of sin and deliverance:
D. The Israelites fall into a repetitive
cycle of oppression.**

Judges 2: 15

15 Wherever they went, the hand of the Lord was against them for evil, as the Lord had spoken and as the Lord had sworn to them, so that they were severely distressed.

Judges is a cycle of sin and deliverance:

E. The Israelites fall into a repetitive cycle of repentance and deliverance.

Judges 3: 9

9 When the sons of Israel cried to the Lord, the Lord raised up a deliverer for the sons of Israel to deliver them, Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother.

Judges 3: 15

15 But when the sons of Israel cried to the Lord, the Lord raised up a deliverer for them, Ehud the son of Gera, the Benjamite, a left-handed man. And the sons of Israel sent tribute by him to Eglon the king of Moab.

Judges is a cycle of sin and deliverance:

F. The Israelites fall into a repetitive cycle of peace.

Judges 3: 11

11 Then the land had rest forty years. And Othniel the son of Kenaz died.

Judges is a cycle of sin and deliverance:
This cycle repeats six times
throughout the book of Judges.
The consequences get worse
each time.

JUDGES

The book of Judges describes many heroes of faith:

Othniel, Gideon, Samson, Shamgar,
Deborah, Jephthah, Ehud

They are flawed individuals who answered God's call to deliver the Israelites in sometimes dramatic form.

JUDGES

The primary message of Judges is that God will not allow sin to go unpunished.

In the book of Judges, God disciplined the Israelites for:

- A. Following other gods
- B. Disobeying His sacrificial laws
- C. Engaging in blatant immorality
- D. Descending into anarchy at times

Because they were His people, He listened to their cries for mercy and raised up leaders to deliver them.

JUDGES

The announcement to Samson's mother that she would bear a son to lead Israel is a foreshadowing of the announcement to Mary of the birth of the Messiah.

God sent His Angel to both women and told them they would "conceive and bear a son" who would lead God's people.

Judges 13: 7

7 "But he said to me, 'Behold, you shall conceive and give birth to a son, and now you shall not drink wine or strong drink nor eat any unclean thing, for the boy shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb to the day of his death.' "

Luke 1: 31

31 "And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name Him Jesus.

JUDGES

God's compassionate delivery of His people, despite their sin and rejection of Him, presents a picture of Christ on the cross.

Jesus died to deliver His people—all who would ever believe in Him—from their sin.

God is faithful to His promises. He offered His Son to die on the cross so mankind can have forgiveness for their sins.

JUDGES

Several "judges" led the people of Israel, turning them from their worship of "Baal" and "Ashtaroth" idols. The people often strayed from God, were punished and directed back to God, only to stray again.

The only female "judge" was Deborah, said to be a "mother of Israel."

Gideon was another judge who led Israel back to God, but, once again, when he died, they worshiped "Baal and Baal-berith." One of Gideon's sons, Abimelech, was acclaimed "king of Israel," for a short time, until he was defeated. Heathen gods again were worshipped and again the Hebrews were punished by being beaten in battle.

JUDGES

Samson (Judges 13-16):

Samson was given great strength from God, and became a judge over Israel for 20 years. At one point, (Judges 15:15), Samson killed a thousand Philistines with a donkey's jawbone.

He fell in love with Delilah, who nagged him into revealing the secret of his strength -- his uncut hair. She told the Philistines, who cut Samson's hair and then blinded him. His hair grew back, his strength returned, and he pulled down pillars supporting the temple -- killing many Philistines and himself.

A story (Judges 19-21) of a "horrible deed" by some Benjamites against the wife of a Levite led to the other eleven tribes of Israel virtually eliminating the tribe of Benjamin -- all but a small number.

LESSONS FROM THE BOOK OF JUDGES

The book of Judges was written to evoke shock and disgust at the horrific sinfulness of which humans are capable when they abandon God.

When people do whatever they want without any standard for right or wrong, evil results.

The book of Judges demonstrates the consistent love and faithfulness of God to respond mercifully to the cry from those who are oppressed. He answers this cry by raising up judges, anointing them with His Spirit, and performing great acts of deliverance.

The book of Judges bridges the gap between the arrival in the promised land and the time of the kings of Israel.

LESSONS FROM THE BOOK OF JUDGES

Judges warns us against forsaking the Lord and against trying to live life without Him.

Judges teaches us that we can't manage life alone; we need God's supernatural power. We are prone to sin.

We need to be obedient to what God has called us to do.

LESSONS FROM THE BOOK OF JUDGES

Judges inspires us to think that when God wants to accomplish something in the world, often in answer to the cry of His people, He raises up an individual.

That person, like one of the Judges, will not be perfect. They may lack courage or be struggling with sin, but they are still called!

Maybe someone is praying today and you will be the answer to that prayer!

LESSONS FROM THE BOOK OF JUDGES

Judges helps us understand why the world is so corrupt.

The book of Judges helps us to provide a framework to process the evil present in the human heart.

In the book of Judges, Christians are encouraged that God will respond to a cry for help. We are relieved that no matter how evil the world becomes and how far we fall, we can always, come back to Him.

If we forget Him, He will not forget us. He is faithful.

RUTH

DATE	BOOK	KEY THOUGHT	CONTENT	KEY LESSONS	JESUS IN THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE
	Old Testament				
	Israel's History				
1030-1010 BC	Ruth 4 Chapters	Kinsman redeemer (Picture of Christ)	Ruth and Naomi leave Moab for Israel: Ruth works as a gleaner and is redeemed by Boaz.	There is a Redeemer.	Our Kinsman - Redeemer

RUTH

Ruth 1: 1-5

1 Now it came about in the days when the judges governed, that there was a famine in the land. And a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the land of Moab with his wife and his two sons.

2 The name of the man *was* Elimelech, and the name of his wife, Naomi; and the names of his two sons *were* Mahlon and Chilion, Ephrathites of Bethlehem in Judah. Now they entered the land of Moab and remained there.

3 Then Elimelech, Naomi's husband, died; and she was left with her two sons.

4 They took for themselves Moabite women *as* wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. And they lived there about ten years.

5 Then both Mahlon and Chilion also died, and the woman was bereft of her two children and her husband.

RUTH

Ruth was a Moabite. After the death of her husband, Ruth agreed to return with her widowed mother-in-law, Naomi, to Israel. This was a remarkable leap of faith for Ruth.

With Naomi's wisdom and God's grace, they moved from a situation of being beggars in Bethlehem to Ruth's falling in love with Boaz, who became a kind and generous husband.

Ruth and Boaz had a baby boy named Obed, who was the father of Jesse and the grandfather of King David.

RUTH

Boaz, a relative of Naomi on her husband's side, fulfilled his duty as kinsman-redeemer, outlined in the Mosaic Law, to redeem an impoverished relative from his or her circumstances.

Lev. 25: 47-49

47 'Now if the means of a stranger or of a sojourner with you becomes sufficient, and a countryman of yours becomes so poor with regard to him as to sell himself to a stranger who is sojourning with you, or to the descendants of a stranger's family,

48 then he shall have redemption right after he has been sold. One of his brothers may redeem him,

49 or his uncle, or his uncle's son, may redeem him, or one of his blood relatives from his family may redeem him; or if he prospers, he may redeem himself.

Boaz exhibited incredible integrity in his relationships, business, and personal dealings.

RUTH

Jesus Christ redeems us, the spiritually impoverished, from the slavery of sin.

Our heavenly Father sent His own Son to the cross so that we might become children of God and brothers and sisters of Christ.

By being our Redeemer, He makes us His kinsmen.

Ruth is an example of a virtuous woman as seen in Prov. 31

A. Ruth was devoted to her family.

Ruth 1: 15-18

15 Then she said, “Behold, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and her gods; return after your sister-in-law.”

16 But Ruth said, “Do not urge me to leave you *or* turn back from following you; for where you go, I will go, and where you lodge, I will lodge. Your people *shall* be my people, and your God, my God.

17 “Where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. Thus may the Lord do to me, and worse, if *anything but* death parts you and me.”

18 When she saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

Pro. 31: 10-12

10 An excellent wife, who can find? For her worth is far above jewels.

11 The heart of her husband trusts in her, And he will have no lack of gain.

12 She does him good and not evil All the days of her life.

Ruth is an example of a virtuous woman as seen in Prov. 31

B. Ruth was faithfully dependent upon God.

Ruth 2: 12

12 “May the Lord reward your work, and your wages be full from the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to seek refuge.”

Pro. 31: 30

30 Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, *But* a woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised.

Ruth is an example of a virtuous woman as seen in Prov. 31

**C. Ruth was a woman of godly speech.
Her words were loving, kind and
respectful, both to Naomi and to Boaz.**

Pro. 31: 26

**26 She opens her mouth in wisdom, And
the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.**

RUTH

The Book of Ruth was written to the Israelites. It teaches that genuine love at times may require uncompromising sacrifice.

The sovereignty of our great God is clearly seen in the story of Ruth. He guided her every step of the way to become His child and fulfill His plan for her to become an ancestor of Jesus Christ.

Ruth 4: 17

17 The neighbor women gave him a name, saying, “A son has been born to Naomi!” So they named him Obed. He is the father of Jesse, the father of David.

GENEALOGY OF JESUS

Matt. 1: 3-6

3 Judah was the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar (Gen. 38: 1-29), Perez was the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram.

4 Ram was the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon.

5 Salmon* was the father of Boaz by Rahab (Joshua 2: 1), Boaz was the father of Obed by Ruth (Ruth 4: 17), and Obed the father of Jesse.

6 Jesse was the father of David the king. David was the father of Solomon by Bathsheba (2 Sam. 12: 24) who had been the wife of Uriah.

Matt. 1: 16

16 Jacob was the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, by whom Jesus was born, who is called the Messiah.

*Salmon is not mentioned in the Book of Joshua. Or, anywhere else in the Old Testament. He is only when Matthew and Luke put forth Jesus' genealogical line that we see this man, the one who married Rahab.

GENEALOGY OF JESUS

Tamar was a woman of unidentified origin who had been widowed by two of Judah's sons, and had been promised to the third and youngest son, Shelah.

Gen. 38: 1-29

GENEALOGY OF JESUS

Rahab clearly was a prostitute, and a Gentile, living in Jericho (Josh. 2:1).

Despite her occupation, she seems to be a woman with kindness in her.

She provides financially for her parents and siblings and she is quite willing to hide the Israelite spies who have come to search out a way to attack and defeat Jericho.

She has a compassionate heart and hides the spies on her roof.

GENEALOGY OF JESUS

Ruth, a Gentile, a widow, but this woman's sexual purity has not been compromised. In fact, the highest words of praise are spoken by Boaz in identifying her as a woman of virtue, a woman of noble character (Ruth 3:11).

She is a woman who from the time she heard the name 'Yahweh' has been an earnest follower, thanks to the instruction of her mother-in-law, Naomi.

Following Naomi's sound advice, Ruth entreats Boaz to marry her and to provide for her and Naomi in their old age, provision which will come in the form of a precious son, Obed.

GENEALOGY OF JESUS

Bathsheba, Uriah's wife, married David, but she did not properly belong to him. She had been seduced by Israel's greatest king, and to some extent, she was complicit, though as the powerful one in the 'relationship' David clearly carries the blame. He instigated the adultery with the beautiful wife of one of his finest generals. Later, to protect himself, David has General Uriah placed in battle where he is sure to be killed. The story is full of death, for the child from the adulterous union dies, too.

Eventually, by God's mercy, David repents. And God grants a son, Solomon, to him and his now legitimate wife, Bathsheba. And through Solomon, the line to the Messiah flowed.

GENEALOGY OF JESUS

Mary, she wasn't sinless, but she was a godly, virtuous and a young Jewish girl, officially married to Joseph, and mother of Jesus who is called the Christ (Matt. 1:16).

Mary was Jewish, Mary was a virgin to whom no taint of sexual scandal had come. Mary was a devout believer in Yahweh. To him she entrusted herself: her reputation, her future, and her entire hope.

When the angel told her she would be pregnant by the Holy Spirit, she believed (Luke 1:35-38) and accepted what had never happened before.

“I am the Lord's servant,” were her amazing words. She comprehended in an instant, what generations of Jewish women had never understood: the Messiah would be born of a virgin.

RUTH

Regardless of our lot in life, we can live according to the precepts of God. Genuine love and kindness will be rewarded.

God abundantly blesses those who seek to live obedient lives. God extends mercy to the merciful.

We belong to a loving, faithful and powerful God who has never failed to care and provide for His children. Like Ruth and Boaz, we are called to respond to that divine grace in faithful obedience, in spite of the godless culture in which we live.

RUTH

The book of Ruth teaches us:

- A. About loyalty
- B. About The Messiah
- C. To Honor God
- D. That God is at work behind the scenes

RUTH

A. Loyalty

In contrast to her sister-in-law, Orpah, Ruth will not leave the side of Naomi. Her words in Ruth 1: 16-17 powerfully summarize her loyal heart. She could not be more committed!

Likewise, Boaz repays her loyalty with his own. He becomes loyal to her, not just as a family-redeemer, but as a husband.

Finally, the book of Ruth magnifies God's loyalty, as He takes care of Naomi, brings Ruth and Boaz together, and gives them a special place in His plan.

RUTH

B. The Messiah

Jesus is of the lineage of Judah, descended from King David (Matt. 1: 1-2).

Although the bulk of the book of Ruth says nothing about David, the strong emphasis at the end, both with Ruth 4: 17 (“A son has been born to Naomi,” and they named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David”), and with the genealogy from Perez to David (Ruth 4: 18-22) which concludes the book, shows the author’s intent to point toward the promised Messiah through the line of David.

RUTH

C. Honoring God

Boaz's first recorded words in Scripture are "The Lord be with you." He was a godly man who was concerned about obeying the Lord. He is set forth as an example of someone who follows the Mosaic Law.

Because he honored God, he blessed his employees (Ruth 2: 4), he took care of the poor (Ruth 2: 8), and he dealt in his business matters ethically and wisely. (Ruth 3: 12-13, Ruth 4: 1-9).

God repaid Boaz by giving him a wife and a son (Ruth 4: 13), and allowing him to be in the lineage of Jesus (Ruth 4: 21).

RUTH

D. God is at work behind the scenes

The story begins with several trials, among them famine, death, and poverty (Ruth 1: 1-5).

As the story develops, it becomes apparent that God is at work to bring two people together to bless them and to carry on His plan (Ruth 4).

Mostly absent from the text are statements like “God did this” or “The Lord did that”. Instead we see human decisions that bring about the will of God in a very natural way.

1 Samuel

DATE	BOOK	KEY THOUGHT	CONTENT	KEY LESSONS	JESUS IN THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE
	Old Testament				
	Israel's History				
931 -722 BC	I Samuel 31 Chapters	God rejected in favor of a human king	The life of Samuel is in view (the last judge). Saul is appointed Israel's first king and David is appointed king – Saul's successor. Life of David as king.	Sin's Consequence is Misery	Jesus is the Prophet/Priest/King

1 Samuel

1. God raises up Samuel as prophet and judge (1 Sam. 1–7).
2. Israel demands a king: Saul (1 Sam. 8–15).
3. God raises up David to be king of Israel (1 Sam. 16–20).
4. Saul hunts David out of jealousy (1 Sam. 21–31).

1 Samuel

The books of Samuel were originally one work that was later divided into two.

This book offers no clear guidance on the question of authorship. It seems likely that the attachment of Samuel's name simply reflects the role he played in the early chapters of the book.

Samuel is described as an old man in 1 Samuel 8: 1 and as dead in 1 Samuel 25: 1, which would have been long before many of the events of 1 and 2 Samuel took place.

However, 1 Chronicles 29: 29 attaches the names of Samuel and his prophetic successors, Nathan and Gad, who could have written 1 and 2 Samuel.

1 Samuel

First Samuel chronicles the beginning of Israel's monarchy, following the lives of the prophet Samuel, the ill-fated King Saul, and God's ultimate choice of David as king.

Saul, the first king, though “head and shoulders above the rest”, did not have a righteous heart, and his line was destined never to inherit the crown (9: 1–15, 35).

God instructed Samuel to anoint David, the youngest son of Jesse of Bethlehem, as the next king (16: 1–13).

1 Samuel

1 Samuel contains the stories of Samuel the prophet, King Saul and King David's trials before he was king.

Samuel, as a boy, heard God's voice.

The people demanded a king because all the surrounding nations had one.

David killed Goliath.

Saul called on a witch to bring the prophet Samuel back to life.

1 Samuel

Eli, the high priest and judge of Israel, was not faithful in serving God and the people.

Samuel was born to Hannah, a barren woman, after she prayed to God. Eli also asked God to help her. Samuel was dedicated, by his mother, to God. At one point, the Ark of God was taken by the Philistines, causing their idol, Dagon, to fall and be disgraced (1 Samuel 5). Samuel became judge of Israel (1 Samuel 7) when Israel defeated the Philistines at Mizpah, a place that Samuel named Ebenezer (meaning "the Stone of Help").

The people insisted on having a king. Samuel finally picked Saul, the tallest man (1 Samuel 9: 2), who was made king at Gilgal (1 Samuel 11: 15). Saul made a mistake by personally making a burnt offering, instead of letting Samuel do it, thus requiring his dynasty to end (1 Samuel 13: 9, 12-14).

1 Samuel

Samuel served the people as a prophet and judge. He spoke the word of the Lord to the people, and taught them how to live as the people of God.

When Samuel grew old and Israel's enemies attacked, the people demanded that Samuel appoint a king. Samuel advised the people to trust in God and not in human leadership, but the people did not listen—they were determined to have a king rule over them and deliver them from the enemy.

So God gave them Saul.

1 Samuel

Saul ignored the word of the Lord and craved the approval of men.

He disobeyed God several times, overstepped his duties, and put the people at odds with God and each other.

King Saul did not keep the Law of Moses, and did not direct the Israelites to live as God's holy people.

So God gave them David.

1 Samuel

Saul is a study of wasted opportunity.

Here was a man who had it all—honor, authority, riches, good looks, and more.

Saul died in despair, terrified of his enemies and knowing he had failed his nation, his family, and his God.

1 Samuel

Much of 1 Samuel follows David's exploits as a young musician, shepherd, and warrior.

1. We witness his victory over Goliath (17: 1–58);
2. His deep friendship with Jonathan (18: 1–4);
3. His growing military prowess (18: 5–30);
4. He waited patiently for the throne, often pursued and driven into hiding by Saul.

The book concludes with Saul's death (31: 1–13), which serves as a natural dividing marker between 1 Samuel and 2 Samuel.

1 Samuel

God sees the heart and saw in David a man after His own heart.

1 Sam. 13: 14

14 “But now your kingdom shall not endure. The Lord has sought out for Himself a man after His own heart, and the Lord has appointed him as ruler over His people, because you have not kept what the Lord commanded you.”

The humility and integrity of David, coupled with his boldness for the Lord and his commitment to prayer, set a good example for all of us.

			United Kingdom					
			Kings of Israel					
#	Date of Reign	Start/End	Name	Length of Reign	End of Reign	Prophet	Scripture	Notable Events
1	1050-1010 BC	Good/Evil	<u>Saul</u>	40 years	Killed himself and died with his sons in battle with Philistines, succeeded by Ishbosheth	Samuel	1 Sam. 8-31 1 Chron. 9-10	Anointed under protest.
2	1010-1008 BC	Bad/Bad	<u>Ishbosheth</u>	2 years	Killed by conspirators, succeeded by David	Samuel	2 Sam. 2: 8 to 2 Sam. 4: 12	Declared king, but never anointed.
3	1010-970 BC	Good/Good	<u>David</u>	40 years	Succeeded by Solomon	Samuel / Nathan	1 Sam. 16-31 2 Sam. 1-24 1 Kings 1-2 1 Chron. 11-29	Brought the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem
4	970-930 BC	Good/Evil	<u>Solomon</u>	40 years	Succeeded by Rehoboam who ruled Judah; Jeroboam became king of Israel during Rehoboam's reign.	Nathan	1 Kings 1-11 2 Chron. 1-9	Built the first Temple

1 Samuel

1 Sam. 8: 7

7 The Lord said to Samuel, “Listen to the voice of the people in regard to all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me from being king over them.

1 Sam. 16: 7

7 But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”

1 Samuel

David and Goliath (1 Samuel 16, 17):

A young shepherd, David, was brave, strong, and favored by the Lord.

David played the harp for king Saul when Saul had the "Spirit from the Lord" tormenting him. Goliath was a champion of the Philistines, a giant over nine feet tall. Goliath challenged that the battle of the Philistines and Hebrews be a single combat of one Israelite and himself.

David accepted the challenge and killed Goliath using a sling to throw a stone at Goliath's head.
(1 Samuel 17: 48-51).

1 Samuel

David became well known and was honored with a song (1 Samuel 18: 7), "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his tens of thousands," which made king Saul very angry.

David became a "blood brother" to Jonathan, king Saul's son, and married Michal, king Saul's daughter.

Saul decided to kill David and pursued him over the land-twice (1 Samuel 24; 1 Samuel 26). David spared Saul, when David could have easily killed him. Saul consulted a medium at Endor (1 Samuel 28).

On Mt. Gilboa, Saul was wounded by the Philistines. Saul killed himself and the valiant men burned his body. (1 Samuel 31: 12).

1 Samuel

God keeps His promises, and expects us to keep ours.

God promised Hannah blessings and gave her a child. She kept her word and gave Samuel back to God.

The Lord gave Saul a great victory over his enemies, but Saul disobeyed God.

God is always faithful to His promises, and He knows people will not always keep their promises to Him, but He does want them to do so.

1 Samuel

God wants people to form good friendships.

Jonathan and David were best friends.

They had a covenant friendship, and Jonathan saved David's life. David took in his friend's son after Jonathan died in battle.

God wants people to have strong, fulfilling friendships that glorify Him.

1 Samuel

God's insight differs from man's insight.

David was the smallest and youngest of his brothers, unimpressive to the world around him.

God chose David to be the King of Israel, to work through him, and ultimately to continue the line of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob that would lead to the birth of Christ.

1 Samuel

The prayer of Hannah makes several prophetic references to Christ. 1 Sam. 2: 1-10

She extols God as her Rock vs. 2

2 “There is no one holy like the Lord, Indeed, there is no one besides You, Nor is there any rock like our God”.

The Lord who will judge the ends of the earth, vs. 10

10 “Those who contend with the Lord will be shattered; Against them He will thunder in the heavens, The Lord will judge the ends of the earth; And He will give strength to His king, And will exalt the horn of His anointed.”

Jesus as the “rock of offense” to the Jews

Rom. 9: 33

33 just as it is written, “Behold, I lay in Zion a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense, And he who believes in Him will not be disappointed.”

Christ is called the “spiritual Rock” who provided spiritual drink to the Israelites in the wilderness just as He provides “living water” to our souls.

1 Cor. 10: 4

4 and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they were drinking from a spiritual rock which followed them; and the rock was Christ.

John 4: 10

10 Jesus answered and said to her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, ‘Give Me a drink,’ you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.”

Jesus as the Son of Man who will come in glory to judge everyone.

Matt. 25: 31-32

31 “But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne.
32 All the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats”

1 Samuel

David had prophetic sanction by Samuel and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David.

1 Sam. 16: 13

13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. And Samuel arose and went to Ramah.

Jesus had prophetic sanction by John the Baptist and the Spirit of the Lord descended upon Jesus

John 1: 28-30

28 These things took place in Bethany beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

29 The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

30 "This is He on behalf of whom I said, 'After me comes a Man who has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me.'

Mark 1: 9-11

9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

10 Immediately coming up out of the water, He saw the heavens opening, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon Him;

11 and a voice came out of the heavens: "You are My beloved Son, in You I am well-pleased."

1 Samuel

David was rejected by His men

1 Sam. 20: 12

12 Then David said, “Will the men of Keilah surrender me and my men into the hand of Saul?” And the Lord said, “They will surrender you.”

Jesus was rejected by the Israelites

John 19: 15

15 So they cried out, “Away with *Him*, away with *Him*, crucify Him!” Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar.”

2 Samuel

DATE	BOOK	KEY THOUGHT	CONTENT	KEY LESSONS	JESUS IN THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE
	Old Testament				
	Israel's History				
		Second Samuel documents the transition back to God-honoring leadership under David.	David is remembered as the greatest king in Israel's history. Because of David's faithfulness, the Lord blessed and honored David.		
931 -722 BC	2 Samuel 24 Chapters			Sin's Consequence is Misery	Jesus is the King of grace and love

2 Samuel

King Saul and most of his sons die in a battle with the Philistines.

David becomes King of Israel.

Chapters 1-10 - show David as a excellent warrior and leader who also is compassionate to the sick and poor and always tries to do what would make God happy.

Chapters 11-24 - David faces trials and tribulations. There are many upsets in his family, including his bad choice to commit adultery, the death of an infant son and a coup attempt by his oldest son, who ended up being killed by David's warriors.

2 Samuel

The book begins with David receiving news of the death of Saul and his sons. He proclaims a time of mourning.

Soon afterward, David is crowned king over Judah, while Ish-bosheth, one of Saul's surviving sons, is crowned king over Israel (chapter 2).

A civil war follows, but Ish-bosheth is murdered, and the Israelites ask David to reign over them as well (chapters 4-5).

David moves the country's capital from Hebron to Jerusalem and later moves the Ark of the Covenant (chapters 5-6).

2 Samuel

David's plan to build a temple in Jerusalem is vetoed by God, who then promises David the following things (2 Samuel 7: 4-16):

1. David would have a son to rule after him;
2. David's son would build the temple;
3. The throne occupied by David's lineage would be established forever;
4. God would never take His mercy from David's house.

2 Samuel

David leads Israel to victory over many of the enemy nations which surround Israel. He also shows kindness to the family of Jonathan by taking in Mephibosheth, Jonathan's crippled son (chapters 8-10).

Then David falls. He lusts for a beautiful woman named Bathsheba, commits adultery with her, and then has her husband murdered (chapter 11).

When Nathan the prophet confronts David with his sin, David confesses, and God graciously forgives. However, the Lord tells David that trouble would arise from within his own household.

2 Samuel

Trouble does come when David's firstborn son, Amnon, rapes his half-sister, Tamar. In retaliation, Tamar's brother Absalom kills Amnon. Absalom then flees Jerusalem rather than face his father's anger. Later, Absalom leads a revolt against David, and some of David's former associates join the rebellion (chapters 15-16).

David is forced out of Jerusalem, and Absalom sets himself up as king for a short time. The usurper is overthrown, however, and—against David's wishes—is killed. David mourns his fallen son.

A general feeling of unrest plagues the remainder of David's reign. The men of Israel threaten to split from Judah, and David must suppress another uprising (chapter 20).

2 Samuel

We learn of a three-year famine in the land (chapter 21).

David composes a psalm of deliverance (chapter 22).

There is a record of the exploits of David's bravest warriors (chapter 23).

David sins by taking a census and God sends a plague (chapter 24).

2 Samuel

The Davidic covenant foreshadows the reign of Jesus.

2 Samuel 7: 16

16 “Your house and your kingdom shall endure before Me forever; your throne shall be established forever.”

This divine promise marked the beginning of an additional covenant, called the Davidic covenant, in which God promised an eternal throne to the house of David.

Because of David’s faith, God did not treat the descendants of David as He had treated Saul’s.

Sin would be punished, but David’s line would never be completely cut off.

2 Samuel

Luke 1: 30-33

30 The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; for you have found favor with God.

31 “And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name Him Jesus.

32 “He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David;

33 and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end.”

Christ is the fulfillment of the Davidic Covenant; He is the Son of God in the line of David who is reigning and will reign forever.

2 Samuel

Jesus is seen in the song of David as his rock, fortress and deliverer, his refuge and savior (2 Samuel 22: 2-51).

A. Jesus is our rock.

1 Cor. 10: 4

4 and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they were drinking from a spiritual rock which followed them; and the rock was Christ.

B. Jesus is the Deliverer of Israel

Rom. 11: 25-27

25 For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery—so that you will not be wise in your own estimation—that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in;

26 and so all Israel will be saved; just as it is written, “The Deliverer will come from Zion, He will remove ungodliness from Jacob.”

27 “This is My covenant with them, When I take away their sins.”

2 Samuel

C. Jesus is the fortress to whom we “have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us”.

Heb. 6: 17-20

17 In the same way God, desiring even more to show to the heirs of the promise the unchangeableness of His purpose, interposed with an oath,

18 so that by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have taken refuge would have strong encouragement to take hold of the hope set before us.

19 This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a *hope* both sure and steadfast and one which enters within the veil,

20 where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

2 Samuel

D. Jesus is our Savior.

2 Tim. 1: 8-10

8 Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord or of me His prisoner, but join with *me* in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God,

9 who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity,

10 but now has been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel,

2 Samuel

David moved to Hebron and became king of the Judean groups (this lasted for 7 1/2 years). King Saul's son, Ish-Bosheth, became king of the rest of Israel. There was constant warring between these groups, until Ish-Bosheth's general, Abner, was killed. Then, two of Ish-Bosheth's captains killed him, hoping to gain favor with king David. Neither of the deaths of Abner or Ish-Bosheth pleased king David. He had Ish-Bosheth's captains killed for their deed.

David was then crowned king of all Israel (2 Samuel 5: 3) at the age of 37; he reigned for 30 more years. David led troops to Jerusalem, captured the fortress of Zion, and it became known as the "City of David" (2 Samuel 5: 7). The prophet Nathan told David that the Lord was pleased with David and would make his name famous and that one of his sons would build the Lord a temple.

2 Samuel

David and Bathsheba (2 Samuel 11):

King David admired a beautiful married woman, Bathsheba, and got her pregnant. Then, king David instructed his army general, Joab, to place her husband, "Uriah the Hittite," in the "front line where the fighting is fiercest" and to pull the men back to let him be killed. After Uriah's death, king David married Bathsheba (he already had 7 wives before her).

The Lord, through the prophet Nathan, told king David that the Lord forgave him, but that his wives would be given openly to another man and that his son by Bathsheba would die. Thus, the son of Bathsheba died. She soon had another son -- Solomon (2 Samuel 12: 24), named also Jedidiah which means "loved by the Lord" (or "Beloved of Jehovah").

2 Samuel

Story of Tamar (2 Samuel 13):

David's daughter, Tamar, was raped by her half-brother, Amnon. Absalom, Amnon's half-brother and Tamar's full-brother, waited two years and then sent his servants to kill Amnon at a feast -- to which he invited all of king David's sons.

2 Samuel

David's son, Absalom, became powerful and eventually challenged king David for the kingdom. King David had to leave Jerusalem and went to the Mount of Olives (2 Samuel 15: 30) to mourn. Absalom arrived at Jerusalem and fulfilled the prophecy of Nathan by insulting his father by going into a tent to be "with his father's concubines" (2 Samuel 16: 22) -- actually ten of his young wives (thus king David had many wives now). King David later placed these wives into "virtual widowhood" until their deaths.

Absalom and king David continued to fight this civil war, until the army leader, Joab, killed Absalom. King David took a census and found 800,000 men in Israel and 500,000 men in Judah, fit to be warriors. The census was not God's wish, so God sent a plague.

In 2 Samuel 24: 16, the death angel was ready to destroy Jerusalem. God stopped it.

2 Samuel

Anyone can fall. Even a man like David, who truly desired to follow God and who was richly blessed by God, was susceptible to temptation.

David's sin with Bathsheba should be a warning to all of us to guard our hearts, our eyes, and our minds.

Pride over our spiritual maturity and our ability to withstand temptation in our own strength is the first step to a downfall.

1 Cor. 10: 12-13

12 Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall.

13 No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.

2 Samuel

2 Samuel highlights the Power and Providence of God in working out His Kingdom Program throughout human history.

2 Samuel reminds us that human government, even under the best possible leadership, cannot escape the painful consequences of sin and therefore it needs God's mercy, grace, and guidance.

2 Samuel encourages us that despite our failures and periods of walking outside of God's will during our lives, God is quick to forgive, compassionate, and merciful and able to restore us to fellowship and usefulness in His kingdom.

2 Samuel

Also, 2 Samuel, encourages the heads of families to effectively nurture and discipline their children to avoid the painful consequences of sin and rebellion which wreck the peace and harmony of the home.

2 Samuel shows the importance of doing God's work in God's way and in accordance with His timing and leading, rather than taking matters into our own hands.

2 Samuel points our attention to the Messiah and His Kingdom which will accomplish the ultimate fulfillment of the Davidic Covenant.

Lessons from 2 Samuel

God has not forgotten you.

(2 Samuel 1-5)

David was anointed King around the age of 15 but he did not take the throne until he was 37! And during that waiting period David faced a lot of hardship.

Lessons from 2 Samuel

God treats us, not as guests, but as part of His family. (2 Samuel 9)

David seeks out the son of Jonathan, who was crippled at the age of 5, named Mephibosheth.

David invited Mephibosheth to eat at his table like one of his own sons...forever.

This is a beautiful picture of Jesus' love for us!

We are the crippled man in this story and Jesus has not only restored us from judgment but he has invited us to eat at his table – as part of the family of God – forever!

Lessons from 2 Samuel

No family is perfect. (2 Samuel 11-15)

David failed as a husband when he was unfaithful through his adulterous relationship with Bathsheba. David failed as a King when he had Bathsheba's military husband killed. David failed as a father when he did not discipline his own son for violating his sister.

As a result of David's failures, David's family was a royal mess.

David humbled himself and repented and his writings in Psalms show how deeply he understood his need for God.

All of us fail and fall into sin. No family is perfect.

Jesus is the only one who is perfect!

James 4: 10

10 Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you.

Lessons from 2 Samuel

Ambition, mixed with bitterness and revenge, is a deadly snare. (2 Samuel 14-18).

David's handsome son, Absalom, wanted his father's throne so badly, he was willing to kill his father to get it!

Absalom allowed his bitterness and anger – along with a lack of patience, some bad counsel, pride about his good looks, and an insatiable ambition to be the King – lead to his own death.

While Absalom was hurt by his father's life choices, he did not have to choose rebellion.

May we beware of any pride, anger or revenge that may be hidden in our hearts. It will always be a snare, if we do not deal with it.

Lessons from 2 Samuel

God's mercy is greater than man's. (2 Samuel 24)

In the end, David disobeyed God once more when he counted his people. God's anger burned towards David and so God gave David a choice of 3 different consequences.

“Shall **three years of famine** come to you in your land?

Or will you **flee three months before your foes** while they pursue you?

Or shall there be **three days' pestilence** in your land?

It is better to fall into the hands of our merciful God than into the hands of man.