

# The Book of 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel

## **SOURCES:**

MacArthur. The MacArthur Study Bible. Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc., 2006.

Ryrie, Charles: Ryrie Study Bible: Expanded Edition. Chicago: The Moody Bible Institute of Chicago, 1995.

Bible references taken from:

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## **WEB SITE FOR LECTURE NOTES AND LIVE LECTURE:**

[www.swordofthespiritstudies.com](http://www.swordofthespiritstudies.com) (click on 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel at the very top of the web site page).

## **YOUTUBE SITE FOR LIVE LECTURE:**

Go to your YouTube page and type in **Sword of the Spirit Studies** (click on my picture in the round circle then click on “videos” at the top.

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**Table #**

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# Israel's Promised Land



<http://www.biblestudy.org/maps/division-of-promised-land-to-twelve-tribes-israel-large-map.html>

## MODERN DAY ISRAEL



<http://commonconstitutionalist.com/current-events/another-reason-to-be-pro-israel/>

**LESSON 1: GOD ESTABLISHES DAVID'S KINGDOM**  
**HOMEWORK**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel: Chapters 1-3**

**Directions: Use your Study Bible, the internet, or any other study source to help you with these questions.**

1. Read 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel 1:1-27
  - How does 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 31:1-13 explain King Saul's death?
  - How did the Amalekite explain King Saul's death?
  - Why do you think the Amalekite fabricated this story?
2. David reacts to Saul's death.
  - What did David do to the Amalekite? Why?
  - List three adjectives David used in his lament to describe Saul.
  - How did David describe Jonathan in his lament?
3. Read 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel 2:1-11
  - Find the following on a map:
    - Mahanaim; Hebron
  - Over what part of Israel did David's kingship have influence?
  - Describe Ish-bosheth?
4. Read 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel 2:12-32
  - Explain the following.
    - Abner
    - Joab
    - Abishai
    - Asahel
  - What happened at the pool of Gibeon?
  - How did Asahel die?
5. Read 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel 3:1-39
  - Why did Abner switch loyalty from Ish-bosheth to King David?
  - Why did Joab kill Abner?
  - How did David react to Abner's death?

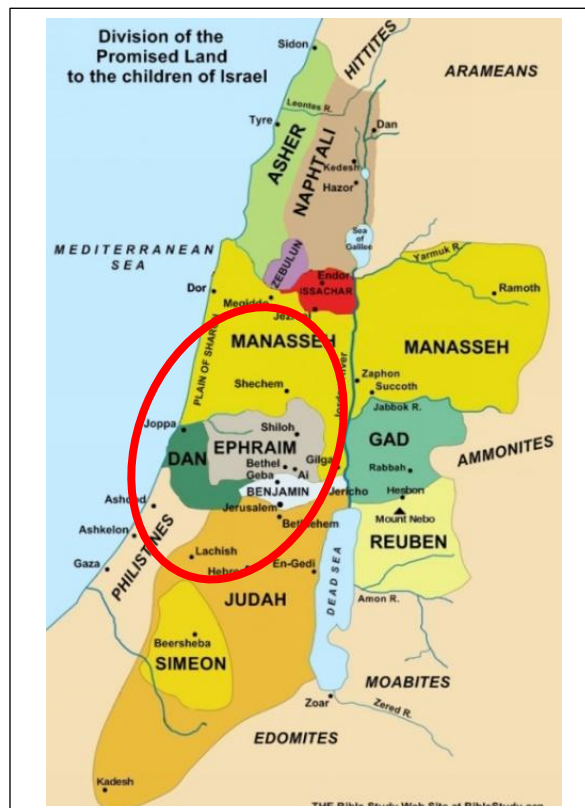
# LESSON 1: GOD ESTABLISHES DAVID'S KINGDOM

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel Chapters 1-3

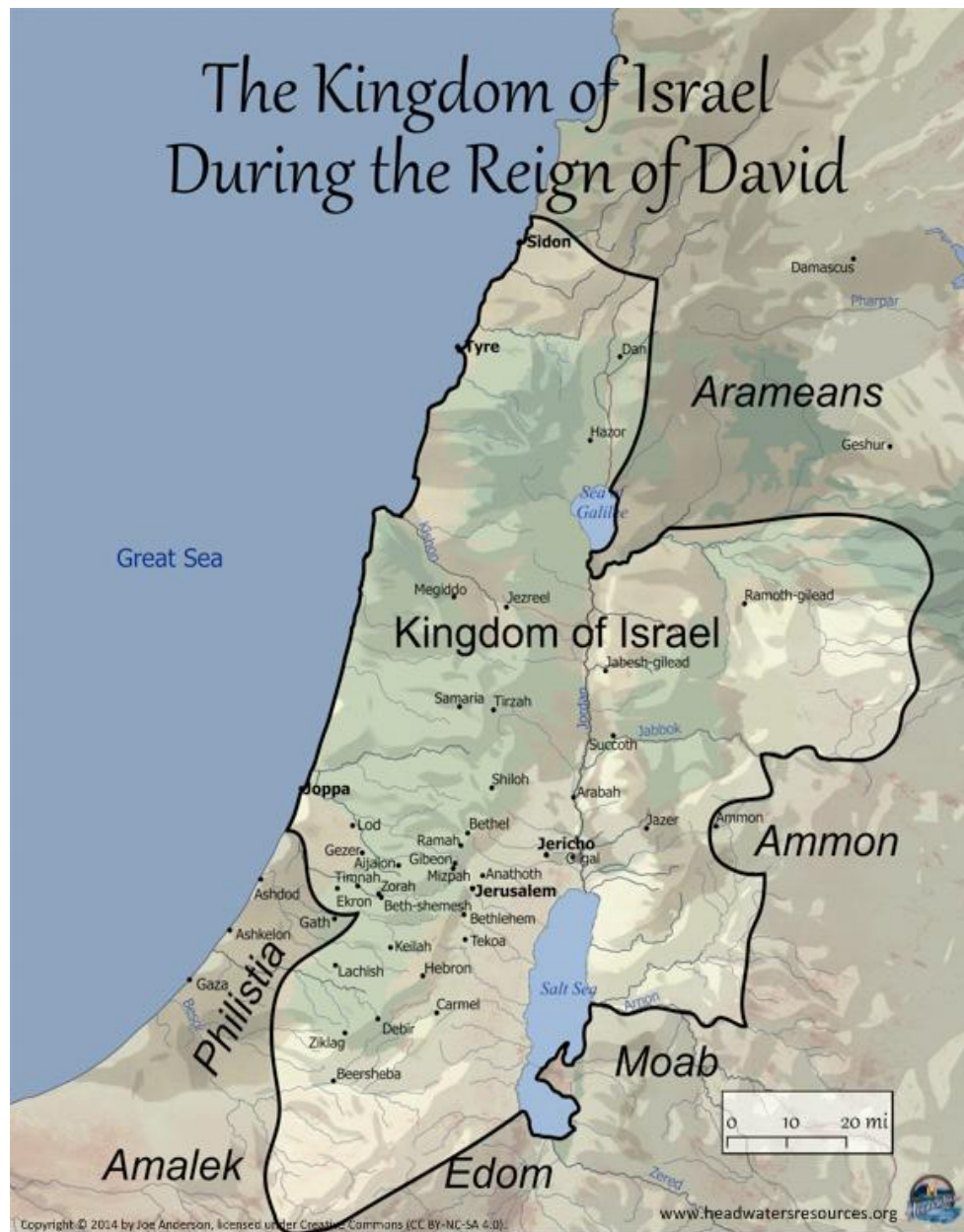
### Background of 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel

- 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel references **Samuel's** name, however, he probably only wrote the first part of 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel since 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel chapter 25 records his death.
- Nathan and Gad might have written the remaining parts of the Samuels since 1<sup>st</sup> Chronicles 29:29 cites them as authors, and they chronicled the events of King David.
- Joshua, around 90 years old, conquered the heathen tribes of Canaan. Joshua led the Israelites from 1405-1385 B.C.
- From 1375-1025 B.C. (350 years), God provided **Judges** for military and civil leadership. Israel formed a loose confederacy divided into twelve tribes (nations).
- Most activities in Israel ran approximately **90** miles from the northern boundary of Ephraim to the southern hill country of Judah and between 15-35 miles from the Mediterranean Sea eastward.

<http://www.biblesstudy.org/maps/division-of-promised-land-to-twelve-tribes-israel-large-map.html>



- Samuel judged Israel from 1105 B.C.-1030 B.C.; King Saul reigned from 1052 B.C.-1011 B.C.; and King David reigned from 1010 B.C.-971 B.C.
- The book of 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel chronicles the lives of: Samuel, King Saul, Jonathan, and the early years of David.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel concentrates on **King David's** reign, which lasted from 1010 B.C.-971 B.C.



<https://headwatersresources.org/the-kingdom-of-israel-under-david/>



## CHAPTER 1: DAVID'S CORONATION OVER THE KINGDOM

### Vs. 1-10: David Learns of Saul's Death

- To escape from Saul's death threats, David lived in the **Philistine** territory of Ziklag. He lived there for one year and four months.
- The Philistines planned to attack Israel.
- The Philistines sent David's men back to Ziklag since they did not trust his men.
- While David stayed in Ziklag, the Philistines killed King Saul on **Mount Gilboa**.



<http://atthattimedaniel12.weebly.com/ziklag-judah-simeon.html>

- Saul, severely wounded at Mount Gilboa, killed himself with his own sword. Saul did this so the Philistines could not capture him before he died.

- An **Amalekite** came to David at Ziklag and informed him that King Saul and his son, Jonathan, had died on Mount Gilboa. (Remember-David had just defeated the Amalekites-1<sup>st</sup> Samuel chapter 30).
- David asked how the Amalekite knew this information. The Amalekite said while on Mount Gilboa, he saw Saul dying from a severe wound.
- Saul asked the Amalekite to end his life. The Amalekite said he killed Saul and brought Saul's crown and bracelet to David.
- The Amalekite obviously **fabricated** the actual events. The Amalekite believed that David would reward him for killing Saul.

## Mount Gilboa



<https://i.ytimg.com/vi/CKfcRLbGqbQ/maxresdefault.jpg>

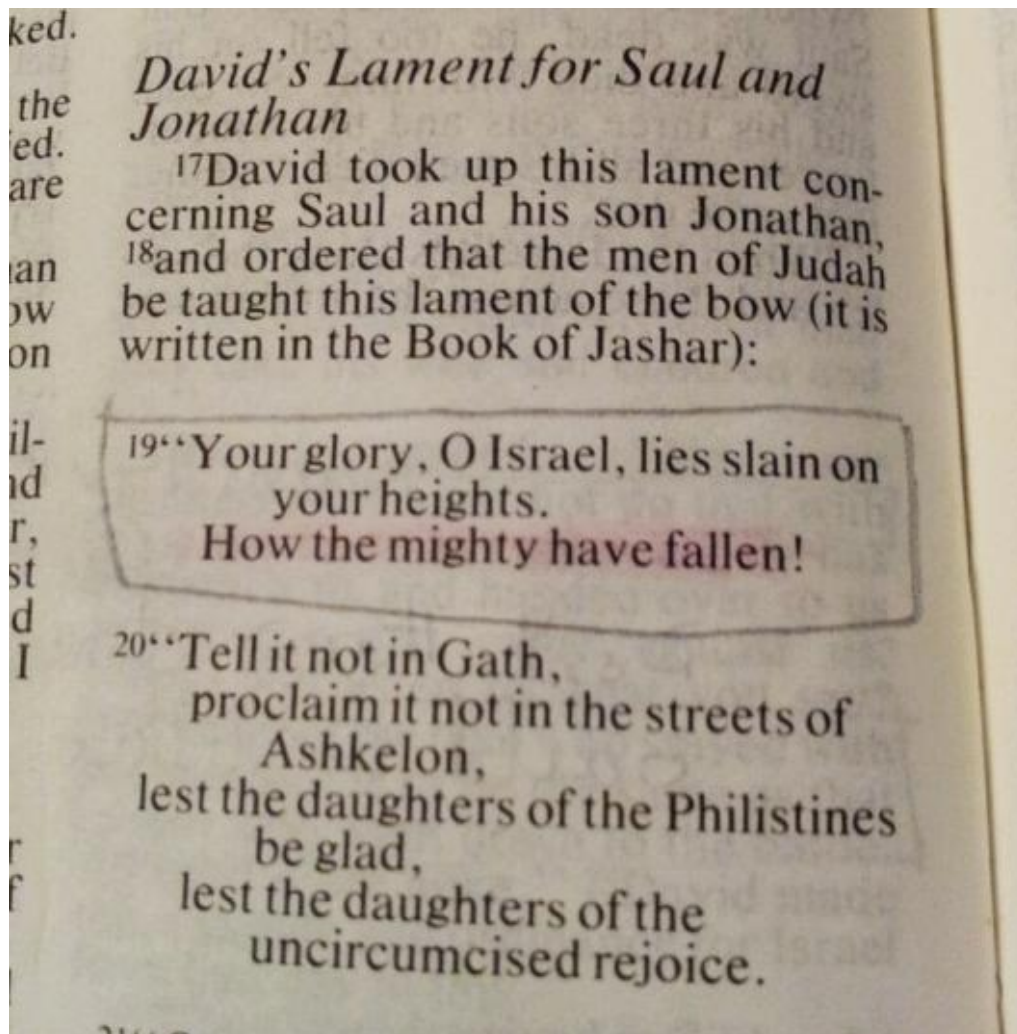


### Vs. 11-16-David's Reaction to the Amalekite

- David tore his clothes in mourning along with all the men with him. David and his men **mourned** all day for Saul, his son Jonathan, and for the Israelites who died in battle.
- David ordered the death of the Amalekite since he said he had struck down the Lord's anointed.

### Vs. 17-27: David's Lament over Saul and Jonathan

- David chanted a lament over Saul and Jonathan. David ordered the lament to teach the people of Judah the works of Saul and Jonathan. David entitled it, *The Song of the Bow*. The book of **Jashar** recorded this event.
- The book of Jashar chronicled Israel's wars, listed important events, and poetically commemorated David's great men (Joshua 10:13).
- Some memorable verses include: Vs. 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26.



## CHAPTER 2: DAVID ESTABLISHES HIS KINGDOM

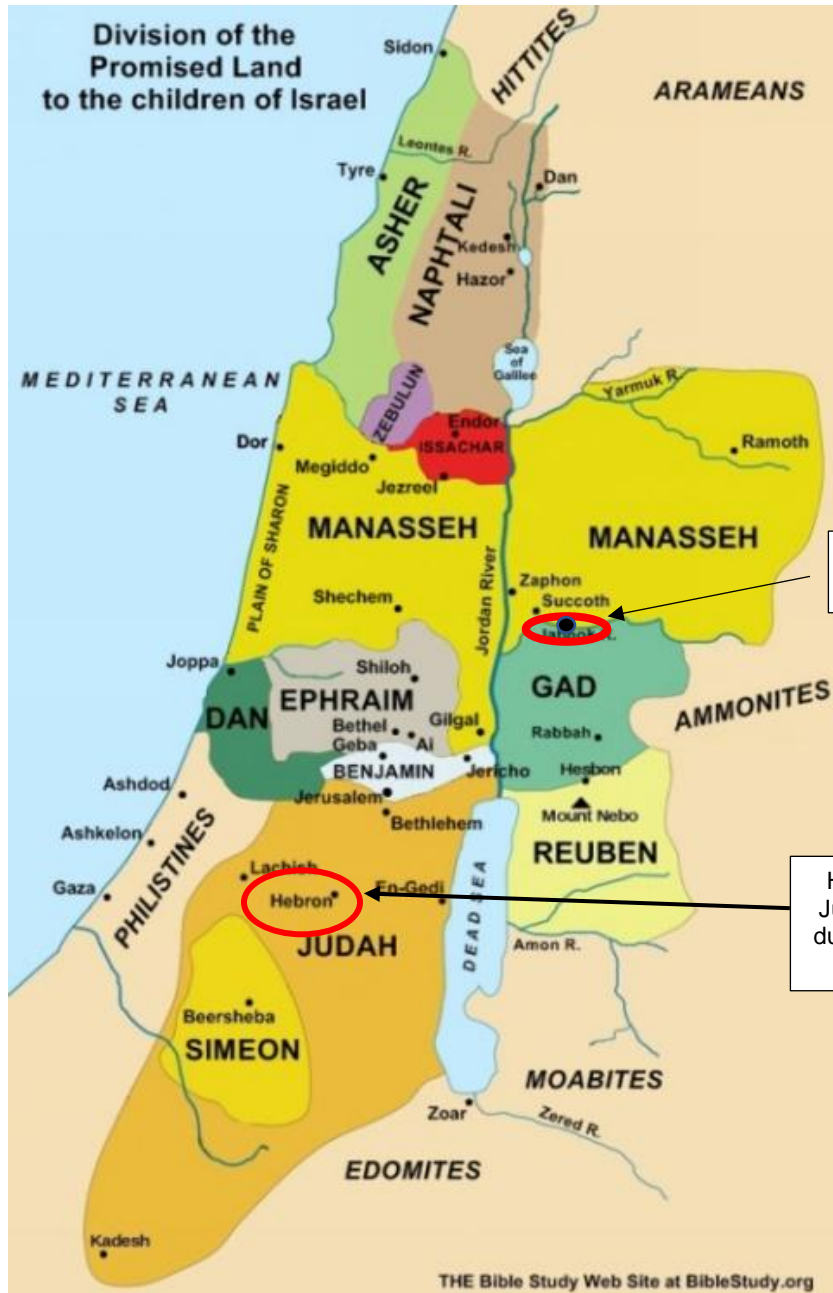
### Vs. 1-7: David Anointed as King over Judah

- The Territories of Judah and Israel Begin to Unify



[http://www.wow.com/wiki/Kingdom\\_of\\_Israel\\_\(united\\_monarchy\)](http://www.wow.com/wiki/Kingdom_of_Israel_(united_monarchy))

- David inquired of the Lord as to what city he should live. The Lord answered that he should go to Hebron.



<http://www.biblestudy.org/maps/division-of-promised-land-to-twelve-tribes-israel-large-map.html>

- David took his two wives, Ahinoam and Abigail, along with his faithful followers.
- The men of Judah anointed David as king over the house of **Judah**.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 31 states how the men of Jabesh-gilead took Saul's body and those of his sons down from the wall of Beth-shan and buried them in Jabesh. The men of Jabesh-gilead had honored Saul for their deliverance from the Ammonites (1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 11).
- David heard the men of Jabesh-gilead had **honored** Saul by burying him, so David blessed them.



Jabesh-Gilead

<https://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/israel/maps-12-tribes.htm>



### Vs. 8-11: The Division of Saul's Kingdom

- Abner, Saul's commander of the army, took **Ish-bosheth**-Saul's only surviving son-and made him king over Israel. Abner might have used this weak king for his own ambitions.
- Ish-bosheth means *man of shame*.
- David ruled over **Judah** for seven years and six months.

### Vs. 12-32: A Civil War

- **Abner**, Saul's cousin, commanded Saul's army while **Joab**, David's nephew, commanded David's army.
- Abner and Joab met by the pool of **Gibeon**. They held a fighting contest and both Abner's men and Joab's men died in battle. As a result, a fight broke out among the other men and David warriors defeated Abner's warriors.



Gibeon



- Zeruah, David's uncle, had three prominent sons: Joab, **Abishai**, and Asahel. Abishai accompanied David into Saul's camp and had the opportunity to kill Saul while he slept (1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 26). Joab commanded David's army. Asahel, a very fast runner, proved himself as a prominent warrior.
- **Asahel** ran after Abner, but Abner killed him. As a result, Joab and Abishai pursued Abner.
- The pursuit ended, and Abner went to **Mahanaim** and Joab returned to Hebron. The city of Mahanaim will play an important role later in David's life.



## CHAPTER 3: ABNER CHANGES HIS LOYALTY TO DAVID

### Vs. 1-21: David's Kingdom Grows Stronger at Hebron

- A long war continued between the house of Saul and the house of David. However, David became stronger and stronger.
- David fathered more sons while in Hebron.
- Ish-bosheth, king of Israel, rebuked Abner for taking Saul's concubine, Rizpah. Due to this severe rebuke, Abner turned his **loyalty** to David.

### Vs. 22-39: Joab kills Abner

- Abner left Hebron to bring the kingdom of Israel to David.
- In the meantime, Joab returned from a raid and learned that David had made peace with Abner.
- Out of revenge for his brother's death (Abner had killed Asahel), Joab **killed** Abner at the gate in Hebron, a designated city of refuge.
- A city of refuge protected a person accused of a crime until the arrangement of a trial.
- David lamented and fasted over the death of Abner. Not only did this show David's innocence but it helped **unify** the two kingdoms.

Hebron



[http://www.wow.com/wiki/Kingdom\\_of\\_Israel\\_\(united\\_monarchy\)](http://www.wow.com/wiki/Kingdom_of_Israel_(united_monarchy))

## **SUMMARY**

God had planned for David to become king over all Israel (both northern and southern kingdoms). Even though King Saul tried to kill David, and the northern tribes rejected him, God's plan still survived.

God allowed hardships to prepare David for the kingship. 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 5:18 tells us to give thanks in all situations. We must trust that God constantly works in our lives even during bad situations. We may not always see the end of God's plan; however, He sees our destiny and has our best interest at heart. Hardships in life often result in our greatest joys.

## **LESSON 1: GOD ESTABLISHES DAVID'S KINGDOM**

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel: Chapters 1-3**

1. The Bible states that David mourned Saul's death even though Saul sought his death.
  - A. Why do you think David mourned over Saul?
  - B. What does Matthew 5:44 say about enemies?
  - C. Have you ever prayed for a difficult and challenging person? Explain the result?
  - D. How would your answer in "A" help in praying for those whom we find difficult?
  
2. David inquired of the Lord as to what city he should live after Saul's death.
  - A. How can we discern God's voice?
  - B. Have you ever had to make a difficult decision? How did you find an answer to your decision?
  - C. How might we discern the difference between God's voice and our own voice?
  
3. What ultimately caused the split between Israel and Judah (Chapter 2:8-11)?
  - A. How can we learn to trust God for our future without letting prideful ambitions get in the way?
  - B. How do we differentiate between pride and purpose?
  - C. List some outcomes of prideful decisions?
  
4. Joab killed Abner out of revenge.
  - A. What does Romans 12:19 say about revenge?
  - B. Have you ever had a time in your life whereby you wanted to take revenge? Explain the outcome?
  - C. Can we ever justify retribution against wrongful acts? Explain.
  
5. David lamented over Abner's death.
  - A. How did David's lament help to unite the kingdom?
  - B. Can forgiveness bring unity? Explain.
  - C. Have you ever experienced a time whereby your forgiveness brought unity to a damaged relationship?