OLD TESTAMENT · HISTORY · BOOK 10 OF 66

2 Samuel

Thy throne shall be established for ever (7:16)

24	Nathan and Gad	c. 1010–970 B.C.	1 King
Chapters, 695 Verses	Completing Samuel's Book	David's Forty Years	David, Son of Jesse

STRUCTURE

The Book in Four Parts

The book turns on David's sin in chapter 11: **blessing** as he rises to rule all Israel (1–10), then **sorrow** in his own house (11:1–19:8), and at last his return and closing words (19:9–24:25).



Each bar shows that part's share of the 695 verses.

I 1–4 · 110 verses

King over Judah

David mourns Saul and reigns in Hebron.

II 5–10 · 127 verses

King over All Israel

Jerusalem, the ark, God's covenant, victories.

III 11:1–19:8 · 260 verses

Sin and the Sword

Bath-sheba and Uriah, Nathan, Absalom's revolt.

IV 19:9–24:25 · 198 verses

David Restored

Sheba's revolt, David's song, the altar.

DATES B.C. (APPROXIMATE)

David's Forty Years

Dates follow David's reign of forty years, seven and a half in Hebron and thirty-three in Jerusalem (5:4–5).

2:4
c. 1010
David anointed king over Judah at Hebron

5:3–7
c. 1003
King over all Israel; Jerusalem taken

6:12–17
c. 1000
The ark brought up to Jerusalem

7:16
c. 998
God's covenant with David

11–12
c. 993
Bath-sheba and Uriah; Nathan's rebuke

12:24
c. 991
Solomon born

15–18
c. 976
Absalom's revolt and death

1 KINGS 2:10–11
c. 970
David dies after forty years

2 SAMUEL 7

God's Covenant with David

David wanted to build God a house. God promised to build David a house that would last for ever.

1 7:12

A Son on the Throne

"I will set up thy seed after thee … and I will establish his kingdom."

2 7:13

A House for God

"He shall build an house for My name."

3 7:14–15

A Father's Mercy

God will chasten, but His mercy will not depart as it did from Saul.

4 7:16

For Ever

House, kingdom and throne established for ever.

> *"Wherefore Thou art great, O LORD God: for there is none like Thee, neither is there any God beside Thee."*
>
> 2 Samuel 7:22 (KJV)

The Kingdom of David

MAP

The Kingdom of David

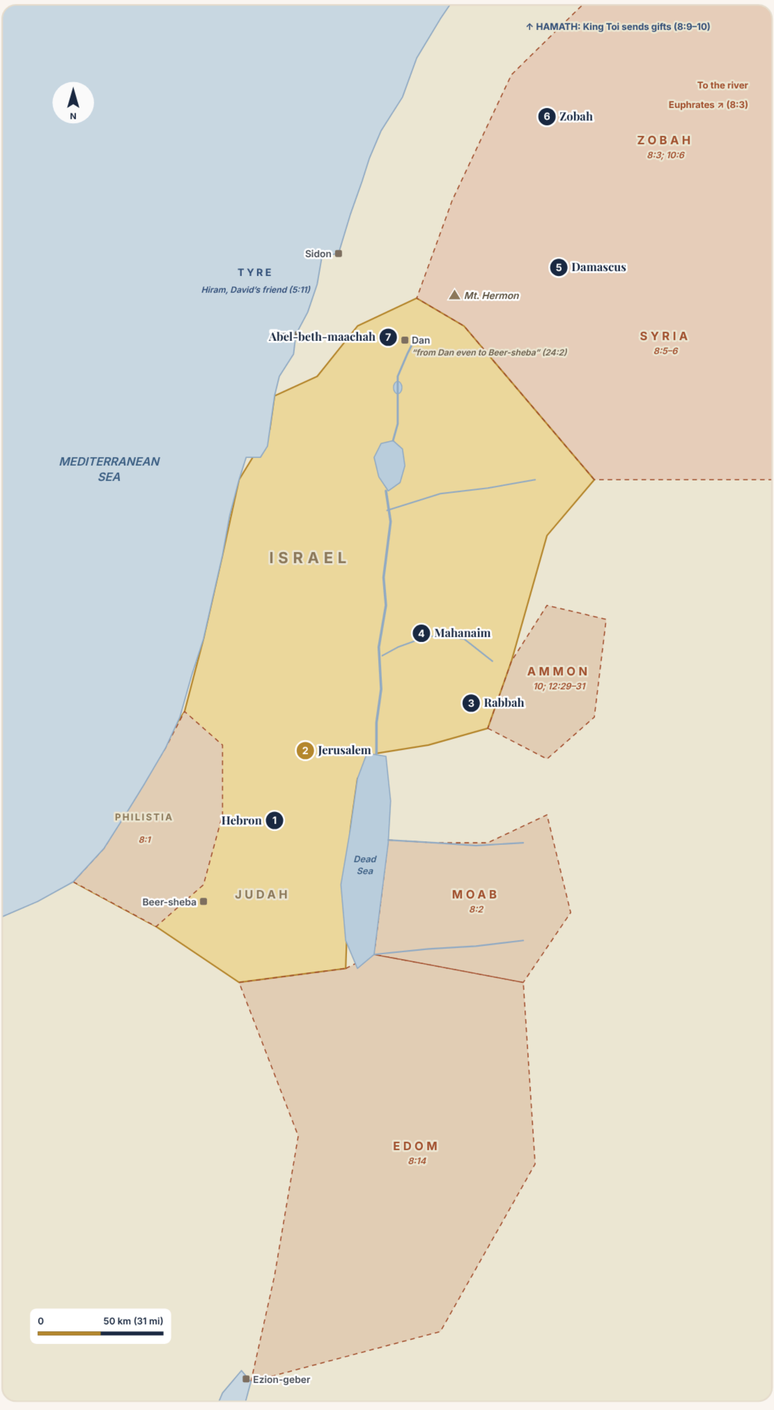
The kingdom God gave David, from Hebron and Jerusalem to the lands he subdued. The numbers match the cards below.

2 SAMUEL 2–24

The Kingdom of David

From Hebron to Jerusalem, and the nations round about

c. 1010–970 B.C. · Borders approximate



Israel
"From Dan even to Beer-sheba" (24:2)

Lands David subdued
Philistia, Moab, Zobah, Syria, Edom, Ammon (8; 10; 12)

"And David went on, and grew great, and the LORD God of hosts was with him."

2 SAMUEL 5:10 (KJV)

Borders are approximate. The Bible says the LORD "preserved David whithersoever he went" (8:6, 14).

BibleStudyForAll.com · Map positions approximate · Scripture from the King James Version

1 2:1–4; 5:1–5

Hebron

David reigns over Judah seven years and six months; then all Israel anoints him.

2 5:6–10; 6; 7

Jerusalem

Taken from the Jebusites; the city of David; the ark brought up; God's covenant.

3 11:1; 12:26–31

Rabbah of Ammon

While Joab besieged it, David sinned with Bath-sheba; the city taken.

4 17:24–19:8

Mahanaim

David's refuge in Absalom's revolt; "O my son Absalom."

5 8:5–6

Damascus

David put garrisons in Syria of Damascus.

6 8:3–4; 10:6–19

Zobah

Hadadezer smitten "as he went to recover his border at the river Euphrates."

7 20:14–22

Abel-beth-maachah

Sheba's revolt ends when a wise woman saves the city.

2 SAMUEL AT A GLANCE · PART 3 OF 4

David and Mephibosheth, Sin and Repentance, Absalom's Revolt

2 SAMUEL 9

The Kindness of God

David kept his covenant with Jonathan by honouring Jonathan's lame son.

1 · 9:3
Seeking Him Out
"That I may shew the kindness of God unto him."

2 · 9:7
Fear Not
Saul's land restored, for Jonathan's sake.

3 · 9:13
At the King's Table
He ate continually at the king's table, lame on both his feet.

Mephibosheth could bring nothing to the king, yet was made like one of the king's sons (9:11), a picture of the grace God shows sinners in Christ.

2 SAMUEL 11–12

David's Sin and Repentance

One idle evening led to adultery, deceit and murder. God sent His prophet, and David confessed.

THE SIN	THE REPENTANCE
David stays home when kings go to battle — 11:1	Nathan: "Thou art the man" — 12:7
He takes Bath-sheba, and has Uriah killed — 11:4, 15	"I have sinned against the LORD" — 12:13
"The thing that David had done displeased the LORD" — 11:27	"The LORD also hath put away thy sin" — 12:13

PSALM 51:10

David's Prayer
"Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me." Forgiven, David still reaped what he had sown: "the sword shall never depart from thine house" (12:10).

2 SAMUEL 13–19

Absalom's Revolt

The sword Nathan foretold came through David's own sons.

1 · 13
Amnon and Tamar
Amnon wrongs Tamar; Absalom kills him and flees.

2 · 15:6
Stolen Hearts
Absalom "stole the hearts of the men of Israel."

3 · 15:30
Up Mount Olivet
David flees Jerusalem, weeping and barefoot.

4 · 17:24
Mahanaim
David gathers his men across the Jordan.

5 · 18:9–15
The Wood of Ephraim
Absalom caught in an oak; Joab kills him.

6 · 19:15
Brought Back
Judah brings the king back over the Jordan.

> *"O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! would God I had died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!"*
> 2 Samuel 18:33 (KJV)

David's Song, Christ the Son of David, Key Themes and Key Verse

2 SAMUEL 22–24

David's Song and Last Words

At the end of his life David praised the God who had delivered him, and rested on God's covenant.

> *"The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; the God of my rock; in Him will I trust."*
>
> 2 Samuel 22:2–3 (KJV)

22:31
His Way Is Perfect
"As for God, His way is perfect; the word of the LORD is tried."

23:2, 5
Last Words
"The Spirit of the LORD spake by me" of an everlasting covenant.

24:24
Costly Worship
No offering "of that which doth cost me nothing."

LOOKING FORWARD

Christ, the Son of David

God's promise of a throne for ever is fulfilled in Jesus, the King from David's line.

7:16 · LUKE 1:32–33
The Throne of David
"The Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of His father David … and of His kingdom there shall be no end."

MATTHEW 1:1
The Son of David
The New Testament opens with "Jesus Christ, the son of David."

ACTS 2:30
Raised to Sit on His Throne
Peter says God swore to David to "raise up Christ to sit on his throne."

REVELATION 22:16
Root and Offspring
"I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star."

BIG IDEAS

Key Themes

God's Covenant
A house, kingdom and throne for ever.
7:12–16; 23:5

The LORD Was with Him
God gave David rest and victory.
5:10; 8:14

Sin Has Consequences
Forgiven, yet the sword stayed in his house.
12:10–14

Repentance
David confessed and was forgiven.
12:13; Psalm 51

Kindness
The kindness of God shown to Mephibosheth.
9:1–13

Worship
Dancing before the LORD; costly offerings.
6:14; 24:24

Waiting on God
David trusts God with his throne.
15:25–26

God Our Rock
The LORD is my rock and my deliverer.
22:2–3

A Coming King
Fulfilled in Jesus, the Son of David.
7:16; Luke 1:32–33

KEY VERSE

"And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever."

2 Samuel 7:16 (KJV)