

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

1) 03 Jun 2018	.....2Sam 1-2	..... Respected
2) 10 Jun	.....2Sam 3-4	..... Crowned
3) 17 Jun	.....2Sam 5-6	..... Celebrated
4) 24 Jun	.....2Sam 7-8	..... Established
5) 01 Jul	.....2Sam 9-10	..... Valued
6) 08 Jul	.....2Sam 11-12	..... Accountable
7) 15 Jul	.....2Sam 13-14	..... Grieved
8) 22 Jul	.....2Sam 15-17	..... Deposed
9) 29 Jul	.....2Sam 18-19	..... Restored
10) 05 Aug	.....2Sam 20	..... Averted
11) 12 Aug	.....2Sam 21	..... Resolved
12) 19 Aug	.....2Sam 22-23	..... Thankful
13) 26 Aug	.....2Sam 24	..... Disciplined

INTRODUCTION

- Chapter 22 mirrors Psalm 18 – David’s gratitude for God’s ability to rescue and restore
- ...and Chapter 23 captures David’s final words – and a recap of his mighty men of valor
- Question? What would you like to have written on your tombstone which would best describe your life?
 - ♦ Here are some of David’s possible epitaphs:
 1. Here lies a man after God’s own heart
 2. God kept His promises for David’s sake
 3. King David – A man by whom all kings are judged
- Many future kings were compared to King David
 - ♦ **Solomon** did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, and did not follow the LORD fully, as David his father had done.1Kings 11:6
 - ♦ **Asa** did what was right in the sight of the LORD, like David his father.....1Kings 15:11
 - ♦ **Amaziah** did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, yet not like David his father.2Kings 14:3
 - ♦ **Ahaz** did not that which was right in the sight of the LORD his God, like David his father.....2Kings 16:2
 - ♦ **Hezekiah** did right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father David had done.....2Kings 18:3
 - ♦ **Josiah** did right in the sight of the LORD & walked in all the way of his father David, nor turning to the right or to the left.....2Kings 22:2

Passage	Comments
Let’s stroll through this chapter 22 & Psalm 18 and glean some of the highlights.	
2Sam 22:18 Ps 18:17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [My enemies] were too strong for me, but God [finally] delivered me
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why does God wait till the last minute before He delivers some of His saints from harm? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Consider Isaiah 41:17-20, where God waits till the thirsty are left parched and near death before rescuing them, for then they will realize it was God who delivered them and not any false gods or fate. 	
2Sam 22:21-25 Ps 18:20-24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The LORD rewarded me according to my righteousness...For I have kept the ways of the LORD and have not wickedly departed from my God. • For all his judgments were before me: and as for his statutes, I did not depart from them. • I was also upright before him and have kept myself from mine iniquity. • Therefore, the LORD has recompensed me according to my righteousness; according to my cleanness in his eye sight.

Passage	Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Was David as righteous as this passage makes him out to be? Consider the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ 1Kings 15:5 states that David did what was right in the sight of the LORD and did not turned aside from anything that God commanded him all the days of his life, except in the case of Uriah the Hittite. ♦ BUT – WAIT! David had more sins than just killing Uriah & his troops and taking his wife, Bathsheba! <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. He numbered the people and God brought a plague that wiped out 70,000 2Sam 24 2. He had multiple wives & concubines ... 2Sam 5:13 3. He took the path of least resistance with disciplining his children 2Sam 13:21; 14:24 4. He withheld sex from his wife (Michal) and 10 concubines .....2Sam 6:20-23; 20:3 5. He was “a man of blood” who not only murdered Uriah, but committed genocide 1Sam 27:9 • We find here a teaching of “imputed righteousness,” elaborated on in Davidic Psalm 32:2, “How blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity.” Yes, David was as righteous as this passage portrays for he sought forgiveness and received it fully ....Ps 51 • ...and don’t forget 1John1:9, If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 	
2Sam 22:26-27 Ps 18:25-26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the kind You show Yourself kind; With the blameless You show Yourself blameless; With the pure You show Yourself pure, and with the crooked You show Yourself astute/crooked.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are exceptions to this general principle. E.g., Job felt God treated him as an enemy..... Job 33:10 • God prefers to save the wicked (2Peter 3:9), but He is prepared to repay 7x for sins of the wicked (Lev 26) & even to cast the wicked into Hell at the final judgment 	
2Sam 22:30 Ps 18:29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For by You I have run through a troop: by my God have I leaped over a wall.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a passage which cannot be adequately articulated. Like Job, one has to live through a hard time and experience God giving them much needed insight or strength to overcome Ps 34:8; 1Pet 2:3 	



ROD'S RECURRING NIGHTMARE BECOMES A REALITY

Passage	Comments
2Sam 22:36 Ps 18:35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thy gentleness has made me great. <p>How does gentleness make one great? Don't we have to drive and badger people for them to do their jobs?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calvin's teachings claim the Law acts as a whip, urging a man on like a lazy donkey (Calvin Institutes, 2.7.12) • Scripture, however, calls the Law a tutor which leads us to Christ (Galatians 3:24), and God's gentleness leads men to repentance, and God draws us in a loving way (Jeremiah 31:3), and His word is not a whip that goads us to go where we don't want to go • Can you imagine how great some kids would be if they saw more gentleness instead of harshness from their dads, provoking them to wrath?..... Eph 6:4 • Is there a time for harshness or cracking the whip? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Yes, we can be angry & take appropriate action, but we are commanded not to sin while angry. Eph 4:26 ♦ ...and Yes, there are sins which should not be tolerated in the family or in the church – and "stern" action may be required to protect the sheep ...Acts 5 • Some endearing qualities of an Elder (or a dad) are gentleness, self-control, not quarrelsome, not overbearing, even when disciplining..... 1Tim 3; Titus 1 • We may not all be qualified to be an Elder, but we can all have the character qualifications of an Elder
2Sam 22:41 Ps 18:40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You have delivered my enemies into my hands that I might destroy them <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is another tough passage that is hard to articulate in a sentence or 2. It deserves a lesson to itself. Consider the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ God had no problem wiping out Noah's generation, or Sodom & Gomorrah; the Canaanites – men, women, children, and their animals; ♦ God had no problem wiping out most of Benjamin's tribe, and all but a remnant of Israel for their gross sins of homosexuality, bestiality, & child sacrifice • God's mechanism to destroy the wicked involved God, Himself, or He used Israel to destroy another wicked nation, or He used a wicked nation to destroy wicked Israel, or He used natural catastrophes
2Sam 22:51 Ps 18:50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You showed mercy to his anointed, unto David, and to his seed for evermore. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God shows mercy to whom He wants to show mercy • Yet, God wants to show mercy to all since He is not willing for anyone to perish (2Pet 3:9). After all, Christ died for ALL. Christ even died for us, while we were yet unsaved sinners heading for Hell..... Rom 5:8
2Samuel 23:1-7	<p>David's Swan Song</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David strongly alludes to the Trinity vv 2-3, "The Spirit of the Lord"... "The God of Israel"...and "The Rock of Israel" • David's life, with some exceptions, was clearly devoted to God, to His word, to living out a Godly reign, and realizing an Eternal Dynasty with his name on it
23:8-39	<p>David's Might Men of Valor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v39. Notice Uriah, Bathsheba's husband, is listed as one of the top 30 men. David slew one of his most trusted bodyguards

LAST THOUGHTS ON DAVID'S LEGACY

- God blessed the kings of Israel simply because of David's sake:
- 1Kings 11:11-12 The LORD said to Solomon, "Because you have not kept My ways which I have commanded you, I will tear the kingdom from you, and will give it to another. Nevertheless, I will not do it in your days for the sake of your father David.
- 1Kings 11:32 But [Rehoboam] will have one tribe, for the sake of My servant David and for the sake of Jerusalem
- 1Kings 11:34 'Nevertheless I will not take the whole kingdom out of [Solomon's] hand, but I will make him ruler all the days of his life, for the sake of My servant David whom I chose, who observed My commandments
- 1Kings 15:4 But for David's sake, the LORD allowed [Abijam] to raise up his son and to establish Jerusalem;
- 2Kings 8:19 However, the LORD was not willing to destroy Judah, for the sake of David His servant, since He had promised to give him a lamp through his sons always
- 2Kings 19:34 'For I will defend this city to save it for My own sake and for My servant David's sake."
- 2Kings 20:6 "I will add 15 years to [Hezekiah's] life, & I will deliver you and this city from the king of Assyria; & I will defend this city for My own sake and for My servant David's sake."

CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS

- Can you imagine your legacy being similar to David's? Your epitaph could read:
- Your kids & grandkids are blessed for your sake, for you observed God's commandments and statutes; or
 - Your business ventures succeeded because of your sake since you followed God wholeheartedly; or
 - You were blessed mightily because you did not turn to the left or the right from following God
- Only YOU can make it so... Therefore, live for God as David did, wholeheartedly and humbly (...but try to avoid the murder, lust, adultery, pride, and genocidal stuff)

NEXT WEEK: 2Samuel 24. One more time, David is seen making an ungodly decision that is going to kill 70,000. Why do the sheep have to die for the King's sin?



Those contending for and defending **biblical** truth should not use **unbiblical** weapons. Remember Gentleness.