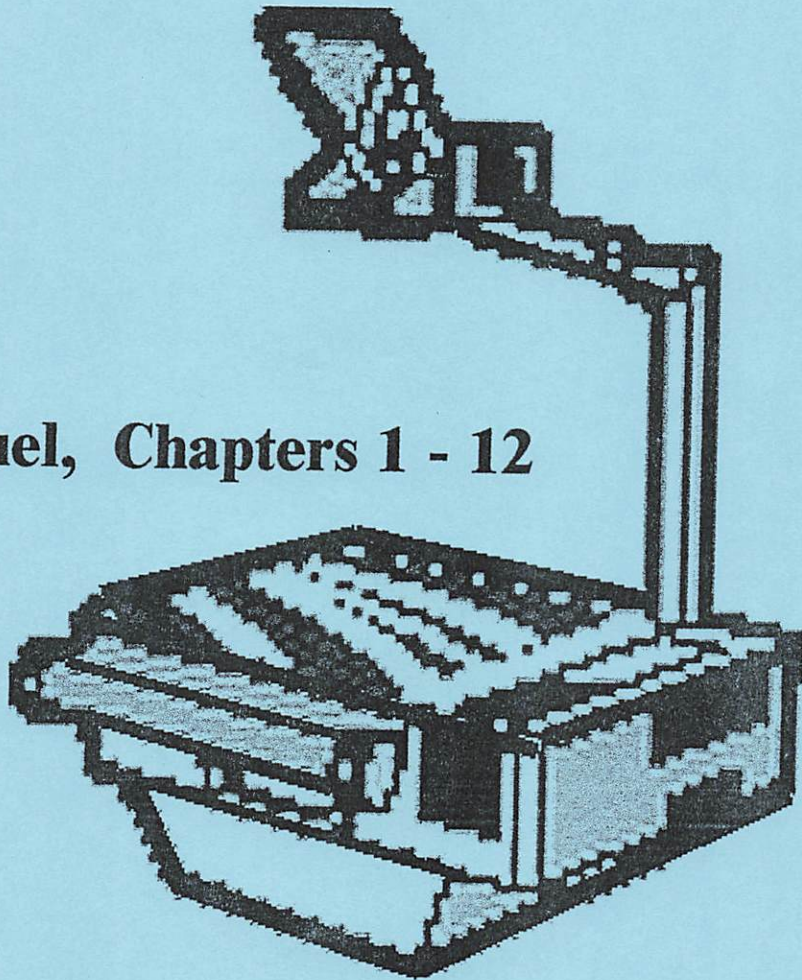


BIBLE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

2 Samuel, Chapters 1 - 12



**CAN BE USED WITH
OVERHEAD TRANSPARENCIES**

by Benny B. Bristow



Bible Discussion Questions

2 Samuel — Chapter 1

I. How did David hear about the death of Saul and Jon´a-than? (1:1-16)

- A. David and 600 men had returned to Zik´lag
 - 1. On the third day, a man from Saul’s camp came
 - a. Clothes torn—dust on his head
 - b. An Am´a-lek-ites (vss. 8,13)

- B. David asked, “*How did the matter go?*”
 - 1. The people have fled from the battle
 - 2. Many people are fallen and dead
 - 3. Saul and Jon´a-than are dead on Mount Gil-bo´a

- C. Fabricated a story how he found Saul
 - 1. Said that Saul asked him to kill him
 - a. False—Saul fell on his own sword (1 Sam. 31:4)
 - 2. Had taken crown and bracelet from Saul’s head and arm

Bible Discussion Questions

D. David tore his own clothes (*cf. 2 Sam. 3:31; 13:31*)

1. Mourned, wept, and fasted until evening

E. Asked him from where he had come

1. Why were you not afraid to destroy the Lord's anointed

2. Called a young man to execute him

3. Your blood be on you

a. He testified that he killed the Lord's anointed

◆ Your sins will find you out (*Num. 32:23*)

II. What is the essence of the song that was taught the men of Ju'dah?

(1:17-27)

A. Called the "Song of the Bow"

1. Written in the Book of Jasher (the book of the upright)

a. A lost book – thought to be a book of honored men

Bible Discussion Questions

b. (Mentioned also in *Josh. 10:13*)

B. Beauty and mighty of Is'rael has fallen

1. Did not want Phi-lis'tines to rejoice

2. Calls for no dew, rain, or offering on Mount Gil-bo'a

a. Shield of mighty—shield of Saul defiled there

- ◆ Saul was an enemy to David, but David still respected his position
- ◆ True friendship is a beautiful thing (*Prov. 17:17*)
- ◆ Jesus is the greatest friend (*John 15:13,14*)

3. Bow of Jon'a-than did not turn back

4. Both pleasant in life and death—were not divided

a. Swifter than eagles, stronger than lions

b. Saul clothed Is'rael in scarlet/luxury; ornaments of gold

5. Distressed for my brother Jon'a-than / love wonderful

a. The mighty haven fallen

b. Weapons of war haven fallen

Bible Discussion Questions

2 Samuel — Chapter 2

I. Where did God Send David to live? (2:1-4, cf. vs. 11)

A. David asked the Lord if he should go to any of the cities in Ju'dah?

1. In the past, David had made contact with the Lord with the e'phod

a. (1 Sam. 23:6,9; 30:7,8)

2. The Lord told him to go "to He'bron"

B. He'bron—a city in Ju'dah

1. Located in the mountains (*Josh. 20:7*)

2. 20 miles South of Jeru'salem: 20 miles North of Beer'sheba

3. 15 miles West of the center of the Dead Sea

4. Location of the burial cave Mac-pe'lah (*Gen. 23:2-20*)

C. He'bron—capital and center of Ju'dah

1. One of the Le'vitical cities

Bible Discussion Questions

2. David brought his wives - Ahin´oam and Ab´igail

D. Men of Ju´dah anointed David king over house of Ju´dah

1. Served Ju´dah for 7-1/2 years (*vs. 11*)

- Step by step, David is being guided by the Lord
- Christians must daily pray for God's guidance (*2 Thes. 5:17*)

II. How did David feel about the men of Ja´besh Gil´ead? (2:4-7)

A. Called them blessed of the Lord

1. Thanked them for showing kindness to Saul

2. David promised to repay them for this good thing

a. Doing right in all ages has its reward

b. Jesus spent His life doing good (*Acts 10:38*)

c. (*Cf. 2 Tim. 1:16*)

B. Let your hands be strengthened - your master is dead

1. House of Ju´dah has anointed David their king (*vs. 2*)

2. After 7-1/2 years (*vs. 11*), David will reign over all of Is´rael
as God originally planned

◆ God blesses His children who wait in faith on Him (*Ps. 27:14; 62:5;*

Bible Discussion Questions

III. Over what places did Ab'ner (Saul's commander) make Ish-bo'sheth king? (2:8-11)

A. Ish-bo'sheth (man of shame) was Saul's youngest son

1. Brought him to Ma'ha-na'im (a town on the east of the Jor'dan)

B. Made him king (at age 40), after 5 years had passed, he was over:

1. Gil'ead, Ash'urites, Jez're-el, E'phraim, Ben'jamin, and all Is'rael

a. Reigned two years over Is'rael

b. House of Ju'dah followed David

IV. What kind of battle took place between representatives of Saul and David? (2:12-17)

A. Ab'ner and servants of Ish-bo'sheth/ met Jo'ab and servants of David

1. Met at the pool of Gib'eon (means hill city)

a. One of 4 cities of the Hi'vites

Bible Discussion Questions

- b. Inhabitants of Gib´eon made a league with Josh´ua
- c. Escaped the fate of Ai and Jer´icho (*Josh. 9:3-15*)
- 2. They sat down by side of pool—one on each side
- B. Ab´ner challenged Jo´ab to let their men compete before them
 - 1. 12 from Ben´jamin, followers of Ish-bo´sheth
 - 2. 12 from the servants of David
 - a. They thrust each other with swords
 - b. Called the “*Field of Sharp Swords*”
 - c. A fierce battle

- ◆ Saul’s influence against David continued after his death
- ◆ It is important to leave behind good (*Rev. 14:13*)

V. Who lost his life by chasing Ab´ner? (*2:18-23*)

- A. David servants won over Ab´ner and the men of Is´rael
 - 1. Three sons of Zer-u-i´ah: Jo´ab, A-bish´a-i, and As´-a-hel were present
 - 2. Ab´ner ran for his life
 - 3. As´-a-hel ran after him

Bible Discussion Questions

- a. Fleet of foot as a wild gazelle
- 4. When Ab'ner found him to be As'-a-hel, asked him twice to turn around
 - a. If he killed him, couldn't face his brother, Jo'ab
- 5. Didn't stop, Ab'ner ran sword all the way through him
 - a. This place became a place to stop

VI. What happened when Jo'ab and A-bish'a-i pursued Ab'ner? (2:24-3:1)

- A. They met at the hill of Am'mah, which is before Gi'ah
 - 1. Children of Ben'jamin joined Ab'ner—took stand on top of hill
- B. Ab'ner called to Jo'ab, "*shall the sword devour forever?*"
 - 1. It will be bitter in the latter end

◆ We should always think about the consequences (gossip, hatred, murder, adultery)

Bible Discussion Questions

C. Jo'ab told him if he had not spoken, would have pursued until morning

1. Jo'ab blew a trumpet, and all stopped

D. Ab'ner and men returned that night to Ma'ha-na'im

E. Casualties of war between Is'rael and Ju'dah

1. David had lost 19 servants plus As'-a-hel
2. Abner's men and of Ben'jamin lost 360 men

F. Happenings of that night

1. Buried As'-a-hel in father's tomb in Beth'le-hem
2. Jo'ab and men traveled all night back to He'bron

G. Long war between house of Saul and house of David

1. David grew stronger and stronger
2. House of Saul grew weaker and weaker

Bible Discussion Questions

2 Samuel — Chapter 3

I. Who were the sons who were born to David in Hebron? (3:2-5)

A. Six sons with different mothers:

1. Ammon - by Ahinoam the Jezreelitess
2. Chil'eab (also called Daniel, *1 Chr. 3:1*) - by Abigail, widow of Nabal
3. Absalom - by Maacah (daughter of Talmai, king of Geshur)
4. Adonijah - by Haggith
5. Sheph-a-tiah - by Abital
6. Ithream - Eglah

B. More than one wife was considered strength to a kingdom

1. This was not God's original plan (*Mt. 19:8*)

◆ Many have been tempted to change God's ways in all generations
(*Prov. 14:12*)

Bible Discussion Questions

II. What were the circumstances that led Ab'ner to go over to David's side? (3:6-11)

A. In the wars between the houses of Saul and David:

1. Ab'ner was strengthening his position in Saul's house
2. Saul left a concubine named Riz'pah
 - a. She bore Saul two sons, Armo'ni and Me-phen'oi-sheth
(2 Sam. 21:8)
3. Ish-bo'sheth accused Ab'ner of a sexual experience with her
 - a. Whether true or false, Ab'ner resented it deeply—very angry
 - b. Asked him, "*Am I a dog's head that belongs to Ju'dah?*"
 - c. (cf. 2 Sam. 16:21)
 - d. Lets him know that he had been faithful to Saul's house

B. Saul resolved to turn to David and his God given cause

1. Will help him set up his throne over Is'rael and Ju'dah
 - a. From Dan to Beer'-sheba

Bible Discussion Questions

2. Out of fear for Ab'ner, Ish-bo'sheth did not say another word

◆ God is guiding His plans through David

III. What agreement was made between Ab'ner and David? (3:12-16)

A. Ab'ner contacted David and asked for a covenant

1. Promised to help bring all Is'rael to David

B. David agreed to make a covenant under one condition:

1. Bring Mi'chal (Saul's daughter, David's wife) or you won't see my face!

a. (*1 Sam. 18:20; 19:11; 25:44*)

C. David sent a request to Ish-bo'sheth for Mi'chal his wife

1. Betrothed to himself for 100 foreskins of the Philis'tines

(*1 Sam. 18:25-27*)

D. Ish-bo'sheth took Mi'chal from her husband, Pal'ti-el, or Pal'ti

Bible Discussion Questions

(1 Sam. 25:44)

1. Pal'ti-el followed weeping as far as Bahu'rim
 - a. Ab'ner said, "Go, return!" He obeyed (*vs. 16*)

◆ Keeping marriages true has been a problem over the centuries, and it is a leading problem today

IV. What agreement was made between Ab'ner and David? (3:17-21)

A. Ab'ner advised the elders to allow David to be king over you

1. Told them that this was what God wanted
2. God would save Israel from the hand of the Philis'tines
3. Ab'ner also spoke to those of Ben'jamin (*cf. 1 Chro. 12:29*)

B. David was pleased when he heard about the efforts of Ab'ner

1. Prepared a feast at He'bron for Ab'ner and 20 men

C. Ab'ner left to gather all Is'rael to David the king

1. Would make a covenant with them
2. David could reign over all that his heart desired
3. Ab'ner left in peace

Bible Discussion Questions

- ◆ Plans do not always work out the way we plan, but God gives us what we need, not necessarily what we want

V. In what way did Jo´ab fully disappoint David? (3:22-30)

A. Jo´ab and servants were away from He´bron when David and Ab´ner made peace

1. Jo´ab was upset with David for making peace with Ab´ner
2. Told David he came as a thief—a spy to learn about him

B. Joab sent messengers and got Ab´ner and brought him back to He´bron

1. Jo´ab took Ab´ner aside to talk with him—stabbed him in the stomach
 - a. Got revenge for his brother, As´a-hel (2 Sam. 2:22,23)
2. David heard about this and said he and his kingdom were guiltless of the blood of Ab´ner
 - a. Guilt on the head of Jo´ab and all his father’s house
 - b. Always someone in his house with leprosy

Bible Discussion Questions

3. Jo'ab and his brother, A-bish'a-i, killed Jo'ab (vs. 30)

a. For revenge of their brother, As'a-hel

- ◆ Hatred and revenge can often lead to murder—they wanted an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth

VI. How did David show that he was displeased with the death of Ab'ner? (3:31-39)

A. Commanded Jo'ab and people to mourn for Ab'ner

1. Tear clothes, gird with sackcloth, David followed coffin

a. Buried Ab'ner in He'bron

b. David and people wept at his grave (David sang a lament)

2. David refused to eat, and this pleased the people

3. Became convinced that killing Ab'ner was not David's intent

4. David announced that a great man and prince had fallen in Is'rael

B. David said these sons of Zer-u-i'ah, (their mother) are too harsh

Bible Discussion Questions

for me

1. These sons were: A-bish´a-i, Jo´ab, and As´a-hel (*cf. 1 Sam. 26:6*)
2. The Lord will repay evildoers according to their wickedness

◆ Vengeance belongs to God (*Rom. 12:19,20*)

2 Samuel — Chapter 4

I. What were the circumstances surrounding the death of Saul's son, Ish-bo´sheth? (4:1-12)

A. Saul's youngest son was named Ish-bo´sheth (means: man of shame)

1. The death of Ab´ner, caused Ish-bo´sheth to lose heart
 - a. This troubled all Is´rael
2. Jon´a-than had a son , Me-phil´o-sheth, who fell and became lame in his feet

Bible Discussion Questions

a. (5 years old at Jon´a-than´s death, fell while fleeing)

B. Ish-bo´sheth had two captains of troops named Ba´a-nah and Re´chab

1. These went to the house of Ish-bo´sheth pretending to get wheat
2. They stabbed him while he was in bed
3. Removed his head, took it to David at He´bron
 - a. Said here is the head of Ish-bo´sheth, the son of Saul your enemy

C. David reminded them of the one who told him at Zik´lag that Saul was dead

1. He thought he would get a reward
2. He was arrested and executed (*2 Sam. 1:2-16*)

D. These men had killed a righteous man on his bed in his house

1. David commanded to execute them

Bible Discussion Questions

2. Cut off hands, feet, and hanged them by the pool in He'bron

E. Buried the head of Ish-bo'sheth in tomb of Ab'ner in He'bron

- ◆ David had evidently forgiven Saul for everything, and did not hold a grudge against him

2 Samuel — Chapter 5

I. When was David fully accepted as king over all of Is'rael? (5:1-5)

A. All the tribes of Is'rael came to David at He'bron

1. We are your bone and flesh—your flesh and blood

2. When Saul was king, you led Is'rael out and in (on military campaigns)

a. Lord said, You shall shepherd and rule My people Is'rael

b. (1 Sam. 16:1)

- ◆ God always keeps His promises (Ex. Abraham, *Gen. 12:1-3*)

Bible Discussion Questions

B. Elders of Is'rael made a covenant with David in He'bron

1. Anointed him king over Is'rael
2. Third time David was anointed (*1 Sam. 16:12,13; 2 Sam. 2:4; 5:3*)
3. Three day festival followed (*1 Chr. 12:39*).
4. Began reigning at the age of 30, and reigned 40 years
 - a. 7-1/2 yrs. over Ju'dah in He'bron, 33 years over all Is'rael and Ju'dah

God had chosen David through Solomon to be His king. David will get caught up in sin, but he had a good heart (*1 Sam. 16:7,12; Acts 13:22*)

II. What was involved in David conquering Jeru'salem? (5:6-10)

A. Jeb'u-sites told David he could not come into Jeru'salem

1. They thought that even the blind and lame could prevent him
 - a. They were wrong, David took stronghold of Zion (City of David)

B. David had offered a challenge to his men

Bible Discussion Questions

1. Whoever climbs up the water shaft and defeats them, will be chief and captain

C. David and men took the stronghold and called it the city of David

1. Located in southeast of the complete city of Jeru'salem

a. In later years, Sol'o-mon extended Jeru'salem north and built the temple

b. Jeru'salem grew westward by Hez-e-ki'ah and Nehe-mi'ah

b. Bethlehem (5 miles south of Jeru'salem) was also called the "City of David" (Lk. 2:4,11)

D. The secret of David's success, "*the Lord God of hosts was with him*" (vs. 10)

◆ God is still concerned about His people and the success of the church

III. How did David build his house and family? (5:11-16)

A. Hi'ram, king of Tyre, provided David with cedar trees, carpenters, and masons

1. With their help, and the help of God, David built a house

Bible Discussion Questions

2. At this point, David knew for sure that the Lord had established him and the kingdom over Israel, God's people

- ◆ Can Christianity see the providential hand of God today? Can it be seen through prayer?

B. David took more concubines and wives from Jeru'salem

1. More sons and daughters were born to him
2. Sham-mu'a, Sho'bab, Na'than, Sol'o-mon, Ib'har, E-lish'-u-a, Ne'pheg, Ja-phi'a, E-lish'a-ma, E-li'a-da, and E-liph'e-let

C. Did God approve of these many marriages?

1. Some before David had more than one wife
 - a. La'mech was the first recorded (*Gen. 4:19*)
 - b. Examples: A'braham, E'sau, Ja'cob (*Gen. 16:1,3; 26:34; 28:9; 30:26*)
2. This was against God's original plan (*Gen. 2:24; Mt. 19:8,9*)

IV. How did David go about defeating the Philis'tines? (5:17-25)

Bible Discussion Questions

A. They had successfully won against Is'rael when they killed Saul and Jon'athan

B. In both of these battles, the Philis'tines pursued David
(vss. 17,22)

1. They heard he had been anointed king over Is'rael

C. Before both battles, David inquired of the Lord whether he should go (vss. 19,23)

◆ Christians today must always seek God's will (*Jas. 4:13-15*)

D. First battle: The Lord told him to Go up, and He will doubtless deliver them into your hands

1. David defeated them at Ba'al Per'a-zim (Lord gave him victory like "*a break through of water*")

a. Called the place Ba'al Per'a-zim

2. They left their images (gods) behind—David and men carried them away

a. David commanded them to be burned with fire (*1*

Bible Discussion Questions

Chro. 14:12)

- E. Second battle: Valley of Reph´a-im. The Lord told him not go up
 - 1. Circle around behind them, come up on them in front of the mulberry trees
 - a. Wait until you hear sound of marching in the tops of the mulberry trees, then advance quickly (*1 Chro. 14:15*)
 - b. Then the Lord will go before you to strike them
 - 2. David obeyed, drove them from Ge´ba as far as Ge´zer
- F. This brought fame for David in all the land, and fear of him upon all nations (*1 Chro. 14:17*)

2 Samuel — Chapter 6

- I. How did David attempt to bring up the ark of God? (*6:1-9; 1 Chro. 13:1-12*)
 - A. The ark was at Ba´ale Ju´dah

Bible Discussion Questions

1. Also called Kir´jath Je´a-rim

a. (*Josh. 15:9,60; 1 Chro. 13:6*)

2. It was at the house of A-bin´a-dab

3. David consulted Captains and every leader

B. They placed the ark on a new cart

1. A-bin´a-dab’s two sons, Uz´zah and A-hi´o drove the oxen
with the new cart

a. A-hi´o went before the ark

2. Originally God wanted the ark carried on the shoulders of the
sons of Ko´hath

a. (*Num. 7:9*)

C. David and all Is´rael played music before the Lord

1. With all their might—singing and playing musical instruments

a. (*1 Chro. 13:8*)

D. At Na´chon’s threshing floor, Uz´zah touched the ark

1. Oxen stumbled

Bible Discussion Questions

2. God struck him for his error or irreverence
 - a. Uz'zah was a Le'vite, but not a priest (*Num. 4:15*)
 - b. They did not sanctify themselves, they did not consult God (*1 Chro. 15:13*)
3. David became angry over this happening
 - a. Named place Pe'rez Uz'zah (outburst against Uz'zah)

◆ God has always wanted obedience (*1 Sam. 15:22; Heb. 5:9*)

II. Why did David stop with the ark? (6:10,11)

- A. Out of fear, David would not take it home to the city of David
 1. (*1 Chro. 13:12,13*)
 2. Left the ark with O'bed-E'dom the Git'tite
 - a. The ark stayed with him 3 months, and God blessed his house

III. Why did David decide to move the ark 3 months later? (6:12-15)

- A. Because God blessed O'bed-E'dom and all that belonged to him

Bible Discussion Questions

B. Moved the ark with gladness

1. Carried the ark on their shoulders instead of a cart
 - a. (*vs. 13; 1 Chro. 15:15*)
2. Began (after 6 paces) with sacrifices of oxen and fatted sheep
3. David danced or whirled about with all his might
4. David wore a linen robe and a linen ephod
 - a. All the Le´vites wore linen robes (*1 Chro. 15:27*)

◆ Christians have more to rejoice over than anyone else (*Phil. 4:4*)

IV. Where was the ark placed and honored? (*6:16-19*)

- A. David had built a tabernacle (tent) for it
 1. (*1 Chro. 15:1; 16:1; 2 Chro. 1:4*)
- B. Burnt and peace offerings were made before the Lord
- C. David blessed the people in the name of the Lord
- D. Gave all the people, loaf of bread, piece of meat, cake of raisins

Bible Discussion Questions

1. (*1 Chro. 16:3*)
2. The people returned home

◆ We feel peace and satisfaction **ONLY** when we have done God's will
(*Mt. 7:21*)

V. Why did Mi'chal (David's wife) despise him as they brought home the ark? (*6:16,20-23*)

A. Because of the way he was leaping and dancing before the Lord

B. Accused him of uncovering himself before the maids of his servants (*vs. 20*)

1. She compared him to base fellows

C. David's defense: "*It was before the Lord*"

1. He would continue to humble himself in his own sight
2. The maidservants that she mentioned would honor him

D. Mi'chal never bore David any children

1. The friction between her and David seems to continue

Bible Discussion Questions

- ◆ Was Mi´chal judging David and his motives? (*Mt. 7:1-5*)

2 Samuel — Chapter 7

I. Why did David want to build a house for the ark? (*7:1-3; 1 Chro. 17:1,2*)

- A. He felt badly living in a house of cedar—the ark inside tent—curtains
- B. Consulted with Na´than, God’s prophet
- C. It is right in all ages to seek the best for God—to put Him first
- D. However, all must be on God’s terms
 - 1. Therefore, God will provide David directions

- ◆ *“It is not in man who walks to direct his own steps” (Jeremiah 10:23).*

Bible Discussion Questions

II. What did God relate to Na'than (that night) to tell David? (7:4-11; 1 Chro. 17:4-10)

A. You shall not build Me a house

1. (1 Chro. 17:4)

2. David had shed too much blood (1 Chro. 22:8)

◆ The house or temple would be a sacred place, God had blessed David's battles, but his experiences involved much bloodshed. Thus, his son would build His house.

B. God had not requested a house over the years with His people

1. From E'gyptian bondage until this day

C. Tell David, I have taken him from the sheepfold to rule over
Is'rael

1. Had been with him—cut off enemies—given him great name

◆ In all ages, God guides His people when they are faithful

Bible Discussion Questions

- ◆ The book Revelation proves that God blessed the faithful through Roman persecutions

III. Will God (in the future) make David a house? (7:12-17; 1 Chro. 17:11-15)

A. Yes, after David dies—through his seed

B. From David's seed, David will build a house

1. God would establish David's kingdom through David's son
 - a. (1 Chro. 17:11)
 2. His son Sol'o-mon (1 Chro. 29:28)

C. From the building of His house, God promises a throne forever

1. Jesus came through Ju'dah, and gave to all who would obey Him, an eternal kingdom
 - a. Foretold by Isa'iah (Isa. 9:7)
 - b. Foretold by Dan'iel (Dan. 2:44)

Bible Discussion Questions

- ◆ When the church or kingdom was established, Peter referred to David (*Acts 2:25-35*)

IV. How did David respond to Na'than's message from God? (7:18-29)

A. Appeared and set before God with thanksgiving

1. (*1 Chro. 17:16-27*)
2. Compare David's psalm of thanksgiving when the ark was brought home
 - a. (*1 Chro. 16:7-36*)

- ◆ Christians are to daily give thanks to God in prayer (*Phil. 4:6*)

B. David approached God with humility

1. Who am I that You brought me this far?
 - a. God knows David and all—God knows best (*Isa. 55:8,9*)
 - b. Expresses that God is great (*vs 22*)
2. David praises God's people Israel
 - a. God had delivered, redeemed, and cared for His people

Bible Discussion Questions

C. David accepts God's plan for another to build this house (vs. 25)
1. Grateful for God's words: "*I will build you a house*" (vs. 27)

D. David asked God to "*bless the house of your servant*" (vs. 29)
1. God answered this request (2 Sam. 22:51)

◆ God gives His children what they NEED, but not always what they WANT (2 Cor. 12:7-10)

2 Samuel — Chapter 8

I. How did God bless David's many conquests of war? (8:1-8; 1 Chro. 18:1-8)

A. David attacked the Philis'tines and subdued them
1. Took: Me'theg Am'mah

B. Defeated Mo'ab and the Mo'abites

Bible Discussion Questions

1. Divided them into three parts
 - a. Two parts were put to death
 - b. One part spared to serve and pay tribute
2. Ba'laam had foretold this (*Num. 24:17*)

C. Defeated Had-ad-e'zer, son of Re'hob, king of Zo'bah

1. These were Sy'rians — territory of the Eu-phra'tes River
 - a. (*2 Sam. 10:16*)
 - b. They opposed David recovering his territory
2. David took from them
 - a. 1000 chariots, 700 horsemen (*7,000, 1 Chro. 18:4*), and 20,000 foot soldiers
 - b. Crippled all the chariot horses except for 100 chariots
3. Defeated Sy'ria of Da-mas'cus when they came to help (*vs. 5*)
 - a. Killed 22,000 of the Sy'rians
4. Put garrisons in Da-mas'cus
 - a. They became David's servants, and brought him tribute
5. Brought their shields of gold to Jeru'salem

Bible Discussion Questions

6. Brought bronze from cities of Be'tah and Ber-o'-thai
a. (also called Tib'hath and Chun, *1 Chro. 18:8*)

◆ God blessed David to destroy his enemies as well as increasing the borders of his kingdom

II. What did To'i king of Ha'math bring David? (*8:9-14; 1 Chro. 18:9-13*)

- A. To'i sent Jo'ram his son to greet David
1. He was also called Ha-do'ram (*1 Chro. 18:10*)
2. Toi had warred against Had-ad-e'zer
- B. Brought articles of silver, gold, and bronze
1. David dedicated all metals that he received to the Lord
- C. David made himself a name from killing 18,000 Syr'ians in the Valley of Salt
1. The allies of the Syr'ians were included (*1 Chro. 18:12*)

Bible Discussion Questions

2. Put garrisons in E'dom—they became David's servants

D. Reason for all of David's success

1. *"The Lord preserved David wherever he went" (Vs. 14)*

III. How was David's reign organized? (8:15-18; 1 Chro. 18:14-17)

A. Jo'ab the son of Zer-u-i'ah was over the army

B. Josh'a-phat the son of A-hi'lud was the recorder

C. Zadok the son of Ahi'tub and A-him'e-lech the son of A-bi'a-thar were the priests

D. Ser-a'iah was the scribe or secretary

D. Be-na'iah son of Je-hoi'a-da was over the Cher'eth-ites and Pel'eth-ites (1 Chro. 18:17)

1. Thought to train archers or provided lifeguards for the king

Bible Discussion Questions

E. David's sons were chief ministers at the king's side

1. (*1 Chro. 18:17*)

- ◆ Organization (according to God's will) is essential in the church and in the home today (*Eph. 4:11; 6:1-4*)

2 Samuel — Chapter 9

I. In what way did David show love for Jon´a-than after his death?
(*9:1-8*)

A. David asked if there was anyone left in the house of Saul

1. He wanted to show kindness to Jon´a-than

a. Jon´a-than had requested this from David (*1 Sam. 20:14,15*)

2. One of Saul's servants, Zi´ba, was called

a. Zi´ba told David that there was a son of Jon´a-than—

b. Lame in his feet (*vs. 13*)

Bible Discussion Questions

c. His name was Me-phib´o-sheth (2 Sam. 4:4)

d. Lives in the house of Ma´chir, the son of Am´m-iel, in
Lo De´bar

3. David sent for Me-phib´o-sheth

a. Me-phib´o-sheth fell down before David, afraid and said,
“Here is your servant”

b. David told him not to be afraid — I will show kindness
for Jon´athan

4. Promised to restore all the land of Saul —

a. Me-phib´o-sheth would eat at David’s table

b. Me-phib´o-sheth bowed, *“Why look upon such a dead
dog as I?”*

◆ Saul did David all the harm that he could do—David does all the good
that he can do for Saul’s family. David gave a blessing (1 Pet. 3:8,9)

II. How did David put his plan into action? (9:9-13)

A. Commanded Zi´ba, Saul’s servant, to follow full instructions

Bible Discussion Questions

1. Have given to your master's son, all that belonged to Saul

B. Zi'ba's sons and servants should work the land for their food

1. Me-phen'eth would eat at the table of David

a. Like one of the king's sons (*vss. 7,11,13; 19:28*)

2. Me-phen'eth had a young son named Mi'cha

3. Me-phen'eth lived with David in Jeru'salem

a. Lame in both feet (*vs. 13*)

◆ Jesus showed compassion toward those who were in need—the blind, lame, and the mute (*Mt. 14:14; 20:34; Mk. 1:42*)

2 Samuel — Chapter 10

I. How did David attempt to show kindness to the Am'mon-ites at the death of their king, Na'hash? (*10:1,2; 1 Chro. 19:1,2*)

A. David sent servants to comfort Na'hash's son, Ha'nun who

Bible Discussion Questions

reigned in his place

B. Na'hash had shown kindness to David

1. The kindness is not specified

C. David showed kindness when kindness was due

◆ One cannot please God without kindness (*Eph. 4:32*)

II. Was David's kindness accepted by Ha'nun? (*10:3,4; 1 Chro. 19:3,4*)

A. No, the princes of the people placed doubt in Ha'nun's mind

B. They asked, "*Do you think that David really honors your father?*"

1. The serpent placed doubt in the mind of Eve (*Gen. 3:1-5*)

C. Suggested that David had sent these servants to overthrow and spy out the land

Bible Discussion Questions

- ◆ A false accusation is a violent storm with destruction in its path (*Mt. 26:59-62*)
 - D. Ha´nun humiliated David’s servants
 - 1. Shaved off half of their beards — cut their garments in the middle at their buttocks and sent them away
 - a. (*cf. Isa. 20:4*)
- ◆ Mocking and shaming others, can make permanent scars that follows to the grave

III. How did David show concern toward his servants? (*10:5*)

- A. David sent to meet them, because they were greatly ashamed
 - 1. Told them to wait in Jer´i-cho until their beards had grown
 - B. At this time, the beard represented one older with honor
 - C. This act made the people of Am´mon repulsive to David
- ◆ There are consequences follow when harming others

Bible Discussion Questions

IV. Did this ungrateful act of Ha'nun begin a war? (10:6; 1 Chro. 19:6,7)

- A. Yes, they knew that they must now deal with David

- B. They hired 20,000 foot soldiers from the Sy'rians
 - 1. Beth Re'hob and Zo'ba
- C. From king Ma'a-cah, 1000 men

- D. From Ish'-Tob, 12,000 men

◆ Many wars have been fought over jealousy, hatred, and pride

V. How did David respond to this enemy? (10:7-12; 1 Chro. 19:8-13)

- A. Sent Jo'ab with the army of the mighty men (2 Sam. 23:8-38)
 - 1. The Am'mon-ites were in battle array at the entrance of the gate
 - 2. The Sy'rians they hired were in the field
 - a. Jo'ab had a battle line before and behind him

Bible Discussion Questions

B. Jo'ab divided his army into two parts

1. He led choice men against the Sy'rians
2. The rest (under the command of his brother A-bish'a-i) against the people of Am'mon

C. His plan: If too strong for one division, the other division will help

D. Commanded all in God's army:

1. Be of good courage and be strong for our people and for the cities of our God
2. May the Lord do what is good for Him!

◆ There are not enough armies in the world to defeat the Lord's army, when He wants to win

VI. What happened during the battle? (10:13,14)

A. When Jo'ab and people approached the battle, the Sy'rians ran

Bible Discussion Questions

B. When the people of Am´mon saw Sy´rians were fleeing, they ran from A-bish´a-i

C. Jo´ab then returned to Jeru´saletm

◆ We should always do our best, and then let the Lord do the rest (John 15:5; Phil. 4:13)

VII. Did the Sy´rians try another battle? (10:15-19; 1 Chro. 19:14,15)

A. Had-ad-e´zer brought in the Sy´rians beyond the Euphra´tes River

1. Sho´bach (also called Sho´phach, *1 Chro. 19:16*), Had-ad-e´zer’s commander

a. Went before the army—led them

B. David heard, gathered all Israel, crossed the Jor´dan, and came to He´lam

1. Here, the battle was fought

2. The Sy´rians fled

Bible Discussion Questions

C. David and Israel won this battle

1. Killed seven hundred Charioteers
2. 40,000 horsemen of the Sy'rians
3. Killed Sho'bach their commander

D. This battle brought peace with all the kings of Had-ad-e'zer

1. They served Is'rael

E. Sy'rians were afraid to help Am'mon anymore

1. (*1 Chro. 19:19*)

◆ God fulfilled a promise that He had made to Abram and his descendants, that the border of Israel would extend to the river Euphra'tes (*Gen. 15:18-21; Josh. 1:4*)

2 Samuel — Chapter 11

I. What was the background for David's temptation with Bath'sheba? (*11:1,2*)

Bible Discussion Questions

A. During the spring of the year

1. A time when kings go out to battle
2. David sent Ja'cob and his servants to battle against the people of Am'mon and besieged Rab'bah
 - a. For the details of this battle, see (*2 Sam. 12:26-31*)
 - b. (*1 Chro. 20:1-3*)
3. David stayed at home

B. David arose from his bed and walked on the roof

1. They used roofs as a part of the living space of their houses
 - a. (*Deut. 22:8; 1 Sam. 9:25; Mt. 24:17; Acts 10:9*)

◆ Too much idleness can unlock the door to the devil's workshop

C. He saw a beautiful woman bathing

1. The lust of the eyes is one of the evils of the world
 - a. (*Gen. 3:6; 1 John 2:16*)

Bible Discussion Questions

- ◆ A beautiful temptation may visit our eyes and thoughts, but we have the option of running from it

II. How did David pursue the sin of adultery? (11:3-5)

A. Sent and required about this woman

1. She is Bath-she'ba, the daughter of Eli'am
 - a. Also called Bath-sh'ua, the daughter of Am'mi-el (*1 Chro. 3:5*)
2. She is the wife of Uri'ah the Hit'tite
 - a. This information should have stopped David

- ◆ Sin begins with desires and enticements, and ends with death (*Jas. 1:14,15*)

B. But he sent messengers and took her

1. Does not mention whether or not she had a choice or tried to resist
2. This was an order being carried out from the king

Bible Discussion Questions

- ◆ Those who see how close they can get to a fire are usually burned
 - C. She came to him, and David pursued a sexual experience with her
 - 1. She was cleansed from her impurity (*Lev. 15:19,28*)
 - 2. This was a sin punishable by death under the law
 - a. (*Lev. 20:10; Deut. 22:22*)
 - ◆ Whomever we are and regardless the circumstances, it is never right to sin
 - 3. David later is told by Na'than the awfulness of his sins
 - 4. In repentance, David prayed (*Ps. 51*)
 - D. Bath-she'ba conceived, and later told David she was with child
 - 1. David commanded Jo'ab to bring Uri'ah to David
- ◆ It is impossible for anyone to successfully hide a sin (*Ps. 139:7-12*)

Bible Discussion Questions

II. What plans did David pursue to hide his sin? (11:6-17)

A. Plan one: Uri'ah was sent to his house—a gift of food followed him

1. However, Uri'ah slept at the door of the king's house
 - b. He refused to be in comfort in a house
 - c. When the ark, Is'rael, Ju'dah, are in tents—
(Jo'ab and servants are in the open field)

◆ A dedicated heart displays its own beauty

B. Plan Two: Stay two days more — David got Uri'ah drunk

1. Thought he would go home to be with his wife
 - a. Uri'ah slept among David's servants instead of going home

C. Plan Three: Sent letter by Uri'ah to Jo'ab

1. Put him in hottest battle — retreat from him and let him die
 - a. Got close to the city, and besieged it

Bible Discussion Questions

2. Jo'ab placed him in battle before valiant men
3. Uri'ah the Hit'tite and others died

D. David must have felt that all was well

1. However, it was only a calm before the storm

◆ Those who set their hearts on sinning, will find a way to do it (Ex. Joseph's brothers, *Gen. 37*)

III. What was included in the war report from Jo'ab to David? (*11:18-25*)

A. Tell all the things of the war to David

1. If he is angry and asks, "*Why did you approach so near to the city?*"
 - a. "*Didn't you know they would shoot from the wall?*"
 - b. He may give the example of A-bim'e-lech—Killed by a woman at The'bez who cast a millstone from the wall (*Joshua 9:50-55*)

Bible Discussion Questions

B. Then tell him that your servant Uri'ah the Hit'tite is dead also

- ◆ It seems that Jo'ab that the death of Uri'ah would lead David to over look all mistakes

C. The messenger told David how the battle began in the field

1. Then drove them back to the entrance of the gate
2. Archers shot from the wall—some servants are dead
 - a. Your servant Uri'ah the Hit'tite is dead

D. These were the magic words—David accepted the report

- a. Said, "*the sword devours one as well as another*"
- b. Strengthen your attack and overthrow the city
- c. Encouraged Jo'ab—David must have been pleased that Uri'ah was dead

- ◆ Sin is like a chain with many links—each link has an effect on all the others

Bible Discussion Questions

IV. What followed the death of Uri'ah? (11:26,27)

A. Bath-she'ba mourned for her husband

1. It is not known whether this was heartfelt or not
2. The mourning may have lasted seven days

B. When time of mourning was over, David brought her to his house

1. She became his wife (*2 Sam. 12:9*)
2. A rushed marriage could help cover her pregnancy
 - a. However, it could not cover the sins

C. The bottom line of all of this—David had displeased the Lord!

1. David had defiled the marriage bed, and must face the judgment of God
 - a. (*Heb. 11:4*)

◆ Even forgiven sins, leave behind painful consequences

Bible Discussion Questions

2 Samuel — Chapter 12

I. How did the Lord go about correcting David? (12:1-9)

A. He sent Na´than the prophet with a message for David

◆ God’s goodness to David did not include a license for him to sin

B. Na´than told David a moving story about two men

1. One was rich and the other one was poor

2. Rich man had exceedingly many flocks and herds

3. Poor man had nothing, except one little ewe lamb

a. He bought it, nourished it, and it grew up with his children

b. It ate and drank his own food, from his own cup, and lay in his bosom

c. It was like a daughter to him

C. Traveler came to the rich man — refused to feed him from his own

Bible Discussion Questions

flock

1. Chose to feed the traveler with poor man's lamb

D. This story aroused David's anger against the man

1. Pronounced death upon the guilty and selfish man
2. Restore to the poor man fourfold, because he had no pity

E. Na'than said to David, "*You are the man!*"

1. "*Thus says the Lord:*" Numerates all that had been given to David (vss. 7,8)

F. Why have you despised the commandment of the Lord, to do evil?

1. Killed Uri'ah, took his wife—killed him with sword of the people of Am'mon

◆ We must never take for granted the physical and spiritual blessings of God (*Acts 17:28*)

Bible Discussion Questions

I. What punishment did God pronounce to David? (12:10-12)

A. The sword shall never depart from your house

1. Ab'sa-lom murdered his brother Am'non (2 Sam. 13:28)
2. Jo'ab slew Ab'sa-lom with three spears (2 Sam. 18:14)
3. Sol'o-mon had his brother Ad-o-ni'jah struck down by Be-na'iah (1 Kings 2:25).

B. Will raise up adversity against you from your own house

1. Take your wives before your eyes— give them to your neighbor
 - a. He shall lie with your wives in the sight of this sun
 - b. You did it secretly, I will do all before Israel and the sun

◆ Sin produces an awful crop at harvest time (Gal. 6:7,8)

II. What did David finally admit to Na'than? (12:13)

A. "I have sinned against the Lord"

Bible Discussion Questions

1. This is what Saul said to Sam´u-el when he was rejected as king (*1 Sam. 15:24*)

B. This is the beginning of David’s penitent heart (*Ps. 51*)

C. Na´than told him that the Lord has put away your sin

1. David would not die —

a. Immediately or eternally

◆ The only way out of sin for a Christian is through repentance and prayer (*Acts 8:22-24*)

III. What consequences would follow in David’s life? (*12:14-15*)

A. There would be serious consequences

1. He had given occasion for the Lord’s enemies to blaspheme

B. The child by Bath-she´ba would surely die

1. How sad these words must have been for David!

Bible Discussion Questions

◆ An old song: "*Sin is to blame for all sorrow*"

C. Then Na´than left David

1. David respected this prophet as a spokesman from God
2. David named one of his sons Na´than (*1 Chro. 3:5*)

IV. How did the child die? (12:15-23)

A. The Lord struck the child with a very serious illness

B. David made every effort to save the child

1. Pled with God for the child
2. David fasted and lay all night on the ground
3. Refused to eat food with the elders of his house

◆ As a father, David loved this child by Bath-she´ba

C. On the seventh day, the child died

1. Servants of David were afraid to tell him

Bible Discussion Questions

- a. He had not listened while the child was alive
- b. They were afraid he would do some harm

D. The servants were whispering

- 1. David asked, "*Is the child dead?*"
- 2. They said, "*He is dead*"

E. The way that David reacted:

- 1. Washed and anointed himself
- 2. Changed clothes
- 3. Went into the house of the Lord and worshiped
- 4. Returned to his house and ate food

F. The servants asked him for an explanation for his actions before and after the child died

- 1. Before the child died, David hoped his actions would lead the Lord to save the child

Bible Discussion Questions

2. After the child died, he could not bring the child back
 - a. David would go to the child, but the child could not come to him

◆ David believed in life after death (*Ps. 23:4-6*)

V. How did David relate to Bath-she'ba? (*12:24,25*)

- A. He comforted her
 1. May have suggested that they should have another child
- B. Went in to her sexually and she conceived
- C. From this conception, she bore David another son
 1. Named him Sol'o-mon (*1 Chro. 22:9*)
 2. The Lord loved Sol'o-mon
 3. Sent word to Na'than to name him Jed-i-di'ah
 - a. Means: "*Beloved of the Lord*"

Bible Discussion Questions

- ◆ God closed one door to David, but opened for him another

VI. How did Jo'ab help David take the city Rab'bah of the people of Am'mon? (12:26-31; 1 Chro. 20:1-3)

- A. Joab fought against the city of Rab'bah
 - 1. Took the royal city—took the city's water supply
 - a. The fortified part of the city where the king lived
- B. Joab asked David to bring the people and encamp against the city and take it
 - 1. Evidently he is asking him to take the remaining part of the city
 - a. He wanted David to have the praise
 - b. Jo'ab did not want it to be called after his own name
 - c. Seems to be an unselfish act on the part of Jo'ab

- ◆ Must always remember that God has the power to guide the lives of His faithful ones (*Rom. 8:28*)

Bible Discussion Questions

C. David carried out Jo'ab's request

1. Successfully took the city
2. Took the crown from the king's head
 - a. Weighed one talent of gold (if referring to common weight, 75 to 100 pounds)
 - b. However, David wore it on his head
 - c. Therefore, some believe that the talent of silver refers to value and not weight (had precious stones)
3. Took the spoils (plunder) of the city in great abundance
4. Took the people from the city
 - a. Put them to work with saws, iron picks, and axes
 - b. Made them cross over to the brick works (brick making)
5. Based on (*1 Chro. 20:3 KJV*), some have believed these people were cut with these tools
 - a. Most translators and commentators do not accept this approach

Bible Discussion Questions

D. David and all the people returned to Jerus´alem

- ◆ David must have felt that God was guiding him to rule His people well