

4232, Book of 2 Samuel

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DATE WRITTEN: After 973 B.C.

PURPOSE: To record the history of David's reign, who foreshadowed Christ, the ideal leader of a new and perfect kingdom.

TO WHOM WRITTEN: The nation of Israel.

MAIN THEME: The reign of David. See [919](#), [4296](#).

KEY WORD: David.

KEY VERSES: [2 Samuel 5:12](#); [7:12-13](#).

NOTABLE PASSAGES:

1. David's generosity to Mephibosheth,—[2 Samuel 9](#).
2. Nathan's parable,—[2 Samuel 12:1-6](#).
3. David's psalm of thanksgiving,—[2 Samuel 22](#).

SYNOPSIS:

FIRST PERIOD: The early years of the reign.

During this period the king, although engaged in military campaigns common to the age, manifested a spiritual mind.

1. **Preliminary events.**
 - a. The execution of the Amalekite who killed king Saul,—[2 Samuel 1:2-16](#).
 - b. David's lamentation for Saul and Jonathan,—[2 Samuel 1:17-27](#).
2. **David anointed king** over Judah,—[2 Samuel 2:4](#).
3. **The battle** between the followers of David and the servants of Ishbosheth,—[2 Samuel 2:8-32](#).
4. **Facts which indicate the king's godliness.**
 - a. His seeking the divine direction,—[2 Samuel 2:1](#).
 - b. His punishment of those who sought to curry favor by assassinating his rival,—[2 Samuel 4:5-12](#).
 - c. His discernment, after having been exalted to be king over all Israel, in perceiving that his promotion had come from God,—[2 Samuel 5:1-12](#).
 - d. His humility in attributing his military success to divine power,—[2 Samuel 5:20](#).
 - e. His enthusiasm for the return of the ark of the covenant to Jerusalem,—[2 Samuel 6:1-5](#).
 - f. His desire to build a temple for the LORD and the dedication of great treasures for its construction,—[2 Samuel 7-8](#).
 - g. His kindness to the son of Jonathan,—[2 Samuel 9](#).

THE MIDDLE PERIOD

1. **The king's great military successes**,—[2 Samuel 10](#).
2. **His fall and punishment.**
 - a. Tempted while at ease,—[2 Samuel 11:1-2](#).
 - b. His pollution of a humble home and murder of Uriah,—[2 Samuel 11](#).
 - c. Divine judgments overtake him:
 - In the denunciation by Nathan the prophet,—[2 Samuel 12:1-14](#).
 - In the death of the baby,—[2 Samuel 12:15-19](#).
 - In the corruption of his son Amnon,—[2 Samuel 13:1-20](#).
 - In his son Absalom's rebellion,—[2 Samuel 15-18](#).

FINAL PERIOD: David's last years,—[2 Samuel 20-24](#).

For other references to David's career. See [919](#), [4296](#).

PROMINENT PEOPLE, David, Saul, Jonathan, Ishbosheth, Abner, Joab, Uzzah, Mephibosheth, Bathsheba, Uriah, Solomon, Absalom, Shimei.

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