The Life and Lessons of King David
David as King
Reign of David

- David is born ~ 1035 BC
- Saul’s death ~ 1000 BC (35 yrs old)
- Solomon Proclaimed King-In-Waiting ~ 962
- David dies ~ 961 BC (74 yrs old)
- I Samuel 31 – I Kings 2 (40 yrs)
The story of David’s reign is the timeless story of a family that rises to power and wealth and struggles to maintain and pass on wealth and power.
Reign of David = Biblical and bloody version of the Godfather
Reign of David

• 1000BC David assumes control of Judah but not Israel (the Northern Kingdom) which falls to Ishbosheth (Abner) in 998BC

• David’s sons: Amnon (Ahinoam); Kileab (Abigail, Nabal’s widow); Absalom (Maacah); Adonijah (Haggith); Shephatiah (Abital); Ithream (Eglah)

• David has children by every wife except Michal – why?
Reign of David

• 5½ yrs of civil war ensure between David and Ishbosheth

• After Ishbosheth accuses Abner of sleeping with one of Saul’s concubines, Abner defects to David
  • Joab, David’s general kills Abner
  • David demands Michal’s return (II Sam 3)*
Reign of David

• 997 Ishbosheth is killed and David is anointed king over all the north and south (II Sam 5)
  • 993 David conquers and rebuilds Jerusalem
  • 992 The ark is brought up to Jerusalem and David wants to build a temple to house the Ark
  • Nathan is sent from God with the Davidic Covenant instead (7:1-17; Ps. 96, 105)*
Reign of David

- 982 Within a decade David has solidified his kingdom
- David names his sons (all under 18) as his royal advisers (8:15-18)*
- David honors his pledge to Jonathan through Mephibosheth (9)
- Ammon and Syria defeated by Joab and Abishai (10; Ps. 60)
Reign of David

• 980 – Bathsheba Affair: While his generals are off fighting for him David falls prey to the flesh and sleeps with Bathsheba.*
  • David tries to cover up the pregnancy
  • David orchestrates Uriah’s murder
Reign of David

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  • David orchestrates Uriah’s murder
  • God sends Nathan to confront David
    • The child is born and dies
      • (11-12; Ps. 51)
Reign of David

• 979 Solomon is born (12:24 v. I Chr 3:5)
  • “Now the Lord loved him”*
• 978 Amnon rapes Tamar his half-sister who is the sister of Absalom and David does nothing (13)
• 976 Absalom kills Amnon and is banished for 3yrs by David
Reign of David

• 974 Amnon returns through Joab’s intercession and the woman of Tekoa (14:14)*
  • Amnon is banished again for 2 more years
• 972 Absalom begins plotting against his father and the throne
Reign of David

• 969 Absalom gains favor with the people (15-19)
  • David flees Jerusalem while being cursed (16:22; Ps. 3)
  • Absalom heeds Hushai’s advice and does not pursue David immediately
    • David overtakes Absalom’s army
  • Absalom is caught by his hair in a tree (18:14) and is killed by Joab
  • 19:1 David mourns Absalom*
Reign of David

- 969 Sheba’s rebellion
- Absalom’s general, Amasa, is viewed as a threat to David
- David sends Amasa on a mission but orders him to be killed
  - Joab kills Amasa in Gibeon but Sheba escapes
  - Sheba is decapitated and his head given to Joab
Reign of David

• 968 a 3 yr famine occurs because of the attack on Gibeon (21) for breaking the covenant (Josh 9)
• David slays seven descendants of Saul (21)*
Reign of David

• 965 David’s final battle with the Philistines
• David is almost killed by a giant and must leave the battle
• Four giants are killed by David’s men and the Philistines are defeated (21:15-22)
• David’s Psalm of Praise (22; Ps. 18)
• David’s Eulogy
Reign of David

• 964 David takes a displeasing census of the people despite being warned not to by Joab (24)*
  • God sends pestilence
• God instructs David to buy the threshing floor of Araunah for an altar (24:24*)
• David begins preparation for building the temple (Ps. 30) but is forbidden (I Chr 22)
Reign of David

• 963 David charges Solomon with building the temple (I Chr 22)
  • David’s health begins to fail
  • Abishag, a young maiden, is brought to David to keep him warm
    • Adonijah, aided by Joab, attempts a coup
Reign of David

- Nathan convinces Bathsheba to persuade David to name Solomon king
- 961 David calls a national assembly and gives Solomon the plans for the temple, encourages the people to give, and anoints Solomon as king
- David’s advice to Solomon (I Kings 2:1-6)*
- 961 David dies naturally and is buried in Jerusalem