

Session 1 – Overview: David, the Man after God’s Own Heart

I. DAVID

David is the model of the anointed Church that operates in power through worship and intercession that comes from those who walk out lifestyles of radical love and obedience towards Jesus. The foundation of David’s ministry was his revelation of the governmental impact of prophetic intercessory worship (Ps. 22:3). This is God’s most powerful weapon in shifting government in the spirit and transforming the earth now and in the Millennial Kingdom (Ps. 149:6-9; Rev. 4-5). **This is called the beauty of holiness or the Tabernacle of David.**

II. DAVID: GOD’S PATTERN (WITNESS) FOR THE REDEEMED

David is a picture of what God wants to release by the Holy Spirit on the End-Time David-generation. David is the model for obedience and faith. We look for NT counterparts to these qualities in the grace of God. David is a picture of the Church that loves, worships and wars in the Spirit.

I will make an everlasting covenant with you-- The sure mercies of David. 4 Indeed I have given him as a witness to the people. (Isa. 55:3-4)

I will give you shepherds according to My heart...will feed you with...understanding (Jer. 3:15)

You promised...David, saying, 'You shall not fail to have a man sit before Me on the throne of Israel, only if your sons take heed to their way, that they walk before Me as you have walked before Me.' (1 Kings 8:25)

Show me a sign for good...because You, LORD, have helped me and comforted me. (Ps. 86:17)

In that day the LORD will defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; the one who is feeble among them in that day shall be like David...(Zech. 12:8)

III. INTRODUCING THIS COURSE: HOW WE WILL APPROACH THIS COURSE

- A. ***Historical perspective***: to connect David’s life to what happened before his generation and what will happen in the End-Times. David was the first millennial theologian in the Bible.
- B. ***Lessons from David’s Leadership***: especially in seeing various episodes of his life as seen in 1 & 2 Samuel; 1 Chronicles.
- C. ***Lessons from David’s heart*** (new paradigm via intimacy with God): especially revealed in Psalms

1. What David saw about ***God’s heart***: David was a theologian of God’s beauty and affection
 2. What David saw about ***himself*** in God's sight: David’s beauty before God’s eyes
 3. What David saw about ***others*** through God's eyes: David's enlightened paradigm of people
 4. What David saw in ***circumstances***: how David handled pressure and prosperity
- D. ***The goal of this course***: to make one ***familiar*** with the life of David so they might be equipped to ***read it over and over*** with a spirit of devotion. Read the life of David over and over with commentaries on 1 & 2 Samuel. On transatlantic flights, (typically 10 hours), read 1 & 2 Sam straight through, each way or take hours on a Saturday. Take an entire day to read straight through 1 & 2 Sam, in one day. To do this results in a much greater flow of the story. **The Point**: do not think taking 1& 2 Samuel is enough after the class is over. The course gives familiarity to study it privately.
- E. David's Background: Like Jesus, he was born in Bethlehem thus called city of David. He was one of 8 sons of Jesse. Jesse is the father. Prophecy in Isaiah 11, "Out of the root of Jesse will come forth the messiah. The root of Jesse means his offspring, (this refers to David). He had 8 sons, several daughters with David as the youngest of them.
- F. David As Type of Christ: No one in OT provides a greater picture to the ministry of Jesus or the life of a dedicated believer. That makes the life of David so important. He is a picture of Jesus or of a weak yet dedicated Christian or Church. There is more scripture on David than any other besides Jesus;

IV. HISTORICAL CONTEXT (APPROXIMATE DATES)

4000 Adam and Eve

2000 Abraham in covenant with God

1500 Moses and the Exodus

1400-1100 Judges (ending with Eli the priest and Samuel the prophet)

1090 The prophet Samuel anoints King Saul (Israel’s first king)

1050 Saul dies and David made King of Judah (in Hebron).

1010 King David dies. Solomon becomes King

970 Solomon dies followed by civil war: Rehoboam (South: Judah) Vs. Jeroboam (North: Israel)

910 Jehoshaphat rules Judah as Ahab rules Israel in days of Elijah.

850 Prophets: Amos, Hosea, Isaiah, Micah

722 Northern Kingdom of Israel destroyed by Assyrians

640 Prophets: Nahum, Joel, Zephaniah, Habakkuk

606 Nebuchadnezzar attacks Jerusalem. First deportation to Babylon (Iraq).

597 Nebuchadnezzar attacks Jerusalem. Second deportation to Babylon (Iraq).

587 Nebuchadnezzar destroys Jerusalem/Temple. Third (final) deportation to Babylon

539 Fall of Babylon 538 Persians conquer Babylon

536 Jews return to rebuild Jerusalem and temple

520 Prophets: Haggai and Zechariah

440 Reformation led by Ezra and Nehemiah.

V. SAUL’S REJECTION – 2 KEY EPISODES: SETTING THE CONTRAST FOR DAVID’S LIFE

A. Principle: ‘Saul-type leadership’ is set in contrast with ‘David-type leadership.’ These two episodes in Saul’s life reveal his heart. Even more revealing is that Saul sought repeatedly to kill David for a 5-7 year period using 3,000 soldiers (it would cost 120 million dollars a year at \$40,000 per soldier. Over 5 years that would be 600 million dollars by today’s standards). This costly and persistent resolve (using the nations resources to kill a godly man chosen by God) reveals the depth of Saul’s evil. This was revealed again, at the end of Saul’s life when he consulted the witch of Endor for national direction (1 Sam. 28).

Saul died for his unfaithfulness...against the LORD, because he did not keep the word of the LORD, and also because he consulted a medium for guidance. 14 But he did not inquire of the LORD; therefore He killed him, and turned the kingdom over to David...(1 Chr. 10:13-14)

I gave you a king in My anger, and took him away in My wrath. (Hos. 13:11)

The elders of Israel...came to Samuel at Ramah, 5 and said to him, "Look, you are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now make us a king to judge us like all the nations." 7 The LORD said to Samuel, "Heed the voice of the people...for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me, that I should not reign over them. 8 According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt, even to this day--with which they have forsaken Me and served other gods--so they are doing to you also. 9 Now therefore, heed their voice. However, you shall solemnly forewarn them, and show them the behavior of the king who will reign over them." (1 Sam. 8:4-9)

B. Saul’s sin at Gilgal (1 Sam. 13): functioning in the role of a priest in direct disobedience to God.

You shall go down before me to Gilgal; and surely I will come down to you to offer burnt offerings and make sacrifices of peace offerings. Seven days you shall wait, till I come to you and show you what you should do." (1 Sam. 10:8)

Saul chose for himself 3000 men of Israel....5 the Philistines gathered together to fight with Israel, 30,000 chariots and six thousand horsemen...they came up and encamped in Michmash...6 When the men of Israel saw that they were in danger (for the people were distressed), then the people hid in caves, in thickets, in rocks, in holes, and in pits. 7...all the people followed him (Saul) trembling. 8 Then he waited seven days, according to the time set by Samuel. But Samuel did not come to Gilgal; and the people were scattered from him. 9 So Saul...offered the burnt offering (NOTE; kings were not permitted to function in a priestly role in offering sacrifices). 10...as soon as he had finished offering the burnt offering, that Samuel came...11 Samuel said, "What have you done?" Saul said, "When I saw that the people were scattered from me...and that the Philistines gathered together at Michmash...12. 'Therefore I felt compelled, and offered a burnt offering.'" 13 Samuel said to Saul, "You have done foolishly. You have not kept the commandment of the LORD...for now the LORD would have established your kingdom over Israel forever. 14 But now your kingdom shall not continue. The LORD has sought for Himself a man after His own heart...and commanded him to be commander over His people, because you have not kept what the LORD commanded you." (1 Sam. 13:2-13)

1. Test: “when the enemy gathers and the people scatter”
2. Leadership lesson: selfish expediency in sacred duties brings judgment.

The gravity of Saul’ sin was that as Israel’s top governmental leader, he was yielding to pride and fear in the expediency of looking good and succeeding as more important than holiness (which became second to Saul). Saul violated the ordinance of God because a King could not act as a priest. David was the one king who was actually commissioned as a priest because he was the one chosen to institute the new heavenly order of worship (Tabernacle of David).

- C. Saul’s sin with the Amalekites (1 Sam. 15) was in failing to obey God’s commands. In this specific situation it was Saul’s failure to execute judgment on God’s enemies (Amalekites).

Samuel said to Saul, "The LORD sent me to anoint you king over...Israel. Now therefore, heed the voice of the words of the LORD. 2 Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'I will punish Amalek for what he did to Israel, how he ambushed him on the way when he came up from Egypt. 3 Now go and attack Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and do not spare them. But kill both man and woman, infant and nursing child, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.' " 7 Saul attacked the Amalekites...8 He took Agag king of the Amalekites alive, and utterly destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword. 9 But Saul...spared Agag and the best of the sheep, the oxen, the fatlings, the lambs, and all that was good, and were unwilling to utterly destroy them. But everything...worthless, they utterly destroyed. 10 The word of the LORD came to Samuel, saying, 11 "I greatly regret that I have set up Saul as king, for he has turned back from following Me..." 13 Samuel went to Saul, and Saul said to him, "Blessed are you of the LORD! I have performed the commandment of the LORD." 14 Samuel said, "What then is this bleating of the sheep in my ears...which I hear?" 15 Saul said, "They have brought them from the Amalekites; for the people spared the best of the sheep and the oxen, to sacrifice to the LORD your God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed." 16 Samuel said to Saul, "Be quiet! I will tell you what the LORD said to me last night"... 18 the LORD sent you on a mission, and said, 'Go, and utterly destroy the sinners, the Amalekites...19 "Why then did you not obey the voice of the LORD? Why did you swoop down on the spoil, and do evil in the sight of the LORD?" 20 Saul said to Samuel, "But I have obeyed the voice of the LORD, and gone on the mission on which the LORD sent me, and brought back Agag king of Amalek; I have utterly destroyed the Amalekites. 21 But the people took of the plunder, sheep and oxen, the best of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice to the LORD your God in Gilgal." 22 Samuel said: "Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice...23 For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He has rejected you from being king." 24 Saul said to Samuel, "I have sinned, for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD...BECAUSE I FEARED THE PEOPLE and obeyed their voice. 25 Now therefore, please pardon my sin, and return with me, that I may worship the LORD." 26 But Samuel said to Saul, "I will not return with you, for you have rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD has rejected you from being king over Israel." (1 Sam. 15:1-26)

1. Test: "perils of partial obedience" in keeping the spoil of the enemy motivated by the fear of man
 2. Leadership lesson: Saul repented only when he was caught while David repented because he offended God.
- D. God's 3-fold purpose in releasing a distressing spirit on Saul – 1 Sam. 16:15
1. To judge Saul as a rebellious king – God killed Saul or took him away in wrath.
I gave you a king in My anger, And took him away in My wrath. (Hosea 13:11)

He (Saul) did not inquire of the LORD; therefore He killed him, and turned the kingdom over to David the son of Jesse. (1 Chr 10:14)

2. To judge Israel for rejecting God (1 Sam. 8:7) in being lead by a tormented king –
3. To train David to be a great king –

VI. OVERVIEW OF HISTORICAL CONTEXT

- A. Saul sins and is rejected as King
 1. Sin at Gilgal (1 Sam. 13)
 2. Sin with Amalekites (1 Sam. 15)
- B. Samuel anoints David as King (1 Sam. 16)

VII. SAUL'S HEART OF REBELLION (1 SAM. 15 : 22-23)

- A. It is better to obey than perform religious rituals for others
 1. Saul desires man's approval (1 Sam. 15:30)
 2. "...the people were scattered from him." (1 Sam. 13: 8)
- B. Saul's Rebellion is a form of witchcraft
 1. Saul yields to an evil spirit
 2. Rebellion is not the same thing as immaturity
- C. Saul rejects God (1 Sam. 15:23)

VIII. SAUL IS REJECTED AS KING (1 SAM. 15: 28-30)

- A. Obedience is better – Spiritual principle established.
- B. David is better – David has a heart of obedience (15:28)

IX. SCRIPTURAL PROFILE OF DAVID: GOD'S VIEW OF DAVID'S HEART AND OBEDIENCE

The LORD has sought for Himself a man after His own heart, and the LORD has commanded him to be commander (leader) over His people..." (1 Sam. 13:14)

1. To **obey the commands** of God's heart (sincerity of intention) – Psalm 101 is the clearest statement of David’s practical pursuit of 100-fold obedience in his *personal life* (Ps. 101:1-4) and then within his *corporate life* (team ministry) to build with the core value of seeking God with full obedience and faithfulness (Ps. 101:5-8).
2. To **study the emotions** of God's heart (intimacy and encounter with God’s beauty and heart)
3. To **contend for the purposes** of God’s heart (full power/promises in our destiny). Especially to build a resting place for the Lord in his generation through prayer and worship. The result is that God would manifest His glory and defeat His enemies. David’s heart cries for God to come in a manifest dwelling place (God’s rest). Psalm 101; 132; 69; 1 Chr. 22; 28-29 are the clearest statements of David’s pursuit of a corporate resting place for God. Nothing was more like David than to build a place for prayer and worship for the manifest presence of God to go forth to conquer the enemies of God now and in the Millennial Kingdom.

X. DAVID’S CORE REALITY: SPIRITUAL IDENTITY BASED IN INTIMACY AND MEEKNESS

- A. The primary way in which David saw himself and measured (evaluated) the success of his life was by two core issues: intimacy with God and meekness before people. In other words, first, to establish his primary identity (his sense of value/success) in intimacy with God as being loved by God and in being a lover of God then second, to walk in meekness. David *felt successful before God (ultimate sense) in context to how much he grew in the anointing of love and meekness*.
- B. **Leadership Lesson:** Our primary identity in life is to be one who is “loved and a lover” therefore, we are successful before God (which is ultimate).
- C. The primary challenge is to see God’s as our source and goal not the promotion and those related to it.

David’s life was valued (measured) by two core issues: intimacy with God and meekness before people. These were strengthened in each of seasons of his life. His calling and function flowed from these.

David lived in Bethlehem until he was approximately 17 years old. God’s purpose for him in the “Bethlehem years” was to be established in this. **Leadership Lesson:** Our primary identity in life is to be one who is “loved and a lover” therefore, we are successful before God (which is ultimate). Our primary attitude must be to grow in lowliness of heart (meekness or a servant spirit) as one faithful in small things.

XI. DAVID’S PRIMARY IDENTITY: INTIMACY WITH GOD (WHO HE WAS BEFORE GOD)

- A. David’s primary identity (value and success) was established in who he was spiritually or who he was in his intimacy with God. In other words, who he was before God as “one that God loved” then as “one who loved God” in return (overflowed to others). In this and by the anointing of the Spirit, David **felt** the power of being loved by God and of loving (God/others) in return. David’s primary paradigm of success was in being successful before God (which is ultimate success) with the “anointing to love and live in meekness.” This is a radical paradigm for living on earth.

I am my Beloved's, and His desire is toward me. (Song 7:10)

- B. This was the first way in which David saw himself and measured (evaluated) the success of his life. In other words, he **felt successful before God in context to how much he grew in the anointing of love**. Based on this, Jesus told Martha that Mary of Bethany had chosen the best part of life which could not be taken from her (Lk. 10: 38-42). All that is truly of God leads us to grow in receiving more of His love (often this includes feeling its tenderness) or returning it to Him then overflowing in it (love and meekness) towards others. All that is of love lasts forever. This is the only reality that we will bring with us when we stand before God.

- C. Summary: David’s primary identity was in being one who was “**loved** (by God) **and was a lover** (to God/others) **therefore, successful.**” Because David felt the power of being loved and of loving, therefore, he felt successful even when his kingship was threatened.

- D. David’s primary attitude: walk in meekness. David’s primary attitude in each season of his life was to walk in meekness or with a servant spirit whether as a shepherd, armorbearer, fugitive or king. He expressed this in a practical way, by being faithful in the small things (mundane tasks). The only character trait Jesus proclaimed about Himself was His meekness.

Take My yoke...learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart... (Mt. 11:29)

...for I am gentle and humble in heart...(Mt. 11:29, NIV, NAS)

- E. In Bethlehem, even in his youth, David developed a spiritual root system of intimacy with God and meekness before people. This foundation was strengthened in each of the following seasons in his life. Because David felt the power of being loved and of loving therefore, he felt successful and thus has a “clear perspective” even when his kingship was threatened. In promotion, David continued in his primary spiritual identity without being distracted by so many new opportunities and responsibilities in being king. **Leadership Lesson:** We must cultivate the grace to be lowly in heart (humility, meekness or a servant spirit) as we serve diligently in very little (Lk. 19:17) or a few things (Mt. 25:21). We can only do this as we develop our primary spiritual identity as one who is “loved and a lover” therefore, we are ***already profoundly successful before God***. When we “feel successful” because of who we are in the love of God, then we have the foundation and strength to faithfully walk out our assignment before others (in times of honor and dishonor, prosperity and difficulty) without losing our intimacy with God nor our meekness before men. This is a dynamic place of stability and fruitfulness that helps us not waver in prosperity or difficulty. Like David, we must focus on being established in our primary identity and meekness rather than in “our future leadership opportunities.” Also, we must also continue to develop the ‘oil of intimacy’ with Jesus with a servant spirit in seasons of new opportunities, responsibilities, and prominence.

XII.

- A. God’s rejection of Saul related to his sin at Gilgal. The 4 different stories on David being chosen to be anointed
1. Samuel’s version of the night God told him to anoint some to replace Saul
 2. David’s – what was David doing then. Seeking God at night without any thought of anything but to know God.
 3. God’s – sought for this man (2 Chr. 16:9; Jn. 4:24) and found him (Ps. 78:72)
He also chose David His servant, and took him from the sheepfolds; 71 from following the ewes...He brought him, to shepherd...Israel His inheritance. (Ps. 78:70)
 4. Saul’s – knew God had brought a new man under His command
- B. God’s rejection of Saul related to his sin with the Amalekites
Samuel said to him (Saul), "The LORD has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today, and has given it to a neighbor of yours, who is better than you. (1 Sam. 15:28)

Saul’s take on this – was looking for someone close and better thus no one from his circle who had his values. The today was still not for another 15 years – possibly Saul was 55 here and died at 70. when God killed him. God knew the whole time that He would kill Saul but waiting until David was ready to rule in a way that he knew God put him in place and why he was put in place to bless God people.

- C. The grand success of God’s training of David – David knew God put him in place thus no strife to keep his role and he knew why God did it. Not for David’s sake but for Israel’s sake.
David knew that the LORD had established him as king over Israel, and that He had exalted His kingdom for the sake of His people Israel. (2 Sam. 5:12)
- D. God knows David’s heart to build God a house
The LORD said to my father David, 'Whereas it was in your heart to build a temple for My name, you did well in that it was in your heart. (2 Chr. 6:8)
- E. David has the same evaluation from God before and after his life and is established as God’s standard of obedience, even with his weakness
The LORD has sought for Himself a man after His own heart, and the LORD has commanded him to be commander (leader) over His people..." (1 Sam. 13:14)
He raised up for them David as king, to whom also He gave testimony and said, 'I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My own heart, who will do all My will.' (Acts 13:22)
David after he had served his own generation BY THE WILL OF GOD, fell asleep...(Acts 13:36)
David after he had served the PURPOSE OF GOD in his own generation, fell asleep...(NAS)
The LORD appeared to Solomon...17 "As for you, if you walk before Me as your father David walked...18 then I will establish the throne of your kingdom (2 Chr. 7:12-18)
I will not take the whole kingdom out of his (Solomon’s) hand, because I have made him ruler... for the sake of My servant David, whom I chose because he kept My commandments. (1 Kings 11:34)
- F. how David saw himself as raised up, anointed and as a worshiper of God. This is David’s confession much like John’s in Jn. 21:15 ?
These are the last words of David. Thus says David the son of Jesse; Thus says the man raised up on high, the anointed of the God of Jacob, and the sweet psalmist of Israel: (2 Sam. 23:1)
- G. God’s view of David through another Psalmist
He also chose David His servant, and took him from the sheepfolds; 71 from following the ewes...He brought him, to shepherd...Israel His inheritance. 72 So he shepherded them according to the integrity of his heart, and guided them by the skillfulness of his hands. (Ps. 78:70-72)