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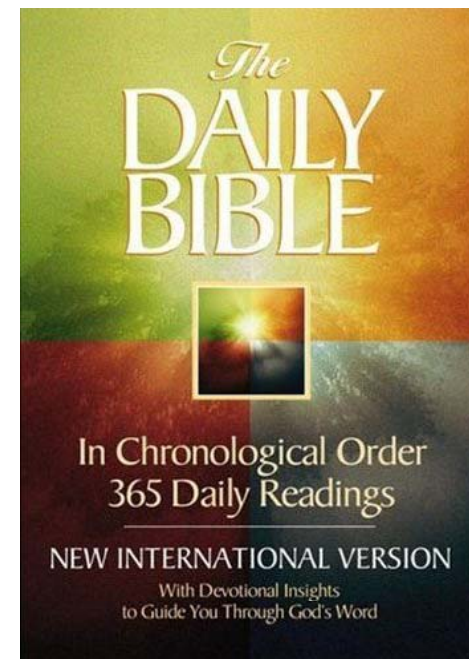
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David's Rise to Power Lesson 14

April 4, 2010

This Week

- ▶ We'll cover readings for March 28-April 3
- ▶ Portions of I Samuel and Psalms
 - ▶ The Reign of Saul (I Sam. 13-15)
 - ▶ Saul's early successes, followed by his failure to obey God
 - ▶ David's Rise to Power (I Sam. 16-31)
 - ▶ David is chosen by God and anointed by Samuel
 - ▶ David defeats Goliath, enters Saul's service, and is befriended by Jonathan
 - ▶ Saul attempts to kill David
 - ▶ David rises in exile and builds an army
 - ▶ The final decline of Saul



No King in Israel

▶ Judges 17:6

- ▶ ⁶In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as he saw fit.

▶ Judges 18:1

- ▶ ¹In those days Israel had no king.

▶ Judges 19:1

- ▶ ¹In those days Israel had no king.

▶ Judges 21:25

- ▶ ²⁵In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as he saw fit.



The End of the Judges

▶ I Samuel 8:1-8

- ▶ ¹When Samuel grew old, he appointed his sons as judges for Israel. ²The name of his firstborn was Joel and the name of his second was Abijah, and they served at Beersheba. ³But his sons did not walk in his ways. They turned aside after dishonest gain and accepted bribes and perverted justice. ⁴So all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah. ⁵They said to him, “You are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways; now appoint a king to lead us, such as all the other nations have.”



Give Us a King!

▶ I Samuel 8:6-9

- ▶ ⁶But when they said, “Give us a king to lead us,” this displeased Samuel; so he prayed to the LORD. ⁷And the LORD told him: “Listen to all that the people are saying to you; it is not you they have rejected, **but they have rejected me as their king.** ⁸As they have done from the day I brought them up out of Egypt until this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are doing to you. ⁹Now listen to them; but warn them solemnly and let them know what the king who will reign over them will do.”



What the King Will Do ...

▶ I Samuel 8:10-13

- ▶ ¹⁰Samuel told all the words of the LORD to the people who were asking him for a king. ¹¹He said, “This is what the king who will reign over you will do: He will take your sons and make them serve with his chariots and horses, and they will run in front of his chariots. ¹²Some he will assign to be commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and others to plow his ground and reap his harvest, and still others to make weapons of war and equipment for his chariots. ¹³He will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers.



What the King Will Do ... (cont.)

▶ I Samuel 8:14-18

- ▶ ¹⁴He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive groves and give them to his attendants. ¹⁵He will take a tenth of your grain and of your vintage and give it to his officials and attendants. ¹⁶Your menservants and maidservants and the best of your cattle and donkeys he will take for his own use. ¹⁷He will take a tenth of your flocks, and you yourselves will become his slaves. ¹⁸When that day comes, you will cry out for relief from the king you have chosen, **and the LORD will not answer you in that day.**”



We Want One Anyway!

▶ I Samuel 8:19-20

- ▶ ¹⁹But the people refused to listen to Samuel. “No!” they said. “We want a king over us. ²⁰Then we will be like all the other nations, with a king to lead us and to go out before us and fight our battles.” ²¹When Samuel heard all that the people said, he repeated it before the LORD. ²²The LORD answered, “**Listen to them and give them a king.**”



From Josephus

- ▶ Antiquities of the Jews:6
 - ▶ Samuel called the people together and told them that the king they wished for would become a cruel master to them. He would take their money and possessions to maintain his grandeur, and make their children his soldiers and servants. But they insisted, “Forget the future! We want a king now, like the other nations, to lead us in battle against our enemies!”
- ▶ Probably a good way to describe Israel (and us, as well)
 - ▶ Forget the future!



For Discussion

- ▶ What is the significance of Israel's request for a king?
 - ▶ The people were rejecting God as their only sovereign
 - ▶ They were looking to themselves to solve their perceived problems
- ▶ Why would God grant their request, given what it really meant – and knowing the outcome?



First Hint of the King

▶ Genesis 17:1-8

- ▶ ¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, “I am God Almighty; walk before me and be blameless. ²I will confirm my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers.” ³Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, ⁴“As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. ⁵No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. ⁶I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and **kings will come from you.** ⁷I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you. ⁸The whole land of Canaan, where you are now an alien, I will give as an everlasting possession to you and your descendants after you; and I will be their God.”



Another Hint

▶ Genesis 35:9-12

- ▶ ⁹After Jacob returned from Paddan Aram, God appeared to him again and blessed him. ¹⁰God said to him, “Your name is Jacob, but you will no longer be called Jacob; your name will be Israel.” So he named him Israel. ¹¹And God said to him, “I am God Almighty; be fruitful and increase in number. A nation and a community of nations will come from you, and **kings will come from your body.** ¹²The land I gave to Abraham and Isaac I also give to you, and I will give this land to your descendants after you.”



Requirements/Restrictions for the King

▶ Deuteronomy 17:14-17

- ▶ ¹⁴When you enter the land the LORD your God is giving you and have taken possession of it and settled in it, and you say, “**Let us set a king over us like all the nations around us,**” ¹⁵be sure to appoint over you the king the LORD your God chooses. He must be from among your own brothers. Do not place a foreigner over you, one who is not a brother Israelite. ¹⁶The king, moreover, **must not acquire great numbers of horses for himself** or make the people return to Egypt to get more of them, for the LORD has told you, “You are not to go back that way again.” ¹⁷He **must not take many wives,** or his heart will be led astray. He **must not accumulate large amounts of silver and gold.**



The Realities of a King

- ▶ God has known for hundreds of years that this day would come
 - ▶ And He still permits it
- ▶ Don't want to spoil this for you, but the Kings of Israel violated all three specific restrictions – and then some
 - ▶ Solomon, for example
 - ▶ Lots of horses
 - ▶ Lots of wives
 - ▶ Lots of money



Other Requirements

▶ Deuteronomy 17:18-20

- ▶ ¹⁸When he takes the throne of his kingdom, **he is to write for himself on a scroll a copy of this law,** taken from that of the priests, who are Levites. ¹⁹It is to be with him, and he is to read it all the days of his life so that he may learn to revere the LORD his God and follow carefully all the words of this law and these decrees ²⁰and not consider himself better than his brothers and turn from the law to the right or to the left. Then he and his descendants will reign a long time over his kingdom in Israel.



Saul Chosen

▶ I Samuel 9:15-17

- ▶ ¹⁵Now the day before Saul came, the LORD had revealed this to Samuel: ¹⁶“About this time tomorrow I will send you a man from the land of Benjamin. Anoint him leader over my people Israel; he will deliver my people from the hand of the Philistines. I have looked upon my people, for their cry has reached me.” ¹⁷When Samuel caught sight of Saul, the LORD said to him, “This is the man I spoke to you about; he will govern my people.”



One Simple Thing

▶ I Samuel 10:8

- ▶ ⁸“Go down ahead of me to Gilgal. I will surely come down to you to sacrifice burnt offerings and fellowship offerings, but you must wait seven days until I come to you and tell you what you are to do.”

▶ I Samuel 13:7b-9

- ▶ ^{7b}Saul remained at Gilgal, and all the troops with him were quaking with fear. ⁸He waited seven days, the time set by Samuel; but Samuel did not come to Gilgal, and Saul’s men began to scatter. ⁹So he said, “Bring me the burnt offering and the fellowship offerings.” And Saul offered up the burnt offering.



Samuel Arrives

▶ I Samuel 13:10-12

- ▶ ¹⁰Just as he finished making the offering, Samuel arrived, and Saul went out to greet him. ¹¹“What have you done?” asked Samuel. Saul replied, “When I saw that the men were scattering, and that you did not come at the set time, and that the Philistines were assembling at Micmash, ¹²I thought, ‘Now the Philistines will come down against me at Gilgal, and I have not sought the LORD’S favor.’ So I felt compelled to offer the burnt offering.”



The Kingship Lost

- ▶ I Samuel 13:13-14

- ▶ ¹³“You acted foolishly,” Samuel said. “You have not kept the command the LORD your God gave you; if you had, he would have established your kingdom over Israel for all time. ¹⁴But now your kingdom will not endure; the LORD has sought out a man after his own heart and appointed him leader of his people, because you have not kept the LORD’S command.”

- ▶ Saul lost the kingship only seven days after his anointing!



For Discussion

- ▶ What were the specific weaknesses of Saul that made him an unsuitable ruler?
- ▶ If God knew this about Saul, why did He choose him for the kingdom?



Saul Rejected

▶ I Samuel 16:1

- ▶ 'The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king."



Jesse's Sons Reviewed

▶ I Samuel 16:

- ▶ ⁶When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, “Surely the LORD’S anointed stands here before the LORD.” ⁷But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, **but the LORD looks at the heart.**”



David Chosen

▶ I Samuel 16:10-13

- ▶ ¹⁰Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, “The LORD has not chosen these.”
¹¹So he asked Jesse, “Are these all the sons you have?”
“There is still the youngest,” Jesse answered, “but he is tending the sheep.” Samuel said, “Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives.” ¹²So he sent and had him brought in. He was ruddy, with a fine appearance and handsome features. Then the LORD said, “Rise and anoint him; he is the one.” ¹³So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came upon David in power.



For Discussion

- ▶ David was chosen because of his heart, not because of external qualities.
 - ▶ In your opinion, why is David called “a man after God’s heart”?
- ▶ What do the psalms in this section teach you about David’s relationship with God?



Your Turn ...

- ▶ What insights have you gained from this week's study?
- ▶ What did you find in these passages that you have never seen before?
- ▶ How did the Lord speak to your heart through the Word this week?
- ▶ How will your walk with Him be different as a result?



Next Week

- ▶ Readings for April 4-10
 - ▶ David: Triumph and Tragedy

Questions?

