

## 1 Chronicles Chapter 10

V: 1-2 We pick up the history of the nation, skipping over almost all of 1 Samuel, skipping over Samuel's life, the coronation of king Saul and his reign. We move past all the early trials of David being chased by Saul coming in at the death of Saul and his sons.

### Map Mt. Gilboa

- His sons including Jonathan died fighting, having fought a good fight.

**2 Timothy 4:7** "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."

V: 3-6 The battle went sore against Saul because God was against Saul.

**Romans 8:31** "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?"

- The opposite is true as well; if God be against us, who can be for us?
- Saul was wounded by a Philistine archer, but he died of a self-inflicted wound - falling upon his own sword to keep from falling into the hands of the Philistines and what would likely follow.
- While his armor bearer would not kill his king, please note that he would not abandon him either, he died by his side. A noble death.

**2 Samuel Chapter 1** has the account of an Amalekite who thought he'd ingratiate himself to David by claiming to have killed Saul.

- 2 Samuel merely records what the Amalekite said, as opposed to what actually happened, the Amalekite lied.
- Saul took his own life while injured on the battlefield. For some this sparks a question about suicide.
- Note first that as we studied through **1st Samuel** it did not appear that Saul was even saved; no heart for the things of the Lord, disobedient to the Word of God, consulting with soothsayers etc., so Saul may not be a good example or case to discuss whether a believer can lose his salvation because of his suicide.
- Suicide is a sin; God is the giver of life, and He's the taker of life. Suicide is an extremely selfish and inconsiderate sin that also demonstrates a lack of faith and trust in God. It's a bad witness in general.
- Ultimately when one is brought to the point of taking their own life, it is an irrational action - they are not in their right mind.

- So the question; does one lose their salvation if they commit suicide?

**Matthew 12:31** “Wherefore I say unto you, all manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men.”

- From Jesus’ lips, the only un-pardonable sin is blasphemy of the Holy Spirit; rejecting the message of the Holy Spirit, in a sense calling Him a liar - because He testifies of Jesus. (Suicide is not the un-pardonable sin.)

V: 7 Seeing their king slain, the men of the army lost their courage and fled. This was not just an isolated battle, it impacted the entire area as the victorious Philistines then took up residence in their cities.

- The Philistines, like the Amalekites and the other enemies of Israel represent the world and the flesh. There is always this war, the spiritual battle between the children of God, children of the Spirit and the flesh - in this case the Philistines.
- Nature abhors a vacuum, it is the same thing in the spiritual realm as well. There really is no such thing as a vacuum.

Jesus said:

**Matthew 12:43-45** “<sup>43</sup>When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. <sup>44</sup>Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished. <sup>45</sup>Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.”

- If the children of God don’t stand their ground, the enemy will move in - and the enemy will be harder to remove the next time.
- When we forsake our sin, when we clean up our spiritual house we need to fill it with Spiritual things, we can’t let there be a “void” because the enemy will take advantage and fill it with the things of the flesh.
- If for example the Lord gives you the gift of conviction about something where perhaps you stop watching bad movies, or drop a bad relationship, or quit drinking - then you need to fill that void with the Lord, with your pursuit of God, with Bible study, prayer, being in fellowship, developing Godly relationships - serving the Lord, giving Him your time, filling your time with Him. If you don’t fill it with the Spirit then the enemy will gladly fill that void, but you’ll be worse off in the long run.

V: 8-10 The Philistines were victorious in the battlefield and afterwards came back to strip the dead, recovering anything of value, the spoils of war.

- The Amalekite described in 2 Samuel Ch. 1 must have gotten there before the Philistines, because he presented Saul's crown and bracelet to David - something the Philistine wouldn't have given up had they gotten there first.
- When they found king Saul, they stripped and beheaded him. They took his head and his armor and put them on display in the temple of their god Dagon.
- Their rationale was that they were victorious because their god was stronger than our God; so they took the prize and paid homage to their god - when in reality the Canaanites were simply being used as God's instrument of judgment achieving His purposes.

V: 11-12 The valiant men of [Jabesh-Gilead \(map\)](#) They heard what had been done - that the bodies of Saul and his sons were nailed to the wall of Beth-Shan, publicly humiliated, desecrated - they risked their lives and went and took the bodies down and gave them a decent burial.

- The men of Jabesh-Gilead remembered the kindness of Saul when he rescued them from the Ammonites.

**1 Samuel 11:2** "And Nahash the Ammonite answered them, on this condition will I make a covenant with you, that I may thrust out all your right eyes, and lay it for a reproach upon all Israel."

- Saul responded to this, he mustered the troops, marched all night and led the charge - and rescued the people of Jabesh-Gilead, and now almost 40 years later they remembered the kindness of Saul.
- Saul wasn't a particularly honorable man but what he did for Jabesh-Gilead was good, honorable, merciful, and kind - and that kindness was returned to him even in death.

**1 Corinthians 15:58** "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

They gave Saul and his sons a decent burial.

**1 Samuel 31:12-13** "12All the valiant men arose, and went all night, and took the body of Saul and the bodies of his sons from the wall of Beth-Shan, and came to Jabesh, and burnt them there. 13And they took their bones, and buried them under a tree at Jabesh, and fasted seven days."

- Cultural perspective / detail: Normal burial vs: extra-ordinary circumstances.
  - Washing, spices, preparation, 1 years, collection, ossuary vs: cremation.
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- Both accounts mention that they mourned him and fasted for 7 days.

V: 13-14 The summary statement that Saul died for his sins.

- Two key reasons are given:
  1. He didn't keep the Word of the Lord, he was disobedient to the Word.
  2. He sought the counsel of a person with a "familiar spirit", the spirit of this world, and not the Lord.

**Romans 6:23** "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

- The stage is now set for David, who is a man after God's own heart.

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## 1 Chronicles Chapter 11

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V: 1-3 ([Map / Hebron](#)) David had already won the hearts of the people, and God had given him great favor. ([Map / Hebron / arrow](#))

- This is the fulfillment of what God had spoken to both Samuel and David some years prior.
- We are thy bone and thy flesh: we are family.
- All the tribes came in agreement, expressing their unity with David.

**Psalms 133:1** "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

V: 2 They are reminding David and affirming that this has been God's will that David be their leader.

**1 Samuel 18:14, 16** "14And David behaved himself wisely in all his ways; and the Lord was with him." – "16But all Israel and Judah loved David, because he went out and came in before them."

- David would be called upon once again to lead his people – as a Shepherd, feeding them, as a captain protecting them.

V: 3 David ends up being anointed 3 times:

**1 Samuel 16:13** “Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren:

**2 Samuel 2:4** “And the men of Judah came, and there they anointed David king over the house of Judah.”

- Now David is being anointed before the elders of the nation: it started with God anointing him in his household before his family, in his home – which is where ministry starts, then it expands to his extended family and relations, then to the nation.
- All the elders from the 12 tribes traveled from Dan in the North to Judah in the South, came to Hebron, the capital of Judah, there they made a covenant, an agreement, they came to an understanding with David, and they did it “*before the Lord*.”
- When they anointed David king over Israel – they affirmed that which God had already done.

V: 4-9 Fast forward 7 years after David was anointed King over Israel, now he takes Jerusalem.

- David was 30 years old when he began to reign in Hebron, where he reigned for 7 ½ years, then he reigned for 32 ½ years over the whole kingdom of Israel including the other 11 tribes for a total of 40 years. (The same as both Saul, and Solomon)
- David moves the capital of Israel from Hebron, he’s been living in communion with God, which leads him to the city of peace.
- Besides the spiritual implications this is a wise political move. Hebron is the capital of Judah or the Southern kingdom. Moving the capital to Jerusalem which is just inside the tribal area of Benjamin, which is almost in Ephraim and generally more centrally located shows that he’s not just the king of Judah, but of all Israel – a unifying move, no one is alienated or left out.

“*David waxed greater and greater,...*”

- He kept going, and he kept growing, which as Christians is what we need to be doing, growing, maturing in our relationship with the Lord, pressing forward.

**Philippians 3:12** “Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.”

- We are to keep going, to keep growing – all the days of our lives.

**Philippians 3:13-14** “<sup>13</sup>Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, <sup>14</sup>I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.”

- Being a man or a woman after God’s own heart means that we want to be closer to him, to go to a deeper place, a greater degree of intimacy.

**James 4:8** “Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double-minded.”

*“... and the Lord of hosts was with him.” The secret to true greatness!*

**1 Samuel 16:13** “Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward...”

V: 10-47 David’s mighty men of valor: (Parallel passage: **2 Samuel 23:8-39**)

- The listing here in 1 Chronicles Ch. 11 parallels the list from 2 Samuel 23 adding another 16 names. The list from 2 Samuel are the men who were with David when he was running from Saul, the list from Chronicles adds the names of the men who joined David’s ranks as he reigned, and some of the military exploits that followed.

V: 10-14 David’s mighty men of valor didn’t start out that way:

**1 Samuel 22:2** “And everyone that was in distress, and every one that was in debt, and every one that was discontented, gathered themselves unto him; and he becomes a captain over them: there were with him about four hundred men.”

- As these men hung out with David, they became more like their king. So we too, as we hang out with Jesus we become more and more like Him!

**2 Corinthians 3:18** “But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.”

- The first man listed is **Jashobeman**, (Adino the Tachmonite) who lifted up his spear to kill 300 men at one time. (Tough dude!)

- **Eleazar**: as **2 Samuel** relates, he fought so hard for so long in defeating the Philistines that his hand became one with his sword - he couldn't un-wrap his fingers from around it.
- If we want to be like one of David's mighty men of valor for God, then our hand must cleave to the sword – the Word of God.

**Hebrews 4:12** “For the Word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of the soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

- The Word of God should always be in our hand, we should be very familiar with it, know how to use it – knowing that our lives depends on it.
- Eleazar stood with David against overwhelming odds, and God delivered them and gave them the victory.

V: 15-19 David is hiding out in the cave of **Adullam** (map), the Philistines are encamped in the valley below, and in the city of **Bethlehem**, about 12 miles away.

- He mentions how nice it would be to drink from the well in Bethlehem. **Three of the mighty** men take off to fulfill David's desire.
- They fight through the Philistines and bring back the water from the well in Bethlehem, and gave it to David.
- Their desire was simply to please their captain, their king – that should be our desire as well to please our King and Savior.

**John 4:34** “Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of Him that sent Me, and to finish His work.”

- David receives this precious gift but won't drink it, instead he offers it as a drink offering, he pours it out to the Lord because these men had risked their lives to please David.
- David took that which was precious to him, that which he desired, his will and offered it as a sacrifice unto the Lord.

**Mark 8:34** “... whosoever will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.”

- If we're going to be used of God then we have to be willing to give up that which is precious to us, to yield our desires, and our will to Him as an act of worship – as a living sacrifice to our Lord.

V: 20-25 **Abishai**, Joab's brother – **Abishai** who saved David from the giant in 2 Samuel 21; killed 300 men with a spear in one battle.

- **Benaiah**: (Levite) "Yahweh has Built" – he killed two fierce lion like men of Moab, he killed a lion, and a big Egyptian (7'6" tall), taking his spear from him and killing him with it.

**1 Peter 5:8** "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour."

- Appointed to be chief over David's personal guard, one of David's most trusted men who went on to serve Solomon in his reign.
- The same tactic that worked for Benaiah and the big Egyptian will work for us, take the enemies weapon away, the favorite weapon of our adversary is the lie.

**John 8:31-32** "31... if ye continue in My Word, then are ye My disciples indeed; 32and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

V: 26-47 **Asahel**, Joab & Abishai's fleet footed brother who didn't know when to stop, he wouldn't stop chasing Abner and died for it.

- **Eliam**, Ahithophel's son, Bathsheba's father.
- **Uriah** the Hittite.
- Valiant men, warriors, all loyal to David – proven in battle.
- These men were devoted to David, and he was devoted to them.
- This list is proof that David couldn't have done all the things he did without them.
- All these men recognized God's hand being upon David and wanted to be part of what God was doing through him.
- As a servant of Jesus Christ, we've been inducted into His army.

**2 Timothy 2:3-4** "3Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. 4No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please Him who hath chosen him to be a soldier."