

2 Samuel 21 - 22
David's Reflections
Lesson 17

With the help of the tribe of Judah, David's kingdom was restored and he was back in Jerusalem. But there were those who continued to challenge him as king. Sheba, from King Saul's tribe of Benjamin, stirred up the men of Israel against David. Joab and the king's men were successful in putting down this second rebellion. The final chapters of 2 Samuel include David's reflection on his 40 years as King of Israel.

Famine - 21:1-14

1. David's reflection brought to mind one particular famine. Using 2 Samuel 21:1:
 - How long did it last?
 - How did David deal with the famine?
 - What reason for the famine was revealed to David?
2. Who were the Gibeonites? (vs. 2)
3. David asked what he could do to make amends for the wrong that had been done to them. What was their request? (vs. 5-6)
4. The king agreed to their request, but why did he spare Mephibosheth? (vs. 7)
5. When did this take place? (vs. 9b)
6. What did Rizpah, the mother of two of these men, do? (vs. 10)
7. When David heard about Rizpah, what was his reaction? (vs. 11-14a)

8. What was the result of David fulfilling the Gibeonite's request? (vs. 14b)

The Philistine Wars - 21:15-22

The Philistines were Israel's constant enemy. Four battles are given special recognition.

9. In the first battle, what was mentioned about David's condition? (vs. 15)
10. What was the Philistine Ishbi-Benob boasting? (vs. 16)
11. Who became the hero in this story? (vs. 17)
12. Who was the hero in this second battle that took place at Gob? (vs. 18)
13. The third battle also took place at Gob and resulted in Goliath, the Gittite's death. Who was the hero of this battle? (vs. 19)
14. The final battle mentioned took place at Gath. What was unusual about one of the Philistine champions? (vs. 20)
15. Who was the hero of this battle? (vs. 21)

David's Song of Praise to the Lord - 22-1-51

16. When did David sing this praise song to the Lord? (vs. 1)
17. In the Old Testament, God was often described with word pictures from everyday life. What word pictures did David, the warrior king, use to describe God in this song? (vs. 2-3)

18. As you look over this list of words, what do they reveal to you about how David viewed his God?

19. David said that he called to the Lord, who is worthy of _____. (vs. 4)

20. Look at the next word pictures David used to describe his situation. (vs. 5-6)

- Waves of _____
- Torrents of _____
- Cords of the _____ around me
- Snares of _____

21. Describe how you think David was feeling at the time he wrote this?

22. What did David do in these times? (vs. 7a)

- What was the response? (vs. 7b)

23. In verses 8 - 16, David described God's use of nature to rescue him. How did he see God's hand on his life? (vs. 17-19)

- He reached down _____
- He took _____ of me
- He _____ me
- The Lord was my _____

24. How did that make David feel? (vs. 20a)

- Why did David say that God helped him? (vs. 20b)

25. David also said the Lord dealt with him according to his righteousness (vs. 21). What did David do to maintain that righteousness? (vs. 23, 24)

26. How did David describe the Lord's character in verses 26 and 27:

- To the faithful God is _____
- To the blameless God is _____
- To the pure God is _____
- To the crooked God is _____

27. Whom does the Lord save? (vs. 28a)

28. How did he describe the Lord in verse 29?

29. What did he say about God's (vs. 31)

- Way?
- Word?

30. What did God do for David that resulted in this praise? (vs. 33-35)

- Arms me with _____
- Makes my way _____
- Makes my feet _____
- Enables me to _____
- Trains my _____
- My arms can _____

31. When it came to David's military victories, where did David say that his strength came from? (vs. 36-41)
32. When his enemies cried for help (to their gods) no one saved them. (vs. 42) But when David cried out to the Lord, whom did the Lord save him from? (vs. 44)
33. With the Lord's help, what do even foreigners do? (vs. 45-46)
34. After reflecting on the Lord's hand upon his life, David's song concludes with praise for the Lord that he can no longer contain. (vs. 47)
- The Lord _____!
 - Praise be to _____
 - _____ be God
 - The _____
 - My _____!
35. What did David praise God for in verse 48:
- God who _____ me
 - Puts the _____ me
 - Sets me _____ from my _____
 - Exalted me above my _____
 - You _____ me
36. Where did David say he would praise the Lord? (vs. 50a)
- How would he praise the Lord? (vs. 50b)

37. What did David never lose sight of? (vs. 51)

Think about it!

David created this psalm to praise God based upon the evidence of the Lord guiding him in a life of constant war. What words would you use to describe God's character and guidance in your life?

38. Based upon those words, write a psalm or prayer, praising God for what he has done in your life.