

GAME OF THRONES

THE REIGN OF DAVID

A Powerful Kingdom

Key idea:

God blessed David for the sake of His people, that he might lead them into justice and righteousness, and to serve as a pointer to Christ, the True King

Key text:

2 Samuel 5-10

(2 Samuel 5:9-12)

David then took up residence in the fortress and called it the City of David. He built up the area around it, from the supporting terraces inward. ¹⁰ And he became more and more powerful, because the Lord God Almighty was with him. ¹¹ Now Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, along with cedar logs and carpenters and stonemasons, and they built a palace for David. ¹² And David knew that the Lord had established him as king over Israel and had exalted his kingdom for the sake of his people Israel.

(2 Samuel 8:14–15)

The Lord gave David victory wherever he went. ¹⁵ David reigned over all Israel, doing what was just and right for all his people.

Key points:

1. God established David and Israel as a powerful kingdom, who defeated all of their neighboring enemies.
2. God brought victories to David for the sake of His people as David continued to seek God and His will.
3. For the most part, David is presented in this section of Scripture as doing what is just and right for his people. Although there are clearly sins and failures in David's life and rule, on the whole, he does well during this period of his reign.
4. David is a pointer to Christ, both in His ability to generally establish justice and righteousness, but also in his failures, as these showed One greater than David was needed.

Questions for discussion/application:

1. What part of Sunday's text and teaching stood out most to you? Why?
2. As you read these chapters, does the writer of Scripture seem to approve of David and his actions in general? Are there any particular phrases or devices the writer uses to indicate that David is doing well at this point in his reign?
3. After all of the difficulties in David's life from the time Saul began to persecute him, how starkly does this time of victory and prosperity stand out? How do you think David felt at this turn of events?
4. What unique temptations does success bring? Can you think of times in your life when you emerged from a time of difficulty into a time of blessing, peace, and prosperity? What temptations did you face in your times of difficulty? What temptations did you face in your times of blessing?
5. Scripture indicates God blessed David for the sake of Israel. What does this tell us about God's purpose for blessing in our own lives? Why is this an important point for us to continually be reminded of in our own lives?
6. What actions of David trouble you in this section? Are we meant to approve of those actions? If not, why doesn't this section of Scripture more clearly condemn these actions?
7. On Sunday Bret said: "Whenever a leader begins to accumulate wealth, power, and privilege, thinking the rules do not apply to them, sin is lurking at the door." He also said: "A church leader who accumulates wealth, power, and privilege is following the ways of the world rather than the call of Christ." Have you ever seen examples of this in the world or in the church?
8. How does David serve as a picture of Christ in this section of Scripture? How does he point to our need for Christ in this section of Scripture?
9. What are some ways NOT to apply this section of Scripture? Can you think of examples in the history of the church where passages like this were misinterpreted and misapplied? How might we misapply it today?

Preview of next week:

Title: Transformed By Grace

Text: Titus 2:11-15