

## This week's reading:

**April 23:** 1 Samuel 26 – 28

**April 24:** 1 Samuel 29 – 31

**April 25:** 2 Samuel 1 – 3

**April 26:** 2 Samuel 4 – 6

**April 27:** 2 Samuel 7 – 9

**April 28:** 2 Samuel 10 – 12

**April 29:** 2 Samuel 13 – 15

**April 30:** 2 Samuel 16 – 18

## Summary:

**April 23:** 1 Samuel 26 – 28

1 Samuel 26 again shows the trust of David in God as he refuses to “rush” his ascension as king by killing Saul. **(Note:** David demonstrates faith the same way Abraham did. Abraham could not see the promises of God, but he believed them; here David will wait for God to deliver the promised throne in His own time.)

1 Samuel 27 shows the fear of David as he trusts Saul will never stop hunting him; he therefore flees to the land of the Philistines.

1 Samuel 28 shows Saul's sin as he consults a medium for answers and his judgment is delivered. **(Note:** God reiterates His judgment against Saul and provides a specific time for its fulfillment.)

**April 24:** 1 Samuel 29 – 31

1 Samuel 29 shows the life of David among the Philistines.

1 Samuel 30 shows God's provision as David is raided, and given victory over those who are his enemies.

1 Samuel 31 ends the reign of Saul as he and Jonathan are killed in a battle with the Philistines. **(Note:** God's judgment against the perfect king, by the world's standard, is complete.)

**April 25:** 2 Samuel 1 – 3

2 Samuel 1 begins with David learning of Saul's death and his mourning. **(Note:** David's reaction to the king of God's people being killed is one of mourning. No matter the trouble, the loss of a brother even as flawed as Saul, should be cause for sorrow.)

2 Samuel 2 sees David crowned king over Judah while Ish-bosheth (son of Saul) is crowned king over the other tribes. **(Note:** The promised reign of David begins, albeit with some difficulty.)

2 Samuel 3 sees David's army and case for ruling stronger and weaker as the sin of his generals is shown. **(Note:** Even in victory, sin brings defeat. The sin of Israel is deep and hides in the highest of her offices; this problem will be the downfall of the nation moving forward.)

**April 26:** 2 Samuel 4 – 6

2 Samuel 4 sees the murder of Ish-bosheth.

2 Samuel 5 has David crowned king over all Israel and has victory over the Philistines in battle. **(Note:** The blessing of God for the king is demonstrated as He gives Israel victory in battle.)

2 Samuel 6 has the Ark returning to Jerusalem and highlights the holiness of God.

**(Note:** One of the better known Old Testament stories demonstrates the vileness of sin, as the dirt of the ground is cleaner than the hands of the sinner who carries the Ark.)

**April 27:** 2 Samuel 7 – 9

2 Samuel 7 begins with David's plans for a temple before God makes a covenant with David concerning the throne of Israel. **(Note:** This Davidic Covenant is the next step in God's revelation of the seed of the woman (Genesis 3:15) that will crush sin. We are now shown the partial fulfillment of the Genesis 49 promise to Judah to be the ruler. Solomon will reign and build a house and be disciplined; but Jesus will receive all of those things AND reign forever.)

2 Samuel 8 shows David's victories and rule over Israel.

2 Samuel 9 sees David blessing the house of Saul by showing kindness to Jonathan surviving son. **(Note:** Rather than ruthlessly wiping out the previous regime as would be standard; David shows the heart of God by being merciful to those who would expect to receive judgment.)

**April 28:** 2 Samuel 10 – 12

2 Samuel 10 shows the continued success of David in battle.

2 Samuel 11 shows the partial fall of David as he sins against God with Bathsheba.

**(Note:** This is the height of evil: a king not performing his duty, a general colluding with the king to commit murder, a further sin of polygamy to "legitimize" the actions. The difference between David and Saul however, is found in the next chapter.)

2 Samuel 12 shows the rebuke by God through Nathan of David's sin. **(Note:** David is repentant and forgiven of God; but not immune from the consequences of sin. The child is lost, and David's life will be a turmoil because of his willful disobedience towards God.)

**April 29:** 2 Samuel 13 – 15

2 Samuel 13 is the beginning of the fallout of David's sin as his son (Amnon) rapes his daughter (Tamar) only to be killed by another son (Absalom) as judgment. **(Note:** Jerry, Jerry, Jerry; Springer has got nothing on this. The consequences of David's sin are manifested in the destruction of his family. Why? Because a man who was so little invested in his personal righteousness, was not invested in training and teaching his children either.)

2 Samuel 14 sees a partial reconciliation between David & Absalom. **(Note:** David's inability to rightly deal with his children is shown in his appeasement towards Absalom.)

2 Samuel 15 shows the conspiracy of Absalom to rule in place of his father as David flees Jerusalem rather than war against his son.