

# Destin Church of Christ

May 21, 2023

## Chapter 11: Young David: “From Shepherd to King”

1 Samuel 16 – 18; 24; 31; 2 Samuel 6; 22; 1 Chronicles 17; Psalm 59

Our world is not just concerned about outward appearance ... we are obsessed with how we look. People spend untold amounts of money on just the right clothes, the perfect pair of shoes, sports jerseys of their favorite team, hairstyles, jewelry, the right car, and all sorts of other things that will help us improve our appearance. Some people will do almost anything to “look right” and “fit in.”

We might think this fixation on outward appearance is the product of our modern world. The truth is: the human tendency to focus on outward appearance goes all the way back to the ancient world of the Bible.

### Lesson Breakdown:

- The Lord’s Anointed (1 Samuel 16)
- David and Goliath (1 Samuel 17)
- David and Jonathan (1 Samuel 18)
- David and Saul (1 Samuel 18, 24; Psalm 59)
- A Tragic End (1 Samuel 31; 2 Samuel 22)
- Unashamed (2 Samuel 6)
- A House for the Lord (1 Chronicles 17)

### Plot Points:

- The Lord does not look at the outward appearance but at the heart.
- Military might, represented in the giant Goliath, means nothing if you fight for the Lord.
- David, though anointed for the kingship, was willing to wait for God’s perfect timing and was unwilling to dishonor God’s anointed one.
- David’s royal line would one day produce a Son to sit on an eternal throne.

### UNDERSTAND THE STORY:

Saul was a man’s man. He was tall, handsome, and impressive...a likely choice for a king. He was just what Israel wanted. But it turned out that Saul was not God’s man.

Saul often ignored God's commands, so God found Israel's future king in the unlikeliest of places – in the house of Jesse in a small village called Bethlehem.

Although the prophet Samuel expected to anoint as king Jesse's oldest son, Eliab, because he was nice and tall like the current king Saul. God gave Samuel some valuable insight on how God views things and people. God said to Samuel, don't look at outward appearances of men, instead look at the mind, as the LORD does. (pg. 146) [1 Samuel 16:1-3]

It was the youngest brother, David, who was out herding the family's sheep, who God had chosen.

David was a ruddy-faced boy (NIB) [1 Samuel 17:42], "glowing with health, a fine appearance and handsome features". God had Samuel anoint him among his brothers as the next king over Israel. David was anointed and the spirit of the LORD came upon him from that day forward. (pg. 146) [1 Samuel 16:12-13]

Even though David had been anointed as Israel's future king, Saul was still the acting king. David had to wait before becoming king of Israel.

An evil spirit came upon Saul from that day on and it troubled him all his days. (NIB) [1 Samuel 16:14]

- Why did God let an evil spirit torment Saul?
- In what way was the evil spirit "from" the Lord?

A war is taking place between the Philistines and the children of Israel. The two armies met on two mountains with a valley between them. The Philistines main warrior was named Goliath from Gath. He was a very massive man. (pg. 146-147) [1 Samuel 17:1-4a]

- How big was Goliath? (pg. 147) [1 Samuel 17:4b-7]

Instead of a full out war, Goliath challenges the children of Israel to send out one person who will battle against him, one on one, and whoever wins the one-on-one battle, will take all. The losing nation will serve the winning nation. (pg. 147) [1 Samuel 17:8-10]

- He did this a total of how many times? (pg. 147) [1 Samuel 17:16]

David goes to supply his brothers on the frontlines of a battle against the Philistine army. When he arrived, Goliath got up and spoke again in the audience of all the Israelites and this time David heard his words and challenge. (pg. 147) [1 Samuel 17:17-23]

David became upset that Goliath would speak against the Lord and against God's people in such a savage manner and was ready to fight against Goliath.

David told Saul that he would go fight the giant, but King Saul denied his petition. David believed he had the earthly ability to defeat Goliath since he had once fought and defeated a bear and a lion, and Goliath would be nothing against him, especially with God being with him. Saul gives his approval. (pgs. 148-149) [1 Samuel 17:32-37]

David turns down armor and military gear, opting instead to use five smooth stones and his sling as weapons. (pg. 149) [1 Samuel 17:38-40]

David took his sling and a stone and struck the Goliath on the forehead. Goliath fell on his face. David, who had no sword, took Goliath's sword and cut off his head. David had done what Saul's entire military was scared to do. (pgs. 149-150) [1 Samuel 17:45-51]

David was well liked and successful in everything he did. Saul's son, Jonathan and David made a covenant with each other because they were very good friends and loved each other. Jonathan even gave David some of his best princely robes and his sword. (pg. 150) [1 Samuel 18:2-4]

➤ To what position did Saul promote David? (pgs. 150-151) [1 Samuel 18:5]

David had the respect of Saul's people so everything was good and pleasant. It was all good until the end of one particular battle. When Saul and the military returned home, the women came out to greet Saul, but they gave David more credit and praise than they gave the king. This began Saul's quest to kill David. (pg. 151) [1 Samuel 18:6-9]

➤ With what did Saul try to kill David? (10-11)? (pg. 151) [1 Samuel 18:10-11]

Saul gives David his daughter Michal, who was a "handful" because Saul said she will be a snare to David. Also, Saul sent David into some of the hardest battles against the Philistines and asked for a nearly impossible dowry for his daughter to David in marriage. David was an overachiever and brought Saul double what he

asked for. David was given Michal as a wife but Saul knew God was with David, and became even more afraid of David. (NIB) [1 Samuel 18:20-30]

Saul was struggling to make sense of the mess he was in and becoming more paranoid and unstable as the days progressed. Saul sent soldiers to watch David's house in order to kill him. In danger, David did what he always did: he poured out his fears to God and prayed for help. (pg. 152-153) [Psalm 59] (Verses 1-5; 9-10a; 16-17)

David fled for his life and hid in the wilderness of En-gedi in a cave, and Saul's men were with him on the opposite side. (pg. 153) [1 Samuel 24:1-2]

David's men wanted David to kill him, but he refused and only cut off a piece of Saul's robe. His conscience began bothering him, so he commanded his men that they should not kill Saul because he was still God's anointed captain. (pg. 153) [1 Samuel 24:3-7a]

David spoke to Saul and told the king how he could have killed him and his men, but he could not put his hands on the LORD's anointed. David did say the LORD would avenge him, but he would not personally do any harm to Saul. (pg. 153-154) [1 Samuel 24:7b-15]

Saul began to cry and confessed that David was more righteous than he was. Saul also realized and admitted to David that he would certainly become king and the kingdom of Israel would become David's. (pg. 154) [1 Samuel 24:16-20]

Saul only asked David to vow that he would be kind to his seed after him and not destroy his name from his father's house. David vowed and agreed as they departed. Saul went back home, but apparently David still did not trust Saul nor Saul's men, because they went back to their strongholds. (pg. 154) [1 Samuel 24:21-22]

On the day the LORD rescued David from all his enemies and from Saul, he sings a song. (pg. 154) [2 Samuel 22:1]

(pg. 154-155) [2 Samuel 22:2-7; 47] ... [Psalm 18] (Verses 2-6; 46)

There's a great battle between the Philistines and Israel, which would claim the lives of Saul's three sons on the same day. Saul was wounded bad enough where he would not be able to escape. Knowing this, Saul commanded his armor bearer to kill him so that he wouldn't be captured and tortured and abused by the Philistines.

➤ How did Saul die in battle? (pg. 155) [1 Samuel 31:4] -- [2 Samuel 1:1-10]

The armor bearer refused to kill his master, so with the strength he had left, Saul killed himself. The armor bearer then likewise killed himself. The Philistines won the battle, and Saul's body was found the next day. (pg. 155) [1 Samuel 31:1-7]

They cut off Saul's head, stripped off his armor, and spread the good news of Saul's death throughout the land of. They placed his armor in the temple of the Ashtoreths and fastened his body to the wall of the city of Beth-shan. (pgs. 155-156) [1 Samuel 31:8-10]

David and certain chosen men of Israel are making the trip to return the ark of God back to Israel. The men put the ark on a new cart, but along the way, the cattle driving the cart shook and the ark of God began to stumble and fall. A man named Uzzah put his hand forward to stop the ark from falling over. However, God struck and killed him for his error, as he fell dead and died. (pg. 156) [2 Samuel 6:1-7]

After three months, David and his men wanted to make a better effort to get the ark of God back to Israel. They shouted and danced and played music, but they had the right people bearing the ark of God. Everyone in Israel was happy about the return of the ark of God, except one person. (pg. 157) [2 Samuel 6:8-15]

Saul's daughter, David's wife Michal, didn't like the way David was leaping and dancing like a common man. She'd rather him behave like what she thought a "king" would and should behave himself as. David didn't like her attitude either. He told her he was rejoicing before God! This was the same God who chose him even above her father Saul to be ruler over all Israel. (pgs. 157-158) [2 Samuel 6:16-20]

For this David said he would play his music and dance before the God of Israel, and every one of the handmaids Michal was jealous of would honor him. The chapter concludes with the mention of Michal not having any children all her life. (pg. 158) [2 Samuel 6:21-23]

Once David was recognized as king over all Israel, he became the military, civil, and spiritual leader. He conquered the city of Jerusalem, made it his capital city, and then brought the Ark of the Covenant there with great fanfare. (NIB) [2 Samuel 5:3-5]

David was home at last. He was concerned that he dwelled in a house of cedar while the ark of the covenant remained in a tent. Nathan tells him to do whatever he has in

mind, because God is with him. God tells Nathan to tell David that He's always lived in a tent and moved from place to place. (pg. 158) [1 Chronicles 17:1-6]

➤ Who did Nathan say would build a house for God? (pg. 159) [1 Chronicles 17:11-14]

David's humble reception of this gift is shown by the repetition of the phrase "Your servant". It's stated ten times in the twelve verses in his prayer. (pg. 159-160) [1 Chronicles 17:16-27] It shows that David humbly accepted God's "no" when he wanted to build the temple. When verse 16 says "King David went in and sat before the LORD," it suggests that he went to the tent that was housing the ark.

His first desire was to build a house, a temple, for God. Instead, God told David, "The LORD will build a house for you" (pg. 159) [1 Chronicles 17:10b-14]. God made a covenant with David and promised him a house (an eternal dynasty), a throne (royal authority), and a kingdom (rule on earth). David responded with worship and gratitude, knowing that distant generations of his own family would welcome the King whose reign would never end.

You really can't judge a book by its cover, but when you open it and start reading, you will learn the real story. David might have been considered a runt on the outside, but God examined his heart on the inside and beheld a giant.

King David was a shepherd boy who became Israel's third and most important king. Despite his flaws and being far from perfect, he is described as a man after God's own heart (1 Samuel 13:14, Acts 13:22). His faith and zeal made him the standard against which all Israel's future kings would be measured.

He's the most frequently mentioned human in the Old Testament, and the second most frequently mentioned human in the entire Bible (Jesus Christ is mentioned more).

June 4 ... We'll look at the story of David's struggles and how one careless sin led to adultery, deceit, and murder. Take time before then to read Lesson 12 of *The Story*. 2 Samuel 11 – 12; 18 – 19; 1 Chronicles 22; 29; Psalms 23; 32; 51