

# 2 Samuel Commentaries

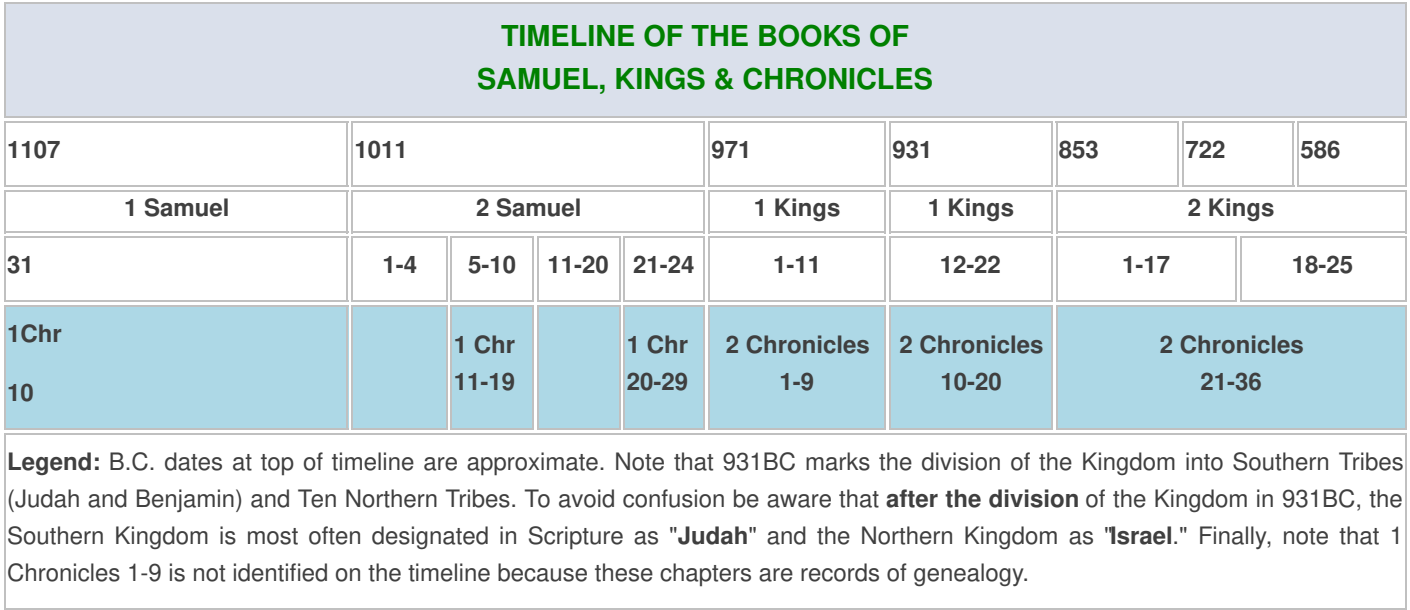
1 SAMUEL

1 KINGS

2 SAMUEL RESOURCES

2 Samuel Commentary, Sermon, Illustration, Devotional

Chart from recommended resource [Jensen's Survey of the OT](#) - used by permission  
[2 Samuel Chart](#), from Charles Swindoll



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ISRAEL'S HISTORY BY PERIODS			
IN EGYPT AND THE WILDERNESS	IN CANAAN UNDER JUDGES	IN CANAAN UNDER KINGS	IN ASSYRIA AND BABYLON
CAMP	COMMONWEALTH	CROWN	CAPTIVITY
660 YEARS	360 YEARS	460 YEARS	160 YEARS
<p><b>CAMP PERIOD</b> extended from the call of Abraham, the founder of the nation, to Moses' bringing the people up to the "gate" of Canaan, a period of about 660 years. This history is recorded in the Pentateuch.</p> <p><b>COMMONWEALTH PERIOD</b> extended from their entrance into Canaan under Joshua to the crowning of their first king, Saul, a period of about 360 years, the history of which is given in Joshua, Judges, and Ruth.</p> <p><b>CROWN PERIOD</b> extended from the crowning of their first king, Saul, to the Babylonian Captivity, a period of about 460 years. This history is given in the six books of Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles.</p> <p><b>CAPTIVITY PERIOD</b>, including the restoration, extended from the Babylonian Captivity to the end of the Old Testament history, a period of about 160 years. Ezekiel and Daniel were prophets during this period. The historical books of Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther report some events of this period, especially the return from captivity.</p> <p>You will find interesting descriptions of these four periods of Israel's history in Psalms 78 and Ps 79, as follows: under Moses, Ps 78:5–54; under Joshua, Ps 78:55; under the judges, Ps 78:56–64; under the kings, Ps 78:65–72; in captivity, Ps 79:1–13</p>			

## Samuel Quotes in the New Testament:

1. 1 Samuel 12:22 in Romans 11:1-2
2. 2 Samuel 5:2 in Matthew 2:6
3. 2 Samuel 7:8 in 2 Corinthians 6:18
4. 2 Samuel 7:14 in 2 Corinthians 6:18, Hebrews 1:5, Revelation 21:7

DAVID - THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE UGLY	
David's Rise to the Throne (1 Samuel 16-2 Samuel)	David Sitting on the Throne (2 Samuel 11-20)
Eager holy warrior	Remains in palace
Marries honorably	Adultery with Bathsheba
Protects Saul's life	Plots Uriah's death
Decisive	Indecisive
Prayers effective	Prayers ineffective
Fearless when outnumbered	Fearfully takes census
Attracts thousands of followers	Loses thousands of followers
<a href="#">Adapted from ESV Global Study Bible</a>	



Map of David's Kingdom-[ESV Global](#)

Map of Cities in 2 Samuel

Source: [Life Application Study Bible \(borrow\)](#)

**1 SAMUEL / 2 SAMUEL**  
**1 KINGS / 1 KINGS**  
**1 CHRONICLES / 2 CHRONICLES**  
**Inductive Bible Study Courses**

Precept Ministry International 1-800-763-8280 To Order Studies

Click discussion of the value of **Inductive Study**

## Download Lesson 1 of Precept Inductive Course on...

- [1 Samuel 1-31 God's Search For a Man After His Own Heart](#)
- [2 Samuel; 1 Chronicles - Life of David, A Man After God's Own Heart](#)
- [1 Kings 1-15:8 - Divided Heart - A Divided Nation](#)
- [1 Kings 15-2 Kings 1; 2 Chronicles 14-20 - God Searches For A Heart Fully His](#)
- [1 Kings 2-14; 2 Chronicles 21-25 Passing the Mantle](#)
- [2 Kings 15-20; 2 Chronicles 26-32 Revival Or Captivity?](#)
- [2 Kings 21-25, 2Chr 33-36, Zephaniah - The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly](#)

## Links below to lectures related to 2 Samuel/ 1 Chronicles study

- [Click here for other teacher helps related to 2 Samuel/1 Chronicles](#)
- [Lesson 1: Destined for the Throne... Just as God](#)
- [Lesson 2: What Does the Davidic Covenant Mean to You?](#)
- [Lesson 3: Sin - Why Did I Go There?](#)
- [Lesson 4: What Do You Do When Life Gets Messed Up?](#)
- [Lesson 5: A Friend for the Day of Adversity](#)
- [Lesson 6: The Legacy of a Song](#)
- [Lesson 7: Walking in the Integrity of God's Heart](#)
- [Lesson 8: There's Hope Because of God's Priceless Grace](#)

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SAMUEL, KINGS & CHRONICLES	
SAMUEL & KINGS	FIRST & SECOND CHRONICLES
Prophetic Perspective: Message of Judgment	Priestly Perspective: Message of hope
Prophetic authorship: Emphasizes the prophetic ministry and moral concerns	Priestly authorship: Emphasizes the priestly ministry and spiritual concerns
The Fortunes of the Thrones	Continuity of the Davidic line
More Negative: Rebellion & Tragedy	More Positive: Apostasy, but hope in face of tragedy
Record of both Israel and Judah	Record primarily of Judah
Man's Failings	God's Faithfulness
Morality	Redemption
Emphasizes the throne of earthly kings	Earthly throne (temple) of the heavenly King
Emphasizes Kings and Prophets	Emphasizes the Temple and the Priests
Political and kingly	Religious and priestly
Compiled by authors soon after the events	Compiled by by a priest: Ezra many years after the events
Written shortly after the beginning of the captivity in Babylon	Written shortly after the return from the captivity
Adapted Wilkinson's Talk thru the Bible & Jensen's Survey of the OT	

## CHRIST IN 2 SAMUEL

### A M HODGKIN

#### ■ [Christ in All the Scriptures - Contents](#)

David was three times anointed: first in his father's house [1Sam 16:1-13], then over Judah, and lastly over all Israel. God has anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the oil of gladness. He is King of kings and Lord of lords, but as David-- though anointed king-- was in exile while Saul reigned over the people, so Christ is rejected by the world, and the "Prince of this world" is reigning in the hearts of men.

A day came when the men of Judah gathered to David and anointed him king in Hebron. "The Spirit clothed Amasai and he said, Thine are we, David, and on thy side" (2Sam 2:4; 1Chr 12:18). It is a joyful day in the experience of the believer when he yields the full allegiance of his heart to the Lord Jesus Christ, and says, "Thine am I, and on Thy side"; when he can look up into His face and say, "Thou art my King" (Psa 44:4).

"Now there was long war between the house of Saul and the house of David: but David waxed stronger and stronger, and the house of Saul waxed weaker and weaker" (2Sam 3:1), until at last Abner said to the elders of Israel: "Ye sought for David in times past to be king over you. Now then do it: for the Lord hath spoken of David, saying, By the hand of My servant David I will save My people Israel out of the hand of the Philistines, and out of the hand of all their enemies." "Then came all the tribes of Israel to David unto Hebron, and spake, saying, Behold, we are thy bone and thy flesh... And they anointed David king over Israel" (5:1-3). "One from among thy brethren shalt thou set king over thee: thou mayest not set a stranger over thee, which is not thy brother" (Deu 17:15). "The king is near of kin to us" (2Sam 19:42). "In all things made like unto His brethren" (Heb 2:17). Here we see all Israel united under their rightful king. A picture of a heart which is wholly true in its allegiance to the King of kings.

God's promise to Israel was that He would save them from all their enemies by the hand of David. And this was literally fulfilled, from the day that he slew Goliath, all through his reign. We never read of his being defeated. So Christ has vanquished our great enemy, Satan. [Christ] has come "that we, being delivered out of the hand of our enemies, might serve Him without fear" [Luke 1:74]. "He must reign till He hath put all enemies under His feet" [1Cor 15:25]. "Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end" (Isa 9:7).

"And David took the stronghold of Zion" [2Sam 5:7]. This is like the central citadel of our will. When that is surrendered to the Lord, His reign is established. [cp. 2Cor 10:4,5]

In the story of Mephibosheth [2Sam 9], we have a beautiful picture of the grace of our King, in bringing us nigh and making us "as one of the King's sons," "to eat bread at His table continually." He brings us into His banqueting-house and bids us partake, saying, "Eat, O friends; drink, yea, drink abundantly, O beloved" [Song 5:1]. He Himself is the heavenly food, for He says, "The bread that I give is My flesh," and "My flesh is meat indeed" [John 6:51,55].

David's Sin.

But any type of our blessed Saviour falls short somewhere. And David, as a type, is no exception. We come next to the record of David's awful sin [2Sam 11]. How can such a sinner be described as "a man after God's own heart"? [1Sam 13:13,14]. All through the life of David there is one characteristic which marks him out from other men, and in special contrast to Saul, and that is his continual trust and confidence in God, his acknowledgment of God's rule, his surrender to God's will. The great desire of his heart was to build God's House, yet when God sets him aside because he has been a man of war, he acquiesces with perfect grace to the Divine will [2Sam 7:5-13; 1Chr 28:3-5]. When Nathan brings home to [David's] conscience the great sin of his life-- absolute monarch that he is-- he acknowledges it at once [2Sam 12], and the depth of his penitence is such as only a heart that knows God can feel. For all time, the fifty-first Psalm stands out as the expression of the deepest contrition of a repentant soul. In that Psalm, David speaks of a broken heart as the only sacrifice he has to offer, a sacrifice which God will not despise. And the high and Holy One that inhabiteth eternity goes further in His wondrous condescension and says, by the mouth of Isaiah, "I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones" (Isa 57:15).

The Bible does not cloak sin, least of all in God's own children. It does not spare God's saints. There were steps leading up to David's sin-- his multiplying wives, his tarrying still at Jerusalem when he should have been at the war. It is always the case that there is backsliding of heart, before it is seen in outward act. David sinned grievously, but his repentance was immediate, deep, and sincere. God, indeed, blotted out his transgressions, according to the multitude of His tender mercies, but he did not remove the consequences of the sin: He chastened David through sore trials in his own family.

## A Rebel.

In the flight of Absalom, after the murder of his brother, we have a picture of a rebel soul far off from God. In David, we have a picture of God's sorrow over sinners. "The King wept very sore... And David mourned for his son every day... And the soul of David longed to go forth unto Absalom" [2Sam 13]. In the word of the wise woman of Tekoa, "God deviseth means, that he that is banished be not an outcast from Him" (2Sam 14:14, R.V.), we have an echo of God's words: "Deliver him from going down to the pit, I have found a ransom," or "atonement" (Job 33:24, margin).

Even when Absalom was in rebellion, the King commanded, "Deal gently, for my sake, with the young man, even with Absalom." In this, we see the forbearance of God with sinners. And when he heard of his death, he cried: "O my son Absalom! my son, my son Absalom! would God I had died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!" David would fain have died for the rebel, but he could not [2Sam 18]. How this carries our thoughts on to the One who was not only willing, but able to lay down His life, the Just for the unjust, to bring us to God [1Pet 3:18].

## Love's Allegiance.

In David's exile [2Sam ch. 15-17], we have again a picture of the rejected Saviour. The eastern walls of Jerusalem are bounded by a deep ravine-- the torrent-bed of the Kidron. When the rebellion of Absalom drove David from his own city, we can imagine him coming forth by an eastern gate-- probably what answered to the modern gate of St. Stephen-- and following the winding path down the rocky side of the valley. The King did not go alone. A band of faithful servants went with him; and a little in advance, six hundred Philistines from the city of Gath, under their leader, Ittai, the Gittite. David had probably won the hearts of these men during his [stay] in the Philistine city of Ziklag, some thirty years before, and now they were ready to stand by him in time of trouble. When David came up with this band at the bottom of the ravine, he tried to dissuade Ittai from following him. He besought him as a stranger, and as one who had but recently joined his service, not to attach himself to a doubtful cause, and he bade him return with his blessing. But Ittai was firm, his place, whether in life or in death, was by the master he loved. Touched by such devoted allegiance, David allowed Ittai to pass over the torrent-bed with all his men, and with the little ones that were with him-- no doubt the families of the band. With the voice of weeping, all the exiles passed over, and climbed the grassy slopes of the Mount of Olives on the other side. David set captains of thousands over the people that were with him-- a third part under the hand of Ittai the Gittite. The devotion of his followers comes out at every turn. When they found that their King intended to go forth with them into the battle, they would on no account allow it, but restrained him with the words: "Thou shalt not go forth; for if the half of us die they will not care for us; but thou art worth ten thousand of us!" [2Sam 18:3].

A thousand years have passed. Again a rejected King goes forth from the Jerusalem gate, and down the pathway into the dark valley, and up the slopes of Olivet. Instead of the strong band that went with David, there are but eleven men to go with David's Son, and of the chosen three not one remains awake to share His agony [Mat 26:36-46]. "I have trodden the wine-press alone, and of the people there was none with Me" [Isa 63:3]. The enthusiasm of David's followers led them to restrain him from going into the battle. But when the soldiers came to take the Lord of Glory, His little body-guard all forsook Him and fled, and He who is the chiefest among ten thousand, and altogether lovely [Song 5:10,16], laid down His life for rebels and deserters.

Nearly two thousand years have passed since then. "Our Lord is still rejected and by the world disowned." There is still the golden opportunity today of making His heart glad by such a devotion as Ittai's. We are His blood-bought possession. It is His purpose that we should share His glory throughout eternity. And He claims our heart's love now.

Hushai the Archite and Zadok and Abiathar were to represent the King at the very center of rebellion-- "in the world, but not of it"; ambassadors in an enemy's country [cp. 2Cor 5:20]. In Shimei, who cursed David in his rejection, we have a picture of those who reviled Jesus, wagging their heads and mocking Him.

"I will smite the King only," was Ahithophel's advice to Absalom, "and I will bring back all the people unto thee." "Smite the Shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered" [Mat 26:31]. Jesus, our Shepherd, was "stricken, smitten of God" for us [Isa 53]. And the King passed over Jordan, that river of death.

## The Return of the King.

We have a vivid picture of the return of David to the city of Zion [2Sam 19:9-40]. The people clamored for the return of the King. "Now, therefore, why speak ye not a word of bringing the King back?" The King heard of this and sent an encouraging message to the elders. "And the heart of all the men of Judah was bowed to the King, even as the heart of one man; so that they sent this word unto the King, Return thou, and all thy servants."

"Amen. Even so, come Lord Jesus" [Rev 22:20]. According to Eastern custom, the men of Judah went right over Jordan to meet their King, and bring him back, and the crowd of rejoicing subjects increased as they drew near the city. One day the cry will go forth, "Behold, the Bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet Him" [Mat 25:6]. The "the dead in Christ shall rise first," and the saints that are

alive on the earth shall be caught up to meet Him in the air [1The 4:16,17]. Our King has set this certainty of hope before us, and calls us to live in the joyful expectation of it. This should lead to faithfulness in service-- "Behold, I come quickly; and My reward is with Me, to give every man according as his work shall be" (Rev 22:12)-- and [according] to holiness of life (Titus 2:11-14).

A Gospel for the Hopeless.

The "Mighty Men" of David's kingdom [2Sam 23:8-39] were those who came to him in the time of his exile, when he was fleeing from Saul. They were escaped outlaws and criminals, but under David's leadership they became brave, self-controlled, magnanimous men, like their captain. "Every one that was in distress, and every one that was in debt, and every one that was discontented, gathered themselves unto him; and he became a captain over them: and there was with him about four hundred men" (1Sam 22:2). "This Man receiveth sinners" [Luke 15:2]. It is a glorious Gospel that is committed to our trust! It is the Gospel for the outcast, for the refuse of society. It is the Gospel of hope for the worst and the lowest. The transforming power of the Cross of Christ is seen in changed lives wherever the Gospel is preached.

## **THE OLD TESTAMENT REFLECTIONS OF CHRIST PAUL R. VAN GORDER**

### **2 SAMUEL**

This book tells the story of one person, David. It could appropriately be called "the acts of King David." One thousand years after David, the Lord Jesus Christ was born of his seed and lineage. He was David's son and David's Lord. Consequently, we can expect Second Samuel to be full of teaching concerning Christ.

The time covered by the book is limited to about 38 years of Israel's history. It tells of David's early training as a shepherd, as a servant to the king, and as a warrior in hiding. This sets a fitting backdrop for David's later life, where he is seen in three aspects:

- A wonderful shepherd to his people.
- A wise king as he rules.
- A tough soldier who fights courageously.
- As Saul is pictured in 1Samuel as the people's choice, so, 2Samuel pictures David as God's choice.

### **OUTLINE OF THE BOOK--**

- David's Eulogy for Saul and Jonathan (2Sam 1)
- David's Reign at Hebron (2-4)
- David's Reign over all Israel at Jerusalem (5-10)
- David's Great Sin and Its Punishment (11-21)
- David's Song of Deliverance and Last Words (22,23)
- David's Numbering of Israel (24)

Limiting our consideration of 2Samuel to a single brief chapter [of Paul Van Gorder's book] is most difficult. So that we may condense some of the great truths found in this book, we will think of it historically, prophetically, and typically.

### **HISTORICAL TEACHING--**

Chapter 5 of 2 Samuel reports that David moved up against Jerusalem, captured it, and made it the capital of his kingdom. We learn later that this city also became the center of the worship of Jehovah. This is actually the third time Jerusalem is mentioned in the Bible. The first occurs in Genesis 14, where Abraham, returning from the rescue of Lot, was met by Melchizedek, priest-king of Salem, and [Abraham] gave a tithe to God. (Psalm 76, a psalm of Asaph, also refers to Jerusalem with the term "Salem".)

The second mention of the city is found in Judges 1:8, which records how Judah drove the Jebusites from the city and burned it, even though the Jebusites remained in control of the citadel.

The third, here in chapter 5 of 2Samuel, tells how it became the capital of the Davidic kingdom. The history of Jerusalem, the most important spot on the face of the globe, begins here. Another writer has said, "If Palestine is the theater of the world's dreams, then Jerusalem is the stage." The psalmist wrote of Jerusalem, "Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is Mount Zion, on the

sides of the north, the city of the great King" (Psalm 48:2). From the days of David until this present time, Jerusalem has been the center of the world's attention. In some ways, it has been the "storm center."

You will find it most helpful to trace the history of Jerusalem, beginning with 1055 B.C. and proceeding until the New Testament days. Much of this history can be learned by reading the following passages of Scripture:

- [The city and Temple besieged, taken captive, destroyed]--1Kings 14:25,26; 2Chronicles 12:2; 2Kings 14:13; 2Chronicles 25; 2Kings 16:5; 2Chronicles 28; Daniel 1:1; Ezekiel 1:1; 2Kings 25:1; Jeremiah 32:28-30
- [The Temple rebuilt]-- Ezra 1:1-5; 2:1-70; 3:1-3; 4:4-24; 7:12-21;
- [The city rebuilt --Neh 1:1-11; 2:1-10]
- [Prophecy concerning Jerusalem -- Dan 9:25-27, 25 was fulfilled in Nehemiah's day.]

The greatest event in the history of the world, the crucifixion and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, took place in Jerusalem.

If you thumb the pages of the history of Jerusalem after our Lord's birth, you will find that the sands of Israel, and especially the environs of that city, have been drenched with the blood of rampaging armies. The city has been besieged approximately 20 times since A.D. 70. Why? Not because of its maritime value, for it is not on the sea. Not because of its population, for other cities have exceeded it by millions. But somehow it is a strategic center. It has a purpose in the economy of God, and Satan wants to control it.

As we examine carefully the prophetic Word, we find that many great events are yet destined to take place there. God will one day gather all the nations against Jerusalem to battle. Jehovah Himself will fight against them (Zechariah 14:2,3). The Lord Jesus Christ will return to the Mount of Olives, which is located just to the east of Jerusalem (Zech 14:4). Jerusalem will become the capital of the millennial kingdom [of Christ] (Zech 8:20-23). And the law and the word of the Lord will go forth from that city (Isaiah 2:1-3).

Jerusalem has repeatedly been caught between opposing armies; it has often been "the iron between the trip hammer and the anvil." But a day is coming when Jerusalem will become a "quiet habitation, a tabernacle that shall not be taken down" (Isaiah 33:20).

#### **PROPHETIC TEACHING--**

A main prophetic teaching of 2Samuel is found in the Davidic covenant, spelled out in 2Sa 7:14-16. This is one of the mountain peaks of Scripture! The covenant with David was confirmed by God's own oath, for Jehovah said, "I have made a covenant with My chosen, I have sworn unto David, My servant: Thy seed will I establish forever, and build up thy throne to all generations" (Psalm 89:3,4). God further stated, "Once have I sworn by My holiness that I will not lie unto David. His seed shall endure forever, and his throne as the sun before Me" (Ps 89:35,36).

Note the five terms of the Davidic covenant:

- a Davidic house-- a posterity.
- a throne-- a royal authority.
- a kingdom-- a sphere of rule.
- a perpetuity-- forever.
- a promise-- disobedience followed by chastisement, but no abrogation [of the promise].

These promises are carried over into the New Testament. Acts 15:14-17 gives us the divine program for the church age, and the Davidic covenant will be fulfilled when this age is complete.

#### **TYPICAL TEACHING-- (Ed: See caveats regarding Typology - Study of Biblical types)**

As much as any book of the Old Testament, 2Samuel demonstrates the grace of God. David himself received God's grace time and time again. This is shown markedly in his awful sin, his restoration, and his assurance of God's forgiveness.

David's care of Mephibosheth is a picture of the sinner received, forgiven, and exalted to a place of fellowship and protection. Consider these reflections of God's redeeming grace in Christ:

- Mephibosheth was lame (2Sam 4:4),
- having fallen at the hands of another. [Rom 5:12]
- He was sought by David,
- even though he belonged to the family of the king's enemies (9:1-3). [Rom 5:6,8-10]
- He was found in the house of Machir (9:5).
- "Machir" means "sold." [Rom 7:14]

- He was in the land of Lodebar, which means "no pasture" (9:5). [1Pet 2:25]
- He feared the king (9:6). [Mat 10:28; Heb 9:27]
- He took the place of humility before David (9:6).
- This reminds us of the publican [Luke 18:13] and the prodigal [Luke 15:19].
- David gave him the highest place (2Sam 9:10). How full is God's measure of grace! [Eph 1:3]
- He lived in the city of Jerusalem, which means "peace" (9:13). [Rom 5:1,2; Php 4:7]
- He carried the marks of his fall to his grave,
- but grace kept them out of sight (9:13). [1John 3:1-3]

All of this speaks volumes about the work of our Lord, in making possible the salvation of sinners, and about our acceptance before Him.

A tremendous Messianic note is sounded in 2Samuel 19:10, "Now, therefore, why speak ye not a word of bringing the king back?" The Davidic covenant will find its fulfillment in David's greater Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will one day return. [Rev 22:16,20]

## ARCHIVE.ORG BOOKS AVAILABLE TO BORROW OR READ

**Explanation** - The following list includes not only commentaries but other Christian works by well known evangelical writers. Most of the resources below are newer works (written after 1970) which previously were available only for purchase in book form or in a Bible computer program. The resources are made freely available by archive.org but have several caveats - (1) they do not allow copy and paste, (2) they can only be checked out for one hour (but can be checked out immediately when your hour expires giving you time to read or take notes on a lengthy section) and (3) they require creating an account which allows you to check out the books free of charge. To set up an account click [archive.org](https://www.archive.org) and then click the picture of the person in right upper corner and enter email and a password. That's all you have to do. Then you can read these more modern resources free of charge! I have read or used many of these resources but not all of them so ultimately you will need to be a Berean (Acts 17:11+) as you use them. I have also selected works that are conservative and Biblically sound. If you find one that you think does not meet those criteria please send an email at <https://www.preceptaustin.org/contact>. The resources are listed in alphabetical order by the author's last name and some include reviews of the particular resource.

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[David, a Heart for God](#) by Briscoe, D. Stuart [1 rating](#)

[Looking on the Heart](#) (Volume 2 - 1 Samuel 15-31) by Davis, Dale Ralph [A Study of 1 Samuel \(21-Part MP3 Series\)](#) [2 Kings : the power and the fury](#) by Davis, Dale Ralph

**Cyril Barber** - Combines history and theology in his description of the events surrounding Israel's first two kings.

[The Communicator's Commentary: 1, 2 Samuel](#) by Chafin, Kenneth (Now published as The Preacher's Commentary)

**James Rosscup** says this is part of "A 12-vol. set done by 12 men selected for unusual ability to show the Bible is alive in biblical exposition, with spiritual refreshment and insight. The authors seek to combine scholarship on biblical meaning, illustrations to spark applications, and outlines."

**Cyril Barber** - Pastoring a church with a good seminary library close by enabled Chafin to have access to the finest literary resources available. His treatment of the lives of Samuel, Saul, and David is helpful, even if it lacks depth that a thorough knowledge of human personality would enhance. In spite of this, preachers will find these chapters clearly outlined and their contents ably articulated.

[First and Second Samuel](#) by Laney, J. Carl,

**James Rosscup** - Laney, an assistant professor of Biblical literature at Western Conservative Baptist Seminary and more widely known for his volume *The Divorce Myth*, traces the lives of Samuel, Saul and David. This 1982 update for Moody Press's Everyman's Bible Commentary Series is a surprisingly resourceful paperback. Laney argues tersely for a 722 B. C. date for the Fall of Samaria. Thus, he prefers a time of writing for I & II Samuel sometime during or immediately following David's lifetime. He dates the dividing of the kingdom as 931 B. C. Regarding textual matters, Laney does not overlook the lacuna of I Samuel 13:1 as he



states that great benefit can be gleaned from the LXX in a study of these two books. One interesting sidelight is his citation of the "dynastic defense" motif evident in I Samuel 15 and II Samuel 8, a setting apparently not unlike 13th Century Hittite tradition. Laney's discussion of God's will in I Samuel 8:21, 22 is quite helpful. In I Samuel 28 the treatment of the Witch of Endor is thorough. He concludes that God caused Samuel himself to appear. In II Samuel 7, Laney sheds light on the covenant by picturing its threefold nature. Laney's maps and graphics are well-placed and worthwhile. His treatment in 2 Samuel 24 of the two-sided nature of David numbering God's people is also worthy of attention. This is a well researched and supported volume. There are few volumes on I and II Samuel which could rightly claim to be more helpful on expositional matters.—Jan Sattlem

[First and Second Samuel](#) by Johnson, Frank,

[1 & 2 Samuel](#) by Gordon, R. P

**James Rosscup** - This generally highly-regarded work **offers much assistance verse by verse**, using the RSV. The author comments a lot on the Hebrew text as to exegesis, word study, dealing with problems, etc.

[1, 2 Samuel : Bible study commentary](#) by Vos, Howard Frederic,

**James Roscup** - Vos was Professor of History and Archaeology, King's College, Briarcliff Manor, New York, In this conservative work he gives a long outline at the outset, then incorporates this in his survey of I and 2 Samuel. For many Bible teachers, preachers, and lay people the exposition helpfully sums up what is said and some implications. It offers brief explanation of some main problems, such as the number judged at Beth Shemesh in I Samuel 6:19ff. and how to fill in the number of Saul's years in 13:1.

[Samuel](#) -1 & 2 Samuel by Payne, David

[The Birth of a Kingdom : Studies in I-II Samuel and I Kings 1-11](#) - John James Davis

[Israel : from conquest to exile : a commentary on Joshua-2 Kings](#) - John James Davis

[David: God's man in faith and failure](#) by Getz, Gene (This book corresponds for the most part to his book "Men of Character: David")

[When you feel like a failure : take a lesson from David](#) by Getz, Gene

[Bible Exposition Commentary - Old Testament](#) - Warren Wiersbe - Always worth checking

[With the Word](#) - Devotional Commentary - Warren Wiersbe - chapter by chapter summaries

[Wiersbe's expository outlines on the Old Testament](#) by Wiersbe, Warren W

"Even the most difficult Scriptures come alive as Warren Wiersbe leads you book-by-book through the Old Testament and helps you to see the "big picture" of God's revelation. In this unique volume, you will find: • Introductions and/or outlines for every Old Testament book • Practical expositions of strategic chapters • Special studies on key topics, relating the Old Testament to the New Testament • Easy-to-understand expositions that are practical, preachable, and teachable If you have used Dr. Wiersbe's popular BE series, you know how simple and practical his Bible studies are, with outlines that almost teach themselves. If not, you can now discover a wonderful new resource. This work is a unique commentary on every book of the Old Testament. It contains new material not to be found in the BE series.

[2 Samuel](#) by Barron, Robert, Brazos Theological Commentary on the Bible

[The Second book of Samuel : commentary](#) and [The first book of Samuel](#) by Ackroyd, Peter -

James Rosscup - An attempt to meet general readers' needs. The approach is mildly critical. Ackroyd has a clear writing style and often is of help on the reading of a given text, historical setting, customs and explanation of the passage. The work is cursory.

[Desiring God's own Heart](#) -1 & 2 Samuel/1 Chronicles by Arthur, Kay

[1 & 2 Samuel : a self-study guide](#) by Jensen, Irving

[Commentary on 1-2 Samuel - online](#) - Ralph D Gehrke - Lutheran commentator (1968)

[David - Shepherd and King](#) - Charles Gulston

[1 & 2 Second Samuel - Shepherd's Notes](#) by Bergen, Robert D - Not very detailed but occasional interesting insights.

[1 & 2 Samuel - New American Commentary](#) Bergen, Robert D.

**James Rosscup** on Bergen's more extensive commentary in the New American Commentary - The commentator is a professor at Hannibal-La Grange College, Hannibal, MO. He argues for the accurate, reliable, relevant Word of God. His excellent work reflects wide knowledge of biblical literature in the text and in footnotes. The writing flows with lucid vitality, and Bergen invests much from word study, grammar, customs, geographical details, etc. His appraisal of Eli is arresting (69), as are comments on Saul's excuses of I Sam. 15 and David's fight with Goliath. Bergen's careful weighing of views about how Saul died ends with his harmonizing view that Saul fell on his sword (I Sam. 31), but in his final moments the Amalekite hastened his death (2 Sam. 1). This is a fine grappling with main details in the two books.

[The Prophets of Israel](#) - Leon Wood - 405 pages (1979)

**James Rosscup** - A thoroughly conservative work, very clearly written, in two sections, prophetism and the prophets. Wood under the first division goes into the identity, meaning of "to prophesy," function, the Holy Spirit and prophecy, and other aspects. In the second, **he discusses in some detail prophets before Samuel, Samuel, monarchy prophets, and the writing prophets from the ninth century to post-exilic days.** This is a fine book that gives the student or pastor a much better, integrated understanding of the prophets behind the prophetic books.

[KJV Bible Commentary](#) - Hindson, Edward E; Kroll, Woodrow Michael. Over 3000 pages of the entire OT/NT - no restriction on length of time one can use it. No copy and paste. Well done conservative commentary that interprets Scripture from a literal perspective. [User reviews](#) - it generally gets 4/5 stars from users.

Very well done conservative commentary that interprets Scripture from a literal perspective (pre-millennial) [user reviews](#)

The King James Version Bible Commentary is a complete verse-by-verse commentary. It is comprehensive in scope, reliable in scholarship, and easy to use. Its authors are leading evangelical theologians who provide practical truths and biblical principles. Any Bible student will gain new insights through this one-volume commentary based on the timeless King James Version of the Bible.

[NKJV Study Bible: New King James Version Study Bible](#) by Radmacher, Earl D; Allen, Ronald Barclay; House, H. Wayne; Very helpful notes. Conservative.

[ESV Study Bible](#) - Excellent resource but not always literal in eschatology and the nation of Israel

[Believer's Bible Commentary](#) by MacDonald, William (1995) 2480 pages

Dr. John MacArthur, Jr. - "Concise yet comprehensive - the most complete single-volume commentary I have seen."

Warren Wiersbe - "For the student who is serious about seeing Christ in the Word."

[The MacArthur Study Bible](#) - John MacArthur. Brief but well done notes

[The David Jeremiah study bible](#) - (2013) 2208 pages. "Drawing on more than 40 years of study, Dr. David Jeremiah has compiled a legacy resource that will make an eternal impact on generations to come. 8,000 study notes. Hundreds of enriching word studies"50+ Essentials of the Christian Faith" articles."

[Disciple's Study Bible : New international version](#) Not that helpful for verse by verse study. Focuses on application of Christian doctrines. 10,000 annotations; doctrinal summaries, "Life Helps" section relate doctrine to everyday discipleship.

[New Bible Commentary](#) - (1994) [See user reviews](#)

[Explore The Book - Judges to Esther](#) J.Sidlow Baxter:

[The Experiencing God Study Bible : the Bible for knowing and doing the will of God](#) - Blackaby, Henry (1996) 1968 pages - CHECK THIS ONE! Each chapter begins with several questions under the title "PREPARE TO MEET GOD." Then you will interesting symbols before many of the passages. The chapter ends with a "DID YOU NOTICE?" question. This might make a "dry chapter" jump off the page! Read some of the

[Wycliffe Bible Commentary](#) - OT and NT - Charles Pfeiffer - 1560 pages (1962). Less detailed than the KJV Bible Commentary.

[The Defender's Study Bible : King James Version](#) by Morris, Henry M. Excellent notes for well known creationist.

[Life application study Bible](#) : New Living Translation. Has some very helpful notes. [4,445 ratings](#)

[Compact Bible commentary](#) by Radmacher, Earl D; Allen, Ronald Barclay; House, H Wayne, et al - 954 pages. Multiple contributors to the comments which are often verse by verse. The comments are brief but meaty and can really help your study through a given book. A sleeper in my opinion.

[The Holman illustrated study Bible](#) Includes the excellent Holman maps but otherwise of little help in serious study.

[The Lion handbook to the Bible](#) - (1999) 822 pages. This resource is absolutely loaded with very nice color pictures and charts.

[NIV archaeological Study Bible](#) (2005) 2360 pages (See also [Archaeology and the Bible - OT and NT](#))

[NIV cultural backgrounds study Bible. bringing to life the ancient world of scripture](#) Keener, Craig and Walton, John. Editors (2017)

[The NIV study Bible](#) by Barker, Kenneth L; Burdick, Donald W (1995) 2250 pages. Note this is the first edition. [Here is a link to the 2011 version of the NIV Study Bible](#) Note that this resource has been fully revised in 2020.

[The Ryrie study Bible](#) - Charles Ryrie (1978) 2142 pages. Conservative.

[Evangelical Commentary on the Bible](#) - editor Walter Elwell (1989) 1239 pages. [User reviews](#).

[Harper study Bible : the Holy Bible. Revised Standard Version](#)

[The Jewish Study Bible](#) - Only OT - Interesting Jewish perspective.

[The student Bible : New International Version](#)

[Hebrew-Greek key word study Bible : New international version](#)

[Key word commentary : thoughts on every chapter of the Bible](#) by Water, Mark

[Eerdmans' family encyclopedia of the Bible](#) (1978) 344 pages

[Eerdmans' handbook to the Bible](#) (1983) 688 pages

[Tyndale handbook of Bible charts & maps](#) by Wilson, Neil

[Bible handbook and A-Z bible encyclopedia](#)

[International children's Bible field guide : answering kids' questions from Genesis to Revelation](#) by Richards, Larry

[The illustrated guide to Bible customs & curiosities](#) by Knight, George W. (George William),

[Today's handbook of Bible times & customs](#) by Coleman, William L

[The Shaw pocket Bible handbook](#) - Editor - Walter Elwell (1984) 408 pages.

"This hardback is small in size but packed full of content: Brief summaries of every book of the bible, cultural, archaeological and historical info, word definitions, pictures, maps and charts." Worth checking!

[The new Unger's Bible dictionary](#) by Unger, Merrill Frederick, 1909-

[Survey of the Bible : introductory insights, background studies, book-by- book survey](#) by Unger, Merrill Frederick

[The Hodder Bible handbook](#) by Unger, Merrill

[Nelson's expository dictionary of the Old Testament](#) by Unger, Merrill

[Kregel Bible handbook : a full-color guide to every book of the Bible](#) by Kerr, William [3 ratings](#)

[The new encyclopedia of Christian quotations](#) by Water, Mark

[Zondervan handbook to the Bible](#)

[Dictionary of deities and demons in the Bible \(DDD\)](#) - 950 pages (1995) Read some of the [65 ratings](#) (4.8/5 Stars). A definitive in depth resource on this subject. Very expensive to purchase.

## WORD STUDIES IN OLD TESTAMENT

[Vine's Expository Dictionary of Old Testament and New Testament Words](#) - pdf. The old standby. You can also borrow [Vine's complete expository dictionary of Old and New Testament words](#)

[Theological wordbook of the Old Testament](#) by Harris, R. Laird - [229 ratings](#) (5/5 Stars) One of the best OT lexicons for laymen.

[Here is another link to the TWOT](#) which has **no time limit on use** and **does allow copy and paste**. Can be downloaded as PDF.

[Hebrew honey : a simple and deep word study of the Old Testament](#) by Novak, Alfons, (332 pages) Indexed by English words. No Strong's numbers to help you determine if you are researching the correct Hebrew word. Here is a "work around" - go to page 289 and see if there is an annotation of the Scripture you are studying. E.g., say you want to see if there is anything for "heart" in Ezek 11:19. In the Scripture list find an entry for Ezek 11:19 with the English word "Heart." Now go look up "Heart" (on page 123). It does take some effort, but you might glean an insight not described in other Hebrew lexicons.

[Nelson's Expository Dictionary of the Old Testament](#) by Unger, Merrill. Indexed by English word and then any related Hebrew nouns or verbs. Definitions are solid and geared to the lay person.

[Zondervan NASB exhaustive concordance](#) - 1589 pages

[Analytical concordance to the Holy Bible](#) : containing about 311,000 references, subdivided under the Hebrew and Greek original with the literal meaning and pronunciation of each by Young, Robert,

[Girdlestone's Synonyms of the Old Testament](#) - [click](#) for list of 127 entries

## 2 SAMUEL COMMENTARY VERSE BY VERSE BRUCE HURT,MD

[Click here for verse by verse commentary on 1 Samuel](#)

In depth comments, including numerous cross references, Hebrew word studies, illustrations, devotional (applicational) THOUGHTS on many passages, maps, quotes from many conservative sources.

[2 Samuel 1:1](#)

[2 Samuel 1:2](#)

[2 Samuel 1:3](#)

[2 Samuel 1:4](#)

[2 Samuel 1:5](#)

[2 Samuel 1:6](#)

[2 Samuel 1:7](#)

[2 Samuel 1:8](#)

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[2 Samuel 1:10](#)

[2 Samuel 1:11](#)

[2 Samuel 1:12](#)

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## CLASSIC COMMENTARIES

### ISRAEL'S THEOCRACY

### SAMUEL-CHRONICLES

- **Be a Berean with these older works - Acts 17:11+**

[The Books of Chronicles by James G. Murphy](#) Publication Date: 1880 Pages: 164

Expositionally examining the books of Chronicles as a prelude to the New Testament, James G. Murphy provides comprehensive studies on the scope of the text and its relationship to the Pentateuch under the law. Murphy offers thorough analysis of the literary composition and distinguishing characteristics of the text—while relying on extra-biblical sources for clarification on events.

Far beyond anything indicated by the small price of this work is its exceeding value for thoroughness of verbal exposition, exegetical criticism, and homiletic suggestiveness.—Baptist magazine

. . . it contains a vast amount of information, which ministers, Sunday-school teachers, and Bible classes may

turn to good account.—Christian World

James G. Murphy was professor of Hebrew and Old Testament at Assembly's College and the author of numerous books, including *The Elements of Hebrew Grammar*, *The Human Mind*, *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Book of Genesis*, *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Book of Exodus*, with a New Translation, and *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Book of Leviticus*.

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**[The Books of Chronicles in Relation to the Pentateuch and the "Higher Criticism"](#)** by A. C. Hervey Publication Date: 1892  
Pages: 184

Originally delivered as a series of five lectures before the Society for Promoting Higher Education, A. C. Hervey provides concise commentary covering authenticity, scope, and application of the text. Hervey seeks to relay the inherent connection between Chronicles and the Pentateuch with regard for the law and redemption. The author emphasizes the reoccurring themes of apostasy and reconciliation throughout the text.

A. C. Hervey (1808–1894) was educated at Eton College and Trinity College, Cambridge before being ordained. Hervey went on to become bishop of Bath and Wells during his life of clerical work.

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**[The Chronicles by Richard G. Moulton](#)** Publication Date: 1901 Pages: 300

Covering in detail the genealogy and history covered in the books of Chronicles, Ezra, and Nehemiah, Richard G. Moulton's exposition emphasizes on the restoration of Israel. Moulton expresses the importance of the Chronicles in understanding Israel's historical relationship with Yahweh under the law.

In view of the significance and possible results of Professor Moulton's undertaking, it is not too much to pronounce it one of the most important spiritual and literary events of the times.—The Outlook

Unquestionable here is a task worth carrying out: and it is to be said at once that Dr. Moulton has carried it out with great skill and helpfulness. Both the introduction and the notes are distinct contributions to the better understanding and higher appreciation of the literary character, features, and beauties of the Biblical books treated. —The Presbyterians and Reformed Review

Richard G. Moulton (1849–1924) was professor of English literature at the University of Chicago. Moulton was born in England and educated as a lawyer before immigrating to America.

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**[An Apparatus Criticus to Chronicles in the Peshitta Version](#)** with a Discussion of the Value of the Codex Ambrosianus by W. E. Barnes Publication Date: 1897 Pages: 104

Concisely examining the Peshitta (Syriac Vulgate) with regard for semantic variation and omission, W. E. Barnes provides verse-by-verse elucidation of the text. Barnes seeks to convey the inherent purpose of the text—while noting several instances of textual substitution and mistranslation. The author draws upon the Jacobite MS, Florentine MS, Peshitta, Septuagint, and Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia for semantic comparison.

W. E. Barnes (1859–1939) was fellow and chaplain of Peterhouse, Hulsean Professor of divinity, and examining chaplain to the bishop of London. His other works include *The Cambridge Bible for Schools and Colleges: The Two Books of the Kings*.

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**[The Books of the Chronicles](#)** by R. Kittel Publication Date: 1895 Pages: 90

Examining the composition of the English translation based on the reconstruction of the original Hebrew, R. Kittel provides critical examination of the text with regard for semantic interpretation and historical context. Kittel draws upon the Masoretic Text, LXX, Targum manuscripts, Peshita, and Latin Vulgate in order to draw conclusions on semantic variation and omission. He incorporates views from the early Church Fathers in order to provide further clarification on key topics.

. . . it is not only valuable, but indispensable.—The London Quarterly Review

R. Kittel (1853–1929) was educated at Tübingen University before becoming professor of Old Testament at the University of Leipzig.

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**[The First and Second Books of Chronicles](#)** by A. Hughes-Games Publication Date: 1902 Pages: 240

Viewing the books of 1 and 2 Chronicles as an aggregate of compiled history, A. Hughes-Games offers in-

depth exposition of the text from historical context—while looking at the original compilation of the books in the Septuagint. Following an extensive introduction to the text covering literary composition, canonical positioning, semantic variations, and questions of authenticity, A. Hughes-Games moves verse-by-verse while offering clarification of critical points.

A. Hughes-Games was venerable archdeacon of Holy Trinity Church, Hull.

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**The Chronicle of Man, or, The Genealogies in the Book of Chronicles Viewed as Foreshadowing the Purpose of the Ages** by F. M. Fearnley Publication Date: 1875 Pages: 288

F. M. Fearnley's *The Chronicle of Man, or The Genealogies in the Book of Chronicles Viewed as Foreshadowing the Purpose of the Ages* provides exegesis on the genealogies found in 1 Chronicles within historical context. Fearnley critically examines the lineage as a key part of understanding biblical history.

F. M. Fearnley is also the author of *The Bread of God*, *This Life and the Life to Come*, and *Elijah and Elisha*.

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**The Parallel Histories of Judah and Israel, vol. 1 & 2** Author: Maximilian Geneste Publication Date: 1843 (654 pages)

**Volume 1** - Examining the intimated relationship and history between Israel and Judah, Maximilian Geneste provides extensive commentary on the composition and arrangement of the text, historical context, and elucidation of reiterated motifs. Offering direct interpretation through semantics, Geneste seeks to convey the spiritual state of Israel and Judah during this period of time. Volume one covers the text from the reign of Rehoboam until the fall of Jerusalem.

**Volume 2** - Examining the intimated relationship and history between Israel and Judah, Maximilian Geneste provides extensive commentary on the composition and arrangement of the text, historical context, and elucidation of reiterated motifs. Offering direct interpretation through semantics, Geneste seeks to convey the spiritual state of Israel and Judah during this period of time. Volume two covers the fall of Jerusalem until the Lamentations of Jeremiah.

**Maximilian Geneste** was the minister of the Church of the Holy Trinity, Isle of Wight. Geneste is the author of several titles including *A Glance into the Kingdom of Grace and Christ in the Wilderness*. Geneste died on July 27, 1860. ([All notes from Logos.com](#))

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**Notes on the Hebrew Text of the Books of Kings** by C. F. Burney Publication Date: 1903 (444 pages)

Focusing on providing exegetical commentary on the books of Kings, C. F. Burney's *Notes on the Hebrew Text of the Books of Kings* offers textual criticism, hermeneutic and presuppositional interpretation, and semantic analysis of the text. Looking at the Old Testament parallels throughout the text, Burney delineates the importance of idiomatic and colloquial use of language throughout the books.

**C. F. Burney** (1868–1925) was educated at Merchant Taylors' School and at St. John's College, Oxford. Burney went on to become Oriel Professor of the Interpretation of Holy Scripture at Oxford. He was also Canon of Rochester and Fellow of St. John Baptist's College in Oxford. He was the author of several titles including *Outlines of Old Testament Theology*, *Israel's Settlement in Canaan*, *The Aramaic Origin of the Fourth Gospel*, and *The Poetry of Our Lord*.

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**Expository Readings on the Books of Kings** by John Cumming Publication Date: 1859

Fully illustrating the books of Kings, John Cumming's *Expository Readings on the Books of Kings* offers easy to understand commentary within an exegetical framework. Cumming provides textual criticism, hermeneutics, and exposition of the text, while focusing on practical application of key themes.

**Comment** - Interesting - seems to have a devotional quality.

**John Cumming** (1807–1881) was an influential and renowned preacher of the National Scottish Church in Covent Garden. He published approximately 180 books in his lifetime. In 1832, Cumming was appointed to the Crown Court Church in Covent Garden, London, a Church of Scotland congregation that catered for Scots living in London. At the time, the congregation had approximately 80 members, but Cumming was able to grow his congregation to around 900, and he regularly preached to congregations of 500-600 on Sundays. Some of his views on eschatology are questionable at best.

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Originally delivered as a series of lectures on the books of Samuel and Kings, Andrew J. Jukes offers valuable exegesis, while focusing on the difficult transition from theocracy to monarchy. Jukes distinguishes between use of literal and figurative language within the text, and seeks to elucidate the inherent meaning within the passages.

The book is remarkable as an effort to substantiate the fact of a developmental process in prophecy and revelation, the principle laid down being that God invariably adapts Himself to the condition of those whom He addresses; and the point is aptly and ingeniously illustrated in many ways . . . we have found it to be effective and interesting.—The British Quarterly Review

**This classic on 1 Kings is organized as follows:**

Introduction. On the Existence and Principle of a Mystic Sense.

I. The General Character of the Books of Kings

II. The Steps Which Led to a King

III. The Steps Which Led to a King (continued)

IV. The Respective Characters of the First Two Kings

V. The Causes of God's Rejection of the First King

VI. The Relative Position of the First Two Kings, From the Rejection Until the Death of Saul

VII. Various Estimates of David, During the Reign of Saul

**[Andrew J. Jukes](#)** (1815–1901) was a prolific author and clergyman educated at Trinity College, Cambridge. He was an English minister and theologian, who left the Anglican church to join the [Plymouth Brethren](#), and finally to found an independent chapel in Hull. His other major works include *The Law of the Offerings*, *The Restitution of All Things*, *Four Views of Christ*, and *The Differences of the Four Gospels*. Among those influenced by Jukes was [Hudson Taylor](#)

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**[The Kings by Richard G. Moulton](#)** Publication Date: 1896 (308 pages)

The Kings contains succinct explanation and clarification on textual arrangement, parallel motifs and figurative language, chronological sequence, and the scope of the text. Intended as an aid for historical interpretation, Richard G. Moulton's commentary provides useful clarity for clergy and laymen alike.

The volume contains a valuable introduction to the book as a piece of literature, and notes are added when necessary. Professor Moulton brings to this work unusual gifts and experience as scholar, teacher, and writer; genuine literary feeling which has been cultivated by close study. Here is not only a "well of English undefiled," but books written in such strong and simple language that a child can understand them. A copy of this edition should be in every family, and we are persuaded it would not remain unread.—The Protestant Episcopal Review

**[Richard G. Moulton](#)** (1849–1924) was Professor of English Literature at the University of Chicago. Moulton was born in England and educated at Cambridge as a lawyer before immigrating to America—later receiving a PhD from the University of Pennsylvania. He is the author of over 30 titles including *Shakespeare as a Dramatic Artist*, *The Literary Study of the Bible*, *World Literature and Its Place in General Culture*, and *The Ancient Classical Drama*.

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**[Notes on 1 Kings: James Davies](#)** Publication Date: 1872

Stating that the books of First and Second Kings were originally compiled together and should be viewed as a single narrative, James Davies' *Notes on 1 Kings* provides explication of the purpose, composition, authorship, and the reiteration of theocratic themes throughout the text. Davies utilizes the Septuagint, Latin Vulgate, and *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia* for clarification on textual arrangement, semantic variation, and historical context.

James Davies is also author of *St. Matthew's Gospel*, *Acts of the Apostles*, *Book of Common Prayer*, and *History and Literature of the Tudor and Stuart Periods*. Davies was educated at the University of London.

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**[Notes on 2 Kings James Davies](#)** Publication Date: 1873 Pages: 209 Pages: 161

Stating that the books of First and Second Kings were originally compiled together and should be viewed as a single narrative, James Davies' Notes on 2 Kings provides explication of the purpose, composition, authorship, and the reiteration of theocratic themes throughout the text. Davies utilizes the Septuagint, Latin Vulgate, and Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia for clarification on textual arrangement, semantic variation, and historical context.

James Davies is also author of St. Matthew's Gospel, Acts of the Apostles, Book of Common Prayer, and History and Literature of the Tudor and Stuart Periods. Davies was educated at the University of London.

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**The First and Second Books of Kings: James Robertson** Publication Date: 1902 Pages: 273

Looking at purpose, authorship, date of composition, and chronology of the text, James Robertson offers practical explication of the text, while giving special regard to the didactic themes. Robertson provides extensive notes for clarification of key parts of the text, as well as further reading.

Dr. Robertson is the editor of the volume which contains The First and Second Books of Kings, and his name is a guarantee for thorough and judicious work. We have not been a better introduction . . . [its] framework is clearly brought out.—The London Quarterly Review

James Robertson (1839–1902) was educated at the parish school of Drull, the University of Toronto, Princeton Theological Seminary, and Union Theological Seminary. Robertson went on to become the minister of Knox Church in Winnipeg and a missionary in New York. He played a large part in founding the University of Manitoba, as well as hundreds of churches. The Toronto Globe noted at the time of Robertson's death: "No man living knows more about the Canadian Northwest, its resources, its development, its social, moral and religious conditions and necessities."

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**The Books of the Kings of Judah and Israel: A Harmony of the Books of Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles** by William Day Crockett Publication Date: 1897 Pages: 364

Chronologically moving through the Books of Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles, William Day Crockett provides thorough exegesis that is systematically divided between the reigns of Saul, David, and Solomon. Discoursing on Israel's want for a monarchy, Crockett inculcates the reoccurring sin and redemption cycles that Israel initiates—regardless of admonition and warning.

His work is in line with the revival of interest in the Bible as literature. There is an analytical outline, and a full appendix and index. Mr. Crockett has shown skill and judgment that will commend his work to the great mass of students.—Public Opinion

Mr. Crockett's work is an honest, laborious and successful piece of this study of the Old Testament as it is, that is to be so highly commended both a piece of work and as an aid to others in the study of the central section of the history of the Old Testament as it lies in the documents. It ought to have a 'wide acceptance and usefulness.'—The Presbyterian and Reformed Review

William Day Crockett (1869–1930) was Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Canton, Pennsylvania. Crockett is the author of several titles including A Harmony of the books of Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles and A Satchel Guide to Europe

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**Saul, the First King of Israel: A Scripture Study** - Joseph Augustus Miller Publication Date: 1853 Pages: 318

Eminently thoughtful, useful, practical sermons. We do not see how Saul's life-failure could be more profitably set forth.' – Spurgeon

Covering in detail the text of First and Second Samuel, Joseph August Miller explicates the text with the purpose of practical application of critical themes—exempli gratia: exemplification of faith, humility, repentance, and obedience. Drawing attention to the intent of the heart rather than the profession of religion and mores, Miller offers insightful and exegetical commentary on the moral state of Israel in the time of Saul.

This is the most interesting and instructive volume. The character and the history of Saul form a striking and affecting study; although, as our author remarks, 'in comparison with the other scripture memoirs, but little has been written on this piece of biography.' With great minuteness, and force, and beauty, he brings out the chief points in the career of the first monarch of Israel; and at the same time makes the narrative of outward events serve as a key to unlock the chambers of his inner being. —The Eclectic Review

Joseph Augustus Miller was educated at Highbury College before being ordained minister of Queen-Street Chapel in Sheffield.

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**[Samuel the Prophet](#)** - F. B. Meyer Pages: 280

In Samuel the Prophet, F. B. Meyer discusses the critical themes embedded in the text of First Samuel—in context of Israel's transition to a central government. Meyer's commentary conveys the ramifications of Israel's partiality to obedience of the Lord, and explicitly views this as a period of dispensation for Israel.

He left a big witness as a Christian, husband and expositor on the spiritual life. Here he is clear, simple, to the point, and practical in application. The book is especially suited for pastors, Sunday School teachers and laypersons. Sometimes he overdoes things, as in seeing Hittites and confederates as depicting "The evil habits of the old past" (p. 12). Yet in many cases he is apt, as using Gideon to show the need to look to God for adequacy. He sees Saul as unsaved, having the Spirit on him but not in him (103).- Rosscup

F. B. Meyer (1847—1929) was educated at Brighton College, University of London, and Regent's Park College. Meyer was well known for his friendship with Dwight L. Moody, as well as authoring over forty titles.

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**[David: Shepherd, Psalmist, King](#)** - F. B. Meyer Pages: 200

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**[Life and Reign of David](#)** by W G Blaikie, 1880 (Only 32 pages)

**Cyril J. Barber** - One of the finest devotional commentaries ever produced. (This comment is related to Blaikie's Expositor's Bible Commentary entry of 1 Samuel)

**Spurgeon** - 'Dr. Blaikie is a good writer. This Life of David has supplied a great lack.' – Spurgeon

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**[Samuel and Saul: Their Lives and Times](#)** - William Deane Publication Date: 1889 230 pp.

"A pleasing exposition of the Biblical text." – Cyril J. Barber

Examining the roles of Samuel and Saul in Israel, William J. Deane offers comprehensive exposition of the text with regard for key themes and events. Moving chapter-by-chapter the author provides historical context of key events, analysis of Israel's propensity to fall away from the law, and the transition into monarchical rule.

The whole style of treatment is careful and suggestive. The writer avails himself of the labors of English and Continental commentators, so that the reader of this book will have the fullest lights that modern research has thrown on the subject. Such a book will be a distinct acquisition . . .—The London Quarterly and Holborn Review

William J. Deane was Rector of Ashan, Essex.

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**[David: his Life and Times](#)** William J. Deane 240 pp.

"A rewarding devotional work." – Cyril J. Barber

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**[Promise and Deliverance, Volume 2 The failure of Israel's Theocracy](#)** by S G De Graaf - 1905

Scroll to Page 67-399 for The History of Israel under a Theocracy - goes from Saul to the Captivity to Babylon (1 Samuel - 2 Chronicles)

It can be difficult to find a quality narrative Bible curriculum for teens and adults. The four volume Promise and Deliverance series by S.G. De Graaf, first published years ago, is still among the best. Many years ago Christianity Today called it "A landmark in interpreting the simple stories of the Bible" and that assessment is as valid as ever.

For years the author, Reverend De Graaf, led a weekly class for those who taught Bible to children, both at Sunday schools and at day schools. This book is the fruit of repeatedly answering the question, "How do we tell this Bible story?" and is helpful for teachers of little ones, for teens to study on their own, and also for anyone else who wishes to study the Bible.

So what is so special about the Promise and Deliverance series? It focuses on the meaning of each story and

on how to understand and share it. In the introduction to the first volume, the author reminds us that the purpose of telling a story is to make it come alive for the hearer, but also warns us about letting the main point get lost in details. Since God wrote the Bible in order that we might believe, not merely to entertain us, this should never be forgotten.

In each story God reveals himself in a particular way, and the important thing is to try to understand what God intends to reveal to us in that specific story. And, no, it is usually not a moral lesson. Instead, it is usually something about who God is and about how he makes and keeps his covenant with us. He is the main character, says De Graaf, and we must not make the mistake of focusing on human actions instead of on God.

These concepts are fundamental to each of the more than 200 Bible narratives. Each narrative, based on a specific Bible passage, is prefaced with a short section that outlines the main goals of the story. The main thought is summarized in a single sentence, and the actual story follows. Each narrative not only describes the Bible events but also interprets them, applying them to our lives today. Thus Promise and Deliverance can also serve as a devotional. (Description by Annie Kate at The Curriculum Choice)

All 4 Volumes of De Graaf's in Promise and Deliverance:

1. [Promise and Deliverance I: From Creation To The Conquest Of Canaan](#)
2. [Promise and Deliverance II: The failure of Israel's Theocracy](#)
3. [Promise and Deliverance III: Christ's Ministry and Death](#)
4. [Promise and Deliverance IV \(Christ and the Church\)](#)

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[Lights and Shadows in the Life of King David](#) by Charles Vince 1871 250 pp.

Spurgeon - Baptist minister of Birmingham [England] 'Sermons of the highest order upon a few incidents in David's life. They are models of chaste, subdued, but powerful preaching.'

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[A Critical History of the Life of David](#) by Samuel Chandler, 1853

**Spurgeon** - This is a masterpiece as a critical history, and the best of Chandler's productions. Many of the Psalms are explained with commendable learning, but the spiritual element is absent.

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[The Life and Reign of David](#) by George Smith, 1867

Spurgeon - David's life is here concisely written, with such of the Psalms interwoven as can be referred to special periods. It cannot be read without ministering instruction.

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[Hannah the Matron](#) and [David the Afflicted Man](#) in Studies of Character from the Old Testament by Thomas Guthrie, 1872 Free Church of Scotland

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**King Saul the man after the flesh - Samuel Ridout** - [also available as free download](#) in [Esword an excellent free Bible program \(history of Esword\)](#)

First published in 1900, this practical work is still a blessing to many.

- [Prefatory Note and Introductory](#)
- [Chapter 1. — The State of the People](#)
- [Chapter 2. — The Captivity in the Philistines' Land](#)
- [Chapter 3. — God's Care for His own Honor](#)
- [Chapter 4. — God's Mercy to His Humbled People](#)
- [Chapter 5. — The People's Desire for a King](#)
- [Chapter 6. — The Call of the King](#)
- [Chapter 7. — The New King](#)
- [Chapter 8. — Tested and Found Wanting](#)
- [Chapter 9. — Saul and Jonathan Contrasted](#)
- [Chapter 10. — Saul's Foolish Oath](#)
- [Chapter 11. — Saul's Kingdom Established](#)
- [Chapter 12. — Amalek Spared](#)

- [Chapter 13. — The Man after God's own Heart](#)
- [Chapter 14. — The Breach between Saul and David](#)
- [Chapter 15. — David and Jonathan](#)
- [Chapter 16. — The Priesthood in Connection with David and with Saul](#)
- [Chapter 17. — Saul's Pursuit of David](#)
- [Chapter 18. — The Triumph of Magnanimity](#)
- [Chapter 19. — David and Abigail](#)
- [Chapter 20. — Contrasts of Faith and Failure](#)
- [Chapter 21. — Saul and the Witch of Endor](#)
- [Chapter 22. — David with the Philistines](#)
- [Chapter 23. — David's Chastening and Recovery](#)
- [Chapter 24. — The Death of Saul and Jonathan](#)
- [Chapter 25. — David's Lament over Saul and Jonathan](#)

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**[The First Book of Samuel W. O. E. Oesterley](#)** Publication Date: 1913 Pages: 192

Concisely examining the authorship, composition, canonization, and original text of First Samuel, W. O. E. Oesterley provides thorough exposition of the text. Systematically conveying the spiritual and moral state of Israel in the text, Oesterley utilizes the Septuagint, Peshitta, Latin Vulgate, and Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia for semantic and philological comparison. The author provides extensive notes for critical explanation and analysis of key topics.

W. O. E. Oesterley (1866–1950) was educated at Brighton College, Jesus College, and West Theological College. Oesterley went on to become Professor of Hebrew and Old Testament Studies at King's College, London. He is the author of many titles including: The Wisdom of Jesus the Son of Sirach or Ecclesiasticus, The Epistle to Philemon, and The Doctrine of the Last Things: Jewish and Christian.

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**[Saul: the First King of Israel](#)** by Thomas Kirk 1896

“Postmortem of a dead king. Devotional and perceptive.” – Cyril J. Barber

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**[Samuel the Prophet, and the Lessons of His Life and Times](#)** by Robert Steel, 1860

In this study of the character of Samuel, Robert Steel examines how the narratives and characters of the Old Testament, as opposed to the New, present an opportunity to learn from the lives of “men like ourselves,” with “peculiar temptations as well as privileges, and revealed infirmities and well as virtues.” Steel works through the books of Samuel in 24 lessons, from his intriguing calling and the labor of his old age. Drawing out lessons for every-day Christian living, Steel examines the life of Solomon, which touches on “all classes and conditions,” as “one of the brightest examples of holy living and useful labor.”

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**[Samuel, Saul and David](#)** and **[Samuel the Ruler](#)** in Daily Bible Illustrations by John Kitto

Spurgeon - ‘Should always be consulted’ ‘They are not exactly a commentary, but what marvelous expositions you have there! You have reading more interesting than any novel that was ever written, and as instructive as the heaviest theology. The matter is quite attractive and fascinating, and yet so weighty, that the man who shall study those eight volumes thoroughly, will not fail to read his Bible intelligently and with growing interest.’

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**[David, King of Israel His Life and Lessons](#)** - William Taylor

“Devotional expositions manifesting a depth seldom attained by preachers today.” – Cyril J. Barber

‘A grand work which should be in every library.’

The gentle but compelling style adopted by the author takes each event in David’s life, together with the psalms thought to be written at the time, and makes applications helpful to all Christians. Delightful to read devotionally but will also furnish the preacher with much to help in sermon preparation. Taylor is unafraid to make gospel applications when appropriate and this aspect will be appreciated too.

A biography told through a Christian lens. Taylor moves through the chronology of David's life, conveying the events and also giving an objective Christian commentary.

William Taylor (1829-1895), originally from Scotland, was pastor of Broadway Tabernacle, New York for twenty years. This work on the life of David began life as evening messages delivered to his congregation.

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[\*\*Samuel and his Age: a Study in the Constitutional History of Israel\*\*](#) - George Douglas 1901 330 pp.

Douglas (1826-1904) was a Hebraist in the Free Church of Scotland, having studied under Thomas Chalmers and came to be a Principle of the Free Church College. "He was a scholarly conservative, skeptical of higher critical views." – DoSCH&T

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[\*\*The Books of the Kings of Judah and Israel: A Harmony of the Books of Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles\*\*](#) by William Day  
Crockett Publication Date: 1897 Pages: 364

Chronologically moving through the Books of Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles, William Day Crockett provides thorough exegesis that is systematically divided between the reigns of Saul, David, and Solomon. Discoursing on Israel's want for a monarchy, Crockett inculcates the reoccurring sin and redemption cycles that Israel initiates—regardless of admonition and warning.

His work is in line with the revival of interest in the Bible as literature. There is an analytical outline, and a full appendix and index. Mr. Crockett has shown skill and judgment that will commend his work to the great mass of students.—Public Opinion

'An attempt to reconcile and correlate the history of the Books of Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles into chronological sequence.' – Cyril J. Barber

Mr. Crockett's work is an honest, laborious and successful piece of this study of the Old Testament as it is, that is to be so highly commended both a piece of work and as an aid to others in the study of the central section of the history of the Old Testament as it lies in the documents. It ought to have a 'wide acceptance and usefulness.'—The Presbyterian and Reformed Review

William Day Crockett (1869–1930) was Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Canton, Pennsylvania. Crockett is the author of several titles including A Harmony of the books of Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles and A Satchel Guide to Europe

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[\*\*Israel's Golden Age: The Story of the United Kingdom\*\*](#) - John D Fleming - 1907

Fleming has some liberal tendencies and his exposition is not spiritual.

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[\*\*Scripture Questions Designed Principally for Adult Bible Classes\*\*](#) - 1 Samuel - George Bush

Bush was a Biblical scholar, a professor of oriental literature in New York City University, and initially a presbyterian minister.

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[\*\*A Commentary upon the Two Books of Samuel\*\*](#) by Patrick Simon, 1703

Combining a pious voice with the objective tone of the Age of Reason, this volume presents the critical commentary of Anglican minister Patrick Simon on the books of Samuel. Recognized as some of the most enduring English Bible commentary, Simon's critical work addresses challenges the church faced during the beginning of the Enlightenment.

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[\*\*Discourses on the History of David; and On the Introduction of Christianity into Britain\*\*](#) by George Lawson, 1833

This volume from Presbyterian minister George Lawson includes two works. In the first, he works through the biblical portrait of King David, addressing his obedience and disobedience, faith and fears, and triumph and trials. He provides exegesis from Chronicles, the Psalms, and Samuel. The second work presents a history of Christianity in Britain from pre-Christian times to the beginning of the Reformation.

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[\*\*A Commentary on the First Book of Samuel\*\*](#) by Loring W. Batten Publication Date: 1919 Pages: 236

Loring W. Batten's A Commentary on the First Book of Samuel provides critical exegesis on the book of First Samuel that combines thorough exposition, semantic evaluation and pragmatics, and explanatory notes. Batten covers the scope and composition of the text within historical context.



This is a worthy addition to the Bible for Home and School. The notes are always to the point . . . and the composite character of the book is clearly brought out both in the commentary proper and in the brief but well-written Introduction. —The Homiletic Review

Loring W. Batten (1859—1946) was Professor of the Literature and Interpretation of the Old Testament, General Theological Seminary in New York and a former chairman of the Society for Biblical Scholarship (1928).

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**[Analysis of the First Book of Samuel](#)** by Lewis Hughes Publication Date: 1885 Pages: 160

Expositionally moving through the book of First Samuel, Lewis Hughes provides comprehensive commentary that elucidates semantic meaning, colloquial language, textual composition, and the scope of biblical history covered. Hughes conveys the text in such a way as to combine succinct clarification and a forbearance of pedantic language.

Unlike many 'Manuals,' the present book will prove a good help . . . it is conceived in a teacher's spirit. —The Schoolmaster

Lewis Hughes was Professor at Corpus Christi College in Cambridge.

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**[Studies in the First Book of Samuel by Herbert Lockwood Willett](#)** Publication Date: 1909 Pages: 356

Originally intended as a textbook for the study of First Samuel, Hebert Lockwood Willett offers sound exegesis coupled with end-of-chapter questions for critical application and reflection. Willett's commentary is structured to provide exhortation of the text, familiarization with the original language, and an overview of key events found in First Samuel.

A double purpose is however served by Dr. Willett's book on Samuel; the pupil not only has a fascinating introduction to this book and to its many exciting events, but he is brought face to face with many of his own ethical and religious problems . . . —Book Review Digest

Herbert Lockwood Willett (1864—1944) was educated at Bethany College, Yale University, University of Berlin, and the University of Chicago. Willett went on to become Professor of Semitic Languages and Literature at the University of Chicago and Minister of Memorial Church of Christ, Chicago.

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**[Analysis of the Second Book of Samuel by T. Boston Johnstone](#)** Publication Date: 1885 Pages: 220

Focused on connecting the narrative portions of Second Samuel together—chronologically and historically—T. Boston Johnstone provides exposition of the text. Johnstone also includes relevant map sets and examination questions for further clarification and study.

T. Boston Johnstone was Professor at St. Andrews in Scotland. He is also the author of a number of commentaries on Old Testament books.

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**[A Key to the Books of Samuel by R. O. Thomas](#)** Publication Date: 1881 Pages: 96

Originally compiled as a study-guide for University examinations, A Key to the Books of Samuel provides concise exposition that explicates authorship, historical context, semantic meaning, and parallel structure across books. R. O. Thomas draws upon extra-biblical sources such as Josphus to further clarify key events.

Invaluable to students . . . —Educational Guide

The style is clear, and the explanations full and judicious.—Schoolmaster

R. O. Thomas is the author of many titles including A Synopsis of [J.] Butler's Analogy of Religion, An Outline of Paley's Evidences of Christianity, England under the Normans, and England Under the Tudors.

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**[Sabbath Morning Readings on the Old Testament: The First and Second Books of Samuel](#)** by John Cumming Publication Date: 1859 Pages: 465

Written as a collection of studies to be read on Sunday mornings, John Cumming offers extensive commentary on books of Samuel with regard for Israel's covenant. Moving chapter-to-chapter, Cumming seeks

to elucidate the key principles, truths, and lessons found in the books of Samuel.

The expositions are clear, vigorous, and strongly evangelical. There is little to which the critic can take exception there is much, very much, to edify and instruct the candid reader. We are very glad to give these expositions very sincere commendation and to wish for them an extended circulation.—The Baptist Magazine

On his work on Deuteronomy: “And to show that the Old Testament can be preached and is relevant to our lives today, John Cumming (1807-1881), Scottish born preacher and, for many years minister of the National Scottish Church, London, expounds Moses’ last treatises with an unction that was characteristic of all that was best in the era in which he lived.” – Cyril J. Barber

[John Cumming](#) was Minister of the Scottish National Church at Crown Court.

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#### **[From Samuel to Solomon](#)** by Charles S. Robinson, 1889

The narratives of 1 and 2 Samuel are some of the most exciting and personal narratives of the Old Testament. In this volume, Presbyterian minister Charles S. Robinson draws out 29 lessons from the two books that follow the lives of Samuel, Saul, David, and Solomon—four leaders “whose lives were so individual and yet in many respects so alike.” According to Robinson, “whoever understands those men will have attained a knowledge of human nature which will prove valuable to him as a citizen and a Christian.”

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#### **[Lectures on the Life of Samuel: Preached in the Parish of Warminster, Wilts, during Lent, A.D. 1834](#)** by William Dalby

In these eight lectures, William Dalby examines the biblical account of Samuel, aiming to “exhibit its truths practically,” believing that teaching practical application to be both the most difficult and most important labor of a preacher. Dalby’s applications of Scripture to everyday life are eminently readable and enduringly valuable for those seeking to live under the authority of Scripture.

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#### **[Samuel and His Age: A Study in the Constitutional History of Israel](#)** by George C. M. Douglas, 1901

This fascinating volume examines the governmental structure of Israel as it developed in 1 and 2 Samuel. Throughout his analysis of these books, George C. M. Douglas pays particular attention to Samuel, as Israel’s second grandest leader after Moses, analyzing how he stewarded and passed off the three offices of prophet, priest, and supreme ruler through his life and the reigns of Saul and David.

## **STEVEN COLE SERMON SERIES LIFE OF DAVID**

### **14 part study on King David from 1 and 2 Samuel**

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- [Lesson 3: God’s Training School](#) (1 Samuel 18-26)
- [Lesson 4: How Sin Snags Us](#) (1 Samuel 27-30)
- [Lesson 5: The Way Back](#) (1 Samuel 30:6)
- [Lesson 6: Worship— My Response To God’s Presence](#) (2 Samuel 6)
- [Lesson 7: Worship— A Joyful Celebration](#) (2 Samuel 6)
- [Lesson 8: The Roots And Fruit Of A Thankful Heart](#) (2 Samuel 7)
- [Lesson 9: The Beauty Of God’s Grace](#) (2 Samuel 9; 16:1-4; 19:24-30)
- [Lesson 10: Close Encounters Of The Wrong Kind](#) (2 Samuel 11)
- [Lesson 11: Getting Right When You’ve Done Wrong](#) (2 Samuel 12:1-23)
- [Lesson 12: The Truth About Consequences](#) (2 Samuel 12:10-14, and 2 Samuel 13-19)
- [Lesson 13: Have You Heard--About Gossip?](#) (2 Samuel 13-15)
- [Lesson 14: God’s Mighty Men](#) (2 Samuel 23:8-39)



# COMMENTARY CRITICAL AND EXPLANATORY ON THE WHOLE BIBLE

## 2 Samuel

Robert Jamieson, A. R. Fausset and David Brown. Published 1871. One of the Better Older Commentary. It does not analyze the text based on so-called "higher criticism," but is thoroughly conservative and evangelical. Tends to be more conservative and literal. Avoids spiritualizing.

**Spurgeon's Comment:** "Of this I have a very high opinion. It is the joint work of Mr. Jamieson, A. R. Fausset, and Dr. David Brown. It is to some extent a compilation and condensation of other men's thoughts, but it is sufficiently original to claim a place in every minister's library; indeed it contains so great a variety of information that if a man had no other exposition he would find himself at no great loss if he possessed this and used it diligently."

- [Introduction](#)
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Below is the index to the Unabridged Version of this well done commentary

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THOMAS CONSTABLE  
Expository Notes on 2 Samuel

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**Sermon Notes**  
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- [8. War and Peace \(2 Samuel 8:1—10:19\)](#)
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## JOHN DUMMELOW

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## DEREK THOMAS

### Sermons on 2 Samuel

- [2 Samuel 2:1-11 Will God's King Rule in Your Life - J Ligon Duncan](#)

- [2 Samuel 2:12 - 3:39 Resistance is Futile - J Ligon Duncan](#)
- [2 Samuel 4:1-12 Murder Most Foul! - J Ligon Duncan](#)
- [2 Samuel 5:1-25 Long Live the King! - Derek Thomas](#)
- [2 Samuel 6:1-23 the Terror of God - Derek Thomas](#)
- [2 Samuel 7:1-29 Covenant Theology - Derek Thomas](#)
- [2 Samuel 8:1-18th Liberty and Justice for All - Derek Thomas](#)
- [2 Samuel 9:1-13 Whom the King Pursues - David Felker \(or \[here\]\(#\)\)](#)
- [2 Samuel 9:1-13 Kingdom Policy for the Disabled - Derek Thomas](#)
- [2 Samuel 10:1-11:27 Flesh and Blood - Derek Thomas](#)
- [2 Samuel 12:1-15 It is YOU- The Denial Syndrome - Derek Thomas](#)
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- [2 Samuel 15:1-37 Conspiracy Theory - Derek Thomas](#)
- [2 Samuel 16:1-23 Enemy Territory - Derek Thomas](#)
- [2 Samuel 17:1-29 Walking by Faith When You Don't Know the End of the Story - Derek Thomas](#)
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- [2 Samuel 23:1-7 Famous Last Words - Derek Thomas](#)
- [2 Samuel 23:1-7 David's Last Words - Derek Thomas](#)
- [2 Samuel 23:8-39 Can Someone Get Me Some Water to Drink - J Ligon Duncan](#)

**JOHN ELLICOTT**  
**Old Testament Commentary for English Readers**  
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**Devotionals**  
**2 Samuel**

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- 2 Samuel 1:1-16 God Doesn't Need Help
- 2 Samuel 2:1-11 Waiting for God's Time
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- 2 Samuel 12:11-23 Restoration Follows Forgiveness

- 2 Samuel 24:1-14 A Misplaced Confidence
- 2 Samuel 24:18-25 When Is It a Sacrifice?

## EXPLORE THE BIBLE

### 2 Samuel

Written for the LifeWay Explore the Bible Sunday School curriculum

#### 2 Samuel; 1 Chronicles DAVID- LESSONS ON FAITH & FRAILTY

- [2 Sa 1:1-2:7; 1 Chr. 10:1-12 Following God's Direction](#)
- [2 Sa 2:8-4:12; 1 Chr 3:1-4 Acting with Integrity](#)
- [2 Sa 5:1-25; 1 Chr 3:5-9; 11:1-9; 14:1-17 Leading Faithfully](#)
- [2 Sam. 5:9-12; 7:1-5, 8-11, 18-21, When Assessing One's Lifework](#)
- [2 Sa 6:1-7:29; 1 Chr 13:1-14; 15:25-16:3; 17:1-27 Deepening Humility](#)
- [2 Sa 8:1-10:19; 1 Chr. 18:1-19:19 Practicing Kindness](#)

#### 2 Samuel 11:1-20:26, 1 Chronicles 20:1-3 TROUBLE IN THE FAMILY

- [2 Sa 11:1-12:31; 1 Chr 20:1-3 Sexual Immorality](#)
- [2 Sam. 12:1-7a, 9-14 When Tangled In Sin](#)
- [2 Sam. 13:19-22, 28a, 37-39; 14:23-24; 15:1-6 When Family Bonds Shatter](#)
- [2 Sa 13:1-39 Sexual Abuse](#)
- [2 Sa 14:1-33 Bitterness](#)
- [2 Sa 15:1-17:29 Unbridled Ambition](#)
- [2 Sa 18:1-19:8a Brief](#)
- [2 Sa 19:8b-20:26 Hostility](#)

#### 2 Samuel 21:1-24:25; 1 Chr 11:10-41; 20:4-8 - TRUST IN THE LORD

- [2 Sa 21:1-23:39; 1 Chr 11:10-41; 20:4-8 Thanksgiving](#)
- [2 Sam 22:1-7; 23:1-7 When Considering Matters of Life and Death](#)
- [2 Sa 24:1-25; 1 Chr 21:1-26 Repentance](#)

## EXPOSITOR'S BIBLE

### 2 SAMUEL COMMENTARY

#### W G BLAIKIE

**Spurgeon** on Blaikie's related life of David: "Dr. Blaikie is a good writer. This Life of David has supplied a great lack." [Lectures to my Students, Vol. 4: Commenting and Commentaries](#))

**Warren W. Wiersbe** - If you can locate the six-volume edition of the Expositor's Bible, buy it immediately! It takes up less space than the original fifty-volume set, and not everything in the original set is worth owning. Samuel H. Kellogg on Leviticus is a classic; so is Alexander Maclaren on the Psalms and on Colossians. (A Basic Library for Bible Students)

**Cyril J. Barber** - This set, originally published in 1903, contains expositions by both conservative and liberal theologians. The most important works are by Dod (Genesis), Chadwick (Exodus and Mark), Kellogg (Leviticus), **Blaikie** (Joshua, I and II Samuel), Adeney (Ezra, Nehemiah and Esther), Maclaren (Psalms), Moule (Romans), Findlay (Galatians and Ephesians), Plummer (Pastoral Epistles and the Epistles of James and Jude), and Milligan (Revelation.) (The Minister's Library)

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- [2 Samuel 11:26-27 A Man After God's Own Heart](#)
- [2 Samuel 14:28-31 What Will It Take For God To Get Your Attention](#)
- [2 Samuel 21:7 9:1-13 David and Mephibosheth](#)
- [2 Samuel 21:7 Mephibosheth and Me](#)
- [2 Samuel 21:7 Mephibosheth A Picture of Grace](#)
- [2 Samuel 21:7 The King Spared Mephibosheth](#)
- [2 Samuel 23:1-5 The Last Words of David](#)
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#### 2 Samuel 9 God's Gift

A British factory worker and his wife were excited when, after many years of marriage, they discovered they were going to have their first child. According to author Jill Briscoe, who told this true story, the man eagerly relayed the good news to his fellow workers. He told them God had answered his prayers. But they made fun of him for asking God for a child. When the baby was born, he was diagnosed as having Down's syndrome. As the father made his way to work for the first time after the birth, he wondered how to face his co-workers. "God, please give me wisdom," he prayed. Just as he feared, some said mockingly, "So, God gave you this child!" The new father stood for a long time, silently asking God for help. At last he said, "I'm glad the Lord gave this child to me and not to you." As this man accepted his disabled son as God's gift to him, so David

was pleased to show kindness to Saul's son who was "lame in his feet" (2 Sam. 9:3). Some may have rejected Mephibosheth because he was lame, but David's action showed that he valued him greatly. - Our Daily Bread, April 6, 1994

## **2 Samuel 11:3 Grandfather of Bathsheba**

By comparing 2 Samuel 11:3 and 23:34, some believe that Ahithophel was the grandfather of Bathsheba, and that he was enraged because David had committed adultery with her. So Ahithophel may have wanted Absalom to destroy David and take the throne from his father. But when he saw Absalom following advice that would lead to defeat, he was so despondent that he gave in to despair and took his own life instead of committing the matter to God. Our Daily Bread, Sept. 2, 1990

## **2 Samuel 12 Adultery/Affair**

When I was growing up, "adultery" was a word one whispered. Today the word is "affair," and it's a subtle change. Affair has an air of mystery about it, and romance, and excitement. Radio, television, movies, books—all of the media—assume or encourage the affair. It's easy to fall into the trap: everyone is doing it, so it must be OK. Unless, of course, you believe in keeping the laws of God. For whatever reason, keeping the seventh commandment is becoming more difficult for more and more Christians. In fact, J.U. Allan Petersen begins his new book, *The Myth of the Greener Grass*, with a question: "Is Anyone Faithful Anymore?" And it's a good question. He writes that in his 38 years of traveling ministry he has counseled pastors, pastors' wives, missionaries, Sunday school teachers, Christian counselors, and church members who reflect the increasing incidence of extramarital affairs among professing Christian people. There is a "tendency to find reasons to support this behavior, even though those reasons might be contrary to the moral and biblical convictions we have long held." Today we want to talk about relationships, not sin. Peterson points out the relationship of David and Bathsheba, and the results of their affair. The lessons we can learn from the story of David, a man of God who fell into sin, apply to all of us, men and women alike. Here are some of the, pointed out by Petersen:

1. No one, however chosen, blessed, and used of God, is immune to an extramarital affair.
2. Anyone, regardless of how many victories he has won, can fall disastrously.
3. The act of infidelity is the result of uncontrolled desires, thoughts, and fantasies.
4. Your body is your servant or it becomes your master.
5. A Christian who falls will excuse, rationalize, and conceal, the same as anyone else.
6. Sin can be enjoyable but it can never be successfully covered.
7. One night of passion can spark years of family pain.
8. Failure is neither fatal nor final. **Source unknown**

## **2 Samuel 12:5-6 Paid Four Times**

1. Child Died
2. Tamar, his daughter violated
3. Ammon, His son, slain
4. Absalom slaughtered - **Source unknown**

## **2 Samuel 12:1-15 Five C's**

1. Commissioned,
2. Confront,
3. Commandment,
4. Consequences,
5. Confession

Seven Laws of the Learner, B. Wilkinson

## **2 Samuel 21:17 - People Helping People**

But Abishai, the son of Zeruiah, came to his aid. 2 Samuel 21:17

Sometimes we win great spiritual victories or reach a seemingly unattainable goal without the help of a friend or companion. This was true of David when as a shepherd lad he killed Goliath with nothing but a sling and faith in God. In later years, however, he would have been slain by a giant named Ishbibenob if his nephew Abishai had not come to his aid. Now, are we to conclude that God was with David when he met Goliath, but not when he confronted the second giant? I don't think so! The Lord simply used a different means to take care of His servant. The first time, He used David's skill with the sling; the second time, He used Abishai's strength and military prowess. Our Daily Bread, Wednesday, February 8.

#### **2 Samuel 24:24 Painting Contractor**

Wes Evans, principal of Christian Heritage School, Edwall, WA, told of how a painting contractor donated a large amount of paint to a school he formerly was at. He used the donation as a tax write-off. When they opened it, it not only was of a horrendous color, but most of it had gone bad. The school had to pay to have it hauled to the dump.

## **INTERNATIONAL CRITICAL COMMENTARY**

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## **S. Lewis Johnson**

### **Lessons from the Life of David**

#### **Recommended Resource**

- 2 Samuel 1:1-27 [David's Elegy for Saul and Jonathan](#)

- 2 Samuel 2:1-32 [David: The Shepherd King of Judah](#)
- 2 Samuel 3:1-39 [Three Distinguished Men and the Living God](#)
- 2 Samuel 5:1-25 [David: King of Israel](#)
- 2 Samuel 6:1-23 [The Restoration of the National Worship: 2 Samuel 6:1-23](#)
- 2 Samuel 7:1-11 [The Davidic Covenant](#)
- 2 Samuel 7:12-17, Acts 15:13-18 [The Davidic Covenant New-Testament Fulfillment and Prophecy](#)
- [Isaiah 11:1-12 The Davidic Covenant and Old-Testament Prophecy](#)
- [Acts 15:13-18 The Davidic Covenant New-Testament Fulfillment and Prophecy](#)
- 2 Samuel 7:18-29 [An Incomparable Prayer to an Incomparable God](#)
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- 2 Samuel 12:1-25 [David Rebuked, Repentant, Restored; Yet Disciplined](#)
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- 1 Kings 2:1-11 [The Final Days](#)

## KEIL & DELITZSCH

### Commentary on 2 Samuel

**James Rosscup** writes "**Keil, C. F. and Franz Delitzsch**. Commentary on the Old Testament. 25 volumes. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1950. This is the best older, overall treatment of a critical nature on the Old Testament Hebrew text verse by verse and is a good standard work to buy. The student can buy parts or the whole of this series. Sometimes it is evangelical, at other times liberal ideas enter." ([Commentaries for Biblical Expositors: An Annotated Bibliography of Selected Works](#))

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Expositions and Homilies

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14. [DAVID'S SELF-RESTRAINT](#)
15. [CUSH: A BENJAMITE](#)
16. [A COOL HAND ON A HOT HEAD](#)
17. [A FIT OF MISTRUST](#)
18. [THE MERCY OF GOD THAT LED TO REPENTANCE](#)
19. [THRICE CROWNED](#)
20. [OH FOR THE WATER OF THE WELL OF BETHLEHEM!](#)
21. [JERUSALEM, THE HOLY CITY](#)
22. [THE CONVEYANCE OF THE ARK TO MOUNT ZION](#)
23. ["THOU DIDST WELL THAT IT WAS IN THINE HEART"](#)
24. ["YET HAVE I SET MY KING"](#)
25. [THE SIN OF HIS LIFE](#)
26. [THE STRIPES OF THE CHILDREN OF MEN](#)
27. [SUNSET AND EVENING STAR](#)

## MISCELLANEOUS RESOURCES

### 2 Samuel

#### Conservative, Evangelical

#### THE THEOLOGICAL JOURNAL LIBRARY on [Galaxie.com](http://Galaxie.com)

An annual \$50 or monthly \$5 subscription ([click here](#)) is required to view the entire article but will give you access to literally thousands of conservative articles. Click the following links to search by [topic](#), [author](#), or [bible reference](#).

#### Examples of articles you can access:

- [Discerning Between Good And Evil- Solomon As A New Adam In 1 Kings -- John A. Davies](#)
- [Diversity of OT Prophetic Phenomena and NT Prophecy --John W. Hilber](#)
- [The Tel Dan Stela and the Kings of Aram and Israel -- Bryant G. Wood \(see also\)](#)
- [Studies in 1 and 2 Samuel Part 1- The Structure of 1 and 2 Samuel -- John A. Martin](#)
- [Studies in 1 and 2 Samuel Part 3- The Text of Samuel -- By- John A. Martin](#)
- [Studies in 1 and 2 Samuel Part 4- The Theology of Samuel -- John A. Martin](#)

#### JOURNAL ARTICLES FREE ONLINE RELATED TO THE BOOKS OF SAMUEL

- [Preaching The David Story -- Rolf A Jacobson](#)
- [2 Samuel 8 -- Robert M. Good](#)
- [Taking God At His Word \(2 Samuel 7-1-29\) -- F. W. Tyler](#)
- [The Amalekite's Report Of Saul's Death- Political Intrigue Or Incompatible Sources-- Bill T. Arnold](#)
- [Structure, Context And Meaning In The Samuel Conclusion \(2 Sa. 21-24\) -- Herbert H. Klement](#)
- [Empowered by the Spirit of God- Holy Spirit in the Histrographic Writings of the OT --D. Block](#)
- [Counterfeit Davids Davidic Restoration and the Architecture of 1-2 Kings -- Peter J. Leithart](#)
- [The Case For Kingship In The Old Testament Narrative Books And The Psalms -- D M. Howard](#)
- [Israelite Kings In Assyrian Inscriptions -- Bryant G. Wood](#)
- [The Content And Significance Of The Books Of Samuel...-- William J. Dumbrell](#)

- [David's Rise And Saul's Demise- Narrative Analogy In 1 Samuel 24-26](#) -- Robert P. Gordon
- [The Davidic Covenant](#) -- Michael A. Grisanti
- [The sanctuary at Shiloh, and Samuel's sleeping therein," Journal of Biblical Literature 19.1 \(1900\): 29-33](#) - Loring W. Batten
- [The Everlasting Covenant](#) -- D. F. Payne
- [From Philistine to Throne \(1 Samuel 16:14-18:16\)," Australian Biblical Review 34 \(1986\): 35-41](#). Antony F. Campbel
- [How Are the Mighty Fallen! A Study of 2 Samuel 1:7-27](#) -- David L. Zapf
- [David's Transfer of the Ark according to Josephus](#)-- Christopher T. Begg
- [David's Second Sparing of Saul According to Josephus," Tyndale Bulletin 48.1 \(1997\): 93-117](#). Christopher T. Begg
- [David and Mephibosheth According to Josephus," Andrews University Seminary Studies 36.2 \(Autumn 1998\): 165-182](#). Christopher T. Begg
- [Priest And King Or Priest-King In 1 Samuel 2-35](#) -- Karl Deenick
- [The Chronology Of Saul And David](#) -- Leslie McFall
- [Could Saul Rule Forever? A New Look at 1 Samuel 13:13-14," Journal of Hebrew Scriptures 5, article 16 \(2005\)](#). Michael Avioz This article reconsiders the pericope in 1 Samuel 13:13-14, in which Samuel told Saul that had he been obedient to him, he and his dynasty would have ruled forever. These words are traditionally considered by scholars and interpreters as a later addition or as Samuel's own interpretation of God's oracles. Dr Avioz contests these views on the basis of historical and exegetical arguments.
- [Saul, The Spiritist, and Samuel," Grace Journal 11.1 \(Winter 1970\): 13-29](#). Thomas O. Figart
- ['Play it again, Sam' The Poetics of Narrative Repetition in 1 Samuel 1-7](#) -- David G. Firth
- [Shining the Lamp: The Rhetoric of 2 Samuel 5-24," Tyndale Bulletin 52.2 \(2001\): 203-225](#) David G. Firth
- [The Accession Narrative \(1 Samuel 27 - 2 Samuel 1\)," Tyndale Bulletin 58.1 \(2007\): 61-82](#) David G. Frith
- [David's Rise and Saul's Demise: Narrative Analogy in 1 Samuel 24-26," Tyndale Bulletin 31 \(1980\): 37-64](#) Robert P. Gordon
- [Did Samuel Sin?" Grace Journal 11.2 \(Spring 1970\): 34-40](#). Peter Greenhow
- [The Case for Kingship in Deuteronomy and the Former Prophets," Westminster Theological Journal 52.1 \(1990\): 101-115](#). David M. Howard, Jr
- [Reconsidering the Height of Goliath," Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society 48.4 \(Dec. 2005\): 701-714](#) J. Daniel Hays
- [A Jonadab connection in the Absalom conspiracy," Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society 30.4 \(Dec. 1987\): 387-390](#). Andrew E. Hill
- [The transfer of power from Saul to David in 1 Sam 16:13-14," Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society 32.4 \(Dec. 1989\): 473-483](#). David M. Howard Jr.
- [Theology and art in the narrative of the Ammonite War \(2 Samuel 10-12\)," Grace Theological Journal 3.2 \(Fall 1982\): 193-205](#) John I. Lawlor
- [Hannah: the receiver and giver of a great gift," Andrews University Seminary Studies 40.2 \(Autumn 2002\): 207-217](#) Kenneth D. Mulzac
- [The Role of Abigail in 1 Samuel 25," Andrews University Seminary Studies 41.1 \(Spring 2003\): 45-53](#) Kenneth D. Mulzac
- [2 Samuel 20:8-10: a note for a commentary," Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society 24.3 \(Sept. 1981\): 209-210](#) Edward A. Neiderhiser
- [Books of Samuel as a Study in Leadership," Irish Biblical Studies 4.1 \(Jan. 1982\): 17-30](#). David F. Payne
- [Estimates of the Character of David," Irish Biblical Studies 6.2 \(April 1984\): 54-70](#) David F. Payne
- [Apologetic Motifs in the Books of Samuel," Vox Evangelica 23 \(1993\): 57-66](#) David F. Payne
- [An Evil Spirit from the Lord'-Demonic Influence or Divine Instrument?" The Evangelical Quarterly 70.1 \(Jan.-Mar. 1998\): 3-22. \[1 Samuel 16:14\]](#) Robin Routledge
- [Exodus Motifs in First Samuel 7 and 8: a Brief Comment," The Evangelical Quarterly 52.3 \(Jul.-Sept. 1980\): 130-131](#) J. Ernest Runions [1939-1989]
- [The Discourse Structure of the Rape of Tamar \(2 Samuel 13:1-22\)," Vox Evangelica 20 \(1990\): 21-42](#) Jenny Smith
- [Why has Yahweh Defeated us Today Before the Philistines?' The Question of the Ark Narrative," Tyndale Bulletin 51.1 \(2000\): 81-100](#). A. Stirrup
- [How are the mighty fallen: a study of 2 Samuel 1:17-27," Grace Theological Journal 5.1 \(Spring 1984\): 95-126](#) David L. Zapf
- [2 Kings 20:1-11 The Openness of God: Does Prayer Change God? \(Hezekiah's Prayer\) - scroll down](#)

## GENERAL RESOURCES

### Outlines, Maps, Sermons, Commentaries on 2 Samuel

- [Best Commentaries on 1 & 2 Samuel - Ligonier Ministries](#)
- [Best Commentary on 1-2 Samuel - Best Commentaries Reviews](#)
- [Best Commentaries on 1 & 2 Samuel - Tim Challies](#)

## **Introduction: From Theft to Lie**

### **Part 1: A Man After God's Heart - 2 Samuel 1-8**

Kingdom Principles - 2 Samuel 1:1-16

Good Grief - 2 Samuel 1:17- 27

A Tale of Two Kingdoms - 2 Samuel 2:1-11

Promise Rules - 2 Samuel 2:12-3:39

The Gore of Man Does Not Work the Righteousness of God - 2 Samuel 4:1-12

Kingdom Collage - 2 Samuel 5:1-25

The Terror and Ecstasy of God - 2 Samuel 6:1-23

Getting to Know the Covenant God - 2 Samuel 7:1-17

Sit Down and Stand on God's Promise - 2 Samuel 7:18-29

The Coming of the Kingdom - 2 Samuel 8:1-18

### **Part 2: A Servant Under God's Rod - 2 Samuel 9-20**

Up With Covenant! - 2 Samuel 9:1-13

Foreign Folly - 2 Samuel 10:1-19

Flesh and Blood - 2 Samuel 11:1-27

Grace Greater Than All Our Sin - 2 Samuel 12:1-31

All in the Family - 2 Samuel 13:1-39

The Manipulators - 2 Samuel 14:1-33

Politics and Faith - 2 Samuel 15:1-37

In the Presence of My Enemies - 2 Samuel 16:1-23

His Kingdom Cannot Fail - 2 Samuel 17:1-29

The Sad Triumph - 2 Samuel 18:1-19:8

Welcome Home — Maybe - 2 Samuel 19:9-43

No Surprises - 2 Samuel 20:1-26

### **Part 3: A Kingdom in God's Hands - 2 Samuel 21-24**

The Cost of Covenant- breaking - 2 Samuel 21:1-14

The Bigger They Are, The Harder They Fall - 2 Samuel 21:15-22

Through Many Dangers, Toils, and Snares - 2 Samuel 22:1-51

Last Words Look Forward - 2 Samuel 23:1-7

Hail to the Chiefs - 2 Samuel 23:8-39

Senseless Census - 2 Samuel 24:1-25

## **JAMES ROSSCUP - [Commentaries for Biblical Expositors](#)**

- Ackroyd, Peter R. The Second Book of Samuel (Cambridge Bible Commentary). Cambridge: U. P., 1977. 247 pp. - An attempt to meet general readers' needs. The approach is mildly critical. Ackroyd has a clear writing style and often is of help on the reading of a given text, historical setting, customs and explanation of the passage. The work is cursory.
- Anderson, A. A. 2 Samuel (Word Biblical Commentary). Waco, TX. Word Books, 1989. 302 pp. Conservatives will find much to

aid them here in meticulous exegetical detail and giving of different views, all done quite readably. One is soon aware, however, of the nonconservative perspective, as in supposing errors as to historical fact, misstatements, and portions ineptly inserted by an exilic redactor (cf. pp. 118–19, 132, 161, 168 etc.). Users will have to use the work with much carefulness but can glean heavy profit from places where he contributes well. Anderson is Honorary Fellow in theology, University of Manchester, England. His introduction takes up theories of composition that specialized scholars can follow completely, even if they do not agree. Many things said in Samuel are attributed to the artistic skill of the author, and one gains the impression that to Anderson they are not historically reliable (xxxiv, etc.). The form/structure/setting sections have much that can help evangelicals and much that gives liberal slants biased on ideas of theoretical sources. Careful advanced students can sift out much and leave much. Like Klein's work on I Samuel, the flow is broken in many ways, so the use of the commentary for any but specialist students will be slow plodding and spotty in benefit.

- Baldwin, Joyce C. 1 and 2 Samuel: An Introduction and Commentary (Tyndale Old Testament Commentary). Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1988. 299 pp. A concise, competent, clear evangelical work using various sources, elucidating most passages well and showing their theological and practical relevance then and now.
- Barber, Cyril J. The Book of Second Samuel. Neptune, NJ: Loizeaux, 2000. Barber, a keen student aggressive to explain passages, surveys each segment in its main flow, and offers relational application. He uses provocative titles, vivid writing, often careful reasons for views, and valuable leads for teachers and preachers. He articulates lessons such as David's making decisions as regarding the Amalekite claiming to have killed Saul, David covering up sin, and problems to which wrong choices can lead (2 Sam. 13ff). Overall the work is a good catalyst for speakers, surveying students, and lay readers.
- Bergen, Robert D. 1, 2 Samuel (New American Commentary). Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1996. The commentator is a professor at Hannibal-La Grange College, Hannibal, MO. He argues for the accurate, reliable, relevant Word of God. His excellent work reflects wide knowledge of biblical literature in the text and in footnotes. The writing flows with lucid vitality, and Bergen invests much from word study, grammar, customs, geographical details, etc. His appraisal of Eli is arresting (69), as are comments on Saul's excuses of I Sam. 15 and David's fight with Goliath. Bergen's careful weighing of views about how Saul died ends with his harmonizing view that Saul fell on his sword (I Sam. 31), but in his final moments the Amalekite hastened his death (2 Sam. 1). This is a fine grappling with main details in the two books.
- Evans, Mary J. 1 and 2 Samuel (New International Critical Commentary). Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2000. A lecturer in OT at London Bible College did well-studied, lucid comments on verses, with added notes on certain details after each section. She covers most bases, resolves many problems, and elucidates customs, word meanings, and the like. She has no firm solution on some verses, such as the number left out in I Sam. 13:1. She believes that the Amalekite found Saul dead, and took advantage, supposing that David would reward him (2 Sam. 1). She shows richness from wide reading awareness on many points.
- Gordon, R. P. 1 and 2 Samuel: A Commentary. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1986. 375 pp. This generally highly-regarded work offers much assistance verse by verse, using the RSV. The author comments a lot on the Hebrew text as to exegesis, word study, dealing with problems, etc.
- Laney, J. Carl. First and Second Samuel. Chicago, IL: Moody Press, 1982. 132 pp. Laney, an assistant professor of Biblical literature at Western Conservative Baptist Seminary and more widely known for his volume *The Divorce Myth*, traces the lives of Samuel, Saul and David. This 1982 update for Moody Press's Everyman's Bible Commentary Series is a surprisingly resourceful paperback. Laney argues tersely for a 722 B. C. date for the Fall of Samaria. Thus, he prefers a time of writing for I & II Samuel sometime during or immediately following David's lifetime. He dates the dividing of the kingdom as 931 B. C. Regarding textual matters, Laney does not overlook the lacuna of I Samuel 13:1 as he states that great benefit can be gleaned from the LXX in a study of these two books. One interesting sidelight is his citation of the "dynastic defense" motif evident in I Samuel 15 and II Samuel 8, a setting apparently not unlike 13th Century Hittite tradition. Laney's discussion of God's will in I Samuel 8:21, 22 is quite helpful. In I Samuel 28 the treatment of the Witch of Endor is thorough. He concludes that God caused Samuel himself to appear. In II Samuel 7, Laney sheds light on the covenant by picturing its threefold nature. Laney's maps and graphics are well-placed and worthwhile. His treatment in 2 Samuel 24 of the two-sided nature of David numbering God's people is also worthy of attention. This is a well researched and supported volume. There are few volumes on I and II Samuel which could rightly claim to be more helpful on expositional matters.—Jan Satterm
- Merrill, Eugene. "I and II Samuel," Bible Knowledge Commentary, ed. John F. Walvoord and Roy B. Zuck. Volume I. Wheaton: Victor Books, 1983. Professor of Old Testament at Dallas Theological Seminary surveys both books with conservative expertise, dealing with Hebrew meaning, problems, customs, etc. He has a high view of inspiration and a good use of literature relevant in the area.
- Meyer, F. B. Cf. under Joshua. Vos, Howard F. 1, 2 Samuel (Bible Study Commentary). Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1983. 166 pp. Vos was Professor of History and Archaeology, King's College, Briarcliff Manor, New York. In this conservative work he gives a long outline at the outset, then incorporates this in his survey of I and 2 Samuel. For many Bible teachers, preachers, and lay people the exposition helpfully sums up what is said and some implications. It offers brief explanation of some main problems, such as the number judged at Beth Shemesh in I Samuel 6:19ff. and how to fill in the number of Saul's years in 13:1.

## CHRIS BENFIELD

- [2 Samuel 5:17-25 Surviving the Enemies Attack](#)
- [2 Samuel 6:10-12 The Obedience of Obed-edom](#)
- [2 Samuel 12:1-14 The Hidden Cost of Sin](#)

## CENTURY BIBLE COMMENTARY

- [Sermons - 2 Samuel - brief notes](#)

## ROBERT CHISHOLM

- [1 Samuel 15:28 Does God Deceive?](#)
- **Related Articles:**

G H Harris - "[Does God Deceive?](#)"

John Piper [Does God lie?](#)

[Why did God use a lying spirit to deceive Ahab?](#)

[Can God lie?](#)

## DICTIONARY ARTICLES RELATED TO 1-2 SAMUEL

- Baker's Evangelical Dictionary of Biblical Theology [Theology of 1 & 2 Samuel - Excellent overview](#)
- Baker's Evangelical Dictionary of Biblical Theology [Life of David - Theological Perspective](#)
- Bridgeway Bible Dictionary [Saul, king of israel](#)
- American Tract Society [Saul](#)
- Easton's Bible Dictionary [Saul](#)
- Fausset Bible Dictionary [Saul](#)
- Holman Bible Dictionary [Saul](#)
- Hastings' Dictionary of the Bible [Saul](#)
- Hastings' Dictionary of the NT [Saul](#)
- Hawker's Poor Man's Dictionary [Saul](#)
- People's Dictionary of the Bible [Saul](#)
- Smith Bible Dictionary [Saul](#)
- Whyte's Bible Characters [Saul](#)
- Watson's Theological Dictionary [Saul](#)
- International Standard Bible Encyclopedia [Saul](#)
- Kitto Biblical Cyclopedia [Saul](#)
- McClintock and Strong's Bible Encyclopedia [Saul](#)
- The Nuttall Encyclopedia [Saul](#)
- American Tract Society [David](#)
- Bridgeway Bible Dictionary [David](#)
- Easton's Bible Dictionary [David](#)
- Fausset Bible Dictionary [David](#)
- Holman Bible Dictionary [David](#)
- Hastings' Dictionary of the Bible [David](#)
- Hastings' Dictionary of the NT [David David](#)
- Whyte's Bible Characters [David - in his services](#) [David - in his races](#) [David - in his vices](#) [David - in His Virtues](#)
- Wilson's Bible Types [David](#)
- Watson's Theological Dictionary [David](#)
- International Standard Bible Encyclopedia [David](#)
- Kitto Biblical Cyclopedia [David](#)
- McClintock and Strong's Bible Encyclopedia [David](#)
- Bridgeway Bible Dictionary [Samuel, books of](#)
- Easton's Bible Dictionary [Samuel, Books of](#)
- Fausset Bible Dictionary [Samuel, the Books of](#)

- Holman Bible Dictionary [Samuel, Books of](#)
- Hastings' Dictionary of the Bible [Samuel, Books of](#)
- Smith Bible Dictionary [Samuel, Books of](#)
- International Standard Bible Encyclopedia [Samuel, Books of](#)
- McClintock and Strong's Bible Encyclopedia [Samuel, First and Second Books Of](#)
- The Nuttall Encyclopedia [Samuel, Books of](#)
- The Jewish Encyclopedia [Samuel, Books of](#)

## EASY ENGLISH

- [2 Samuel: David the Great King of Israel - Bible text and commentary](#)

## DAVID COLBURN

A Chronological Daily Bible Study of the Old Testament- 7-Day Sections with a Summary-Commentary, Discussion Questions, and a Practical Daily Application

- [2 Samuel, 1 Chronicles, Psalms \(Early King David\)](#)
- [2 Samuel, 1 Chronicles, Psalms \(David and Bathsheba: Consequences\)](#)
- [1 Samuel 25-31, 2 Samuel 1-4, 1 Chronicles 1-10, and Various Psalms \(Transition from Saul to David\)](#)

## W A CRISWELL

- [2 Samuel 1-5 DAVID THRICE CROWNED](#)
- [2 Samuel 5:6-12 JERUSALEM, CITY OF THE GREAT KING](#)
- [2 Samuel 6:1-11 THE BREACH OF UZZAH](#)
- [2 Samuel 7-10 THE KINGDOM OF DAVID ESTABLISHED FOREVER](#)
- [2 Samuel 10 JOAB CAPTAIN OF THE HOST](#)
- [2 Samuel 12:1-1 THOU ART THE MAN](#)
- [2 Samuel 14-18 HANDSOME ABSALOM](#)
- [2 Samuel 24:17-25 THE LAST WORDS OF DAVID](#)
- [2 Samuel 24:1-25 THAT WHICH COSTS ME NOTHING](#)
- [2 Samuel 21:1-14 PRIMEVAL MOTHERHOOD](#)
- [2 Samuel 1:26 THE BLESSINGS OF GOD](#)
- [2 Samuel 7:12-16 THE KING AND THE KINGDOM](#)
- [2 Samuel 21:10-14 RIZPAH: PRIMEVAL MOTHERHOOD](#)
- [2 Samuel 7 THE DIVIDED KINGDOM](#)
- [2 Samuel 12:1-7 DAVID: SEXUAL DRIVES](#)
- [2 Samuel 6:20-23 MICHAL: THE LONELINESS OF SINGLES](#)
- [2 Samuel 15:18-22 ITTAI: A FRIEND FOR LIFE](#)
- [2 Samuel 24 TRUE SACRIFICE](#)
- [2 Samuel 7:12 THE COMING KINGDOM](#)

## DON FORTNER

- [Sermons on 2 Samuel](#)

## JAMES FREEMAN - HANDBOOK OF BIBLE MANNERS AND CUSTOMS

- [2 Samuel 1:10 Armlets](#)
- [2 Samuel 3:27 Recess in Gateway](#)
- [2 Samuel 3:31 Beds for Biers](#)
- [2 Samuel 3:34 Prisoners Fettered](#)
- [2 Samuel 4:6 Storing and Grinding Grain](#)
- [2 Samuel 6:5 The Sistrum](#)
- [2 Samuel 10:4 The Beard Cut Off](#)
- [2 Samuel 11:1 Spring, the Season for War](#)
- [2 Samuel 11:2 Promenade on the Roof](#)

- [2 Samuel 12:3 Animals Petted](#)
- [2 Samuel 12:21 Fasting for Bereavement](#)
- [2 Samuel 15:30 Covering the Head](#)
- [2 Samuel 15:32 Earth on the Head](#)
- [2 Samuel 16:18 Dust Throwing](#)
- [2 Samuel 17:18-19 Cistern in the Courtyard](#)
- [2 Samuel 18:24 Double Gates](#)
- [2 Samuel 18:26 Watchman--Porter](#)
- [2 Samuel 18:33 The Chamber over the Gate](#)
- [2 Samuel 19:4 Lamentations over the Dead](#)
- [2 Samuel 19:18 Ferry Boats](#)
- [2 Samuel 20:7 Cherethites and Pelethites](#)
- [2 Samuel 20:9 Touching the Beard](#)
- [2 Samuel 22:6 Circling the Nets](#)

## GENE GETZ - SHORT VIDEO EMPHASIZING PRINCIPLES

- [David: God's man in faith and failure](#) (**Borrow**) (This book corresponds for the most part to his book "Men of Character: David")
- [When you feel like a failure : take a lesson from David](#) (**Borrow**)
- 2 Samuel 1:1-24; Loving Our Enemies: When bad things happen to those who have dealt with us unjustly, we should ask the Lord for grace to express sincere sorrow. [Video](#)
- 2 Samuel 1:25-27; Same-Sex Friendships: When we develop deep relationships within our own gender, we must always keep these relationships morally pure. [Video](#)
- 2 Samuel 2:1-7:17; God's Sovereign Plan: Though our journey through life includes many human factors, we must remember that God's sovereign plan for each one of us continues to unfold. [Video](#)
- 2 Samuel 7:18-29; Praying in God's Will: To experience answered prayer, we are to align our praise and petitions with God's revealed will. [Video](#)
- 2 Samuel 9:1-13; Reciprocal Ministry: We should remember those who have had a special ministry in our lives. [Video](#)
- 2 Samuel 11:1-3; Vulnerability to Temptation: When we are most vulnerable physically, emotionally, and spiritually, we must be on guard against Satan's attacks. [Video](#)
- 2 Samuel 11:4-5; From Temptation to Sin: We should take deliberate steps to keep sexual temptation from becoming sinful thoughts, attitudes, and actions. [Video](#)
- 2 Samuel 11:6-27; Ongoing Moral Failure: To avoid continued moral failures, we must openly acknowledge our sin. [Video](#)
- 2 Samuel 12:1-12; Deceiving Ourselves: We should be especially on guard against self-deception and rationalization when we fail morally. [Video](#)
- 2 Samuel. 12:13-23; The Consequences of Sin: Though the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ cleanses us from all our sins, we should not expect all negative consequences to suddenly disappear. [Video](#)
- 2 Samuel 12:24-25; God's Unconditional Love: Once we acknowledge our sins and experience God's forgiveness, we should move forward in our lives, relying on God's unconditional love. [Video](#)
- 2 Samuel 13:1-19; Love or Lust: Men particularly must learn to distinguish between unselfish, unconditional love and selfish, conditional lust. [Video](#)
- 2 Samuel 13:20-33; Sinful Anger: We are not to harbor intense anger and hatred in our hearts since it can lead to terrible acts of sin. [Video](#)
- 2 Samuel 13:34-39; Parental Rationalization: When disciplining children, parents should not allow their judgment to become distorted by their own sins. [Video](#)
- 2 Samuel 14:1-33; Strengths and Weaknesses: No matter who we are or what our circumstances, we must be cautious so that our greatest strengths do not become our greatest weaknesses. [Video](#)
- 2 Samuel 15:1-13; Ultimate Betrayal: When we are betrayed by those we have trusted, we must remember that the Lord Jesus Christ identifies with our disappointment and pain. [Video](#)
- 2 Samuel; Principle #17; 2 Sm. 15:14-16:14; p. 412
- Accepting God's Discipline: When we reap the consequences of our sinful actions, we must willingly accept this as God's discipline. [Video](#)
- 2 Samuel; Principle #18; 2 Sm. 18:1-18; p. 414
- The Pervasive Sin of Pride: When we are tempted to be disloyal or to betray someone who trusts us, we should look for indications of pride in our hearts. [Video](#)
- 2 Samuel 18:19-19:15; Acting Responsibly: There are times when leaders must rise above emotional pain and identify with the



needs of the larger community. [Video](#)

- 2 Samuel 21:1-9; Making Restitution: Though leaders may not be responsible for the evil done by other leaders within their area of accountability, they should attempt to right the wrong. [Video](#)
- 2 Samuel 24:1-10; A Clear Conscience: We should always seek to have a clear conscience. [Video](#)
- 2 Samuel 24:11-17; Taking Responsibility: When we see people injured and hurt because of our sinful actions, we should take full responsibility. [Video](#)
- 2 Samuel 24:18-25; Giving Sacrificially: We should seek to please God by offering Him sacrificial gifts. [Video](#)

## GOSPEL COALITION

- [2 Samuel Resources \(most are Mp3\)](#) - Mark Dever, Tim Keller, et al

## GALAXIE SOFTWARE

- [2 Samuel Theological Journal Articles - eg Did Samuel Sin?](#)

## BRUCE GOETTSCHKE

- [Bringing About a Smooth Transition](#) (1 Samuel 31- 2 Samuel 4)
- [Responding to a Holy God](#) (2 Samuel 6)
- [The House that God Will Build](#) (2 Samuel 7)
- [A Promise is a Promise](#) (2 Samuel 9)
- [A Lingering Look, A Lasting Heartache](#) (2 Samuel 11)
- [Picking Up the Pieces of Your Life](#) (2 Samuel 12)
- [The Ripple Effect](#) (2 Samuel 12:14-25)
- [Subtle Sins that Destroy the Soul](#) (2 Samuel 13)
- [When Your World Falls Apart](#) (2 Samuel 15-16)
- [The King's Grief](#) (2 Samuel 18:33-19:8)
- [Payback](#) (2 Samuel 19:16-40)
- [Sin in 3-D](#) (2 Samuel 21:1-14)
- [The Wisdom of Life](#) (2 Samuel 22)
- [Running Through a Stop Sign](#) (2 Samuel 24)

## JAMES GRAY

- [Lesson - Second Samuel](#)

## LIFEWAY SERMONS

- [2 Samuel 6:12-15 Carry the Glory](#)
- [2 Samuel 7:18-29 Make a Name for Yourself](#)
- [2 Samuel 9 The Unexpected Response](#)
- [2 Samuel 12 When You Have Sinned](#)

## DAVID MALICK

- [An Introduction to the Book of 2 Samuel](#)

## DAVID HOLWICK

- [2 Samuel 1:19-25 The Mighty Have Fallen](#)
- [2 Samuel 6:12-15 Dancing With Joy](#)
- [2 Samuel 9 The Feast of Christ the King](#)
- [2 Samuel 9:6-10 Not a Top-Ten Name](#)
- [2 Samuel 11:1-5 How To Affair-Proof Your Marriage](#)
- [2 Samuel 11:1-5 Bathsheba: Fatal Attraction](#)
- [2 Samuel 11 & 12 Motel Room Theology](#)

- [2 Samuel 12:1-4 When A Christian Falls](#)
- [2 Samuel 12:13-24 Families Who Hurt](#)
- [2 Samuel 14:1-14 Escaping Estrangement](#)
- [2 Samuel 19:31-39 Outliving Your Family](#)
- [2 Samuel 19:31-39 Grow Old Along With Me](#)
- [2 Samuel 23:14-17 Those Who Have Borne the Battle](#)
- [2 Samuel 24:10-15 Confronting Consequences](#)
- [2 Samuel 24:18-25 Offerings That Cost Me Nothing](#)

## JOHN KITTO

**Spurgeon comments-**"Should always be consulted... Exceeding meritorious. Refer to it frequently... They are not exactly a commentary, but what marvelous expositions you have there! You have reading more interesting than any novel that was ever written, and as instructive as the heaviest theology. The matter is quite attractive and fascinating, and yet so weighty, that the man who shall study these volumes thoroughly, will not fail to read his Bible intelligently and with growing interest."

- [2 Samuel 1 The Song of the Bow](#)
- [2 Samuel 2:1-7, 1 Samuel 31:11-13 David of Hebron](#)
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- [2 Samuel 2:12-32 The First Blow](#)
- [2 Samuel 3:1-16 Abner](#)
- [2 Samuel 3:17-39 Blood Revenge](#)
- [2 Samuel 4 Treachery Punished](#)
- [2 Samuel 5:1-10 The Blind and the Lamé](#)
- [2 Samuel 5:11-13 Commerce and Arts](#)
- [2 Samuel 5:17-25, 8:1 The Philistine Wars](#)
- [2 Samuel 6: 1 Chronicles 15 - The Ark](#)
- [Psalm 24 The Entrance Song](#)
- [2 Samuel 7 The Throne Established](#)
- [2 Samuel 8:2 The Decimation of Moab](#)
- [2 Samuel 8:3-12 The Great War](#)
- [2 Samuel 8:14, 1 Chronicles 8:13, 1 Kings 11:15-21 - Hadad](#)
- [2 Samuel 9:8 A Dead Dog - Mephibosheth](#)
- [2 Samuel 10 The Shaven Ambassadors](#)
- [2 Samuel 11-12 Sin and Sorrow](#)
- [2 Samuel 12:26-31 Tortures](#)
- [2 Samuel 13 The Wages of Sin](#)
- [2 Samuel 14 Absalom's Hair](#)
- [2 Samuel 14:14 The Spilt Water](#)
- [2 Samuel 15:7; 16:14 - Filial Ingratitude](#)
- [2 Samuel 16:15; 19:8 Two Hangings](#)
- [2 Samuel 19:9-15, 41-43; 20 - The Restoration](#)
- [2 Samuel 20:16-40 Incidents](#)
- [2 Samuel 21, 24 - Famine and Pestilence](#)
- [1 Kings 1:1-11; 1 Chronicles 28-29 The Last Days](#)

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**Spurgeon's Comments on Kitto:** "Then, of course, gentlemen, you will economize rigidly until you have accumulated funds to purchase **Kitto's Pictorial Bible**. You mean to take that goodly freight on board before you launch upon the sea of married life. As you cannot visit the Holy Land, it is well for you that there is a work like the Pictorial Bible, in which the notes of the most observant travellers are arranged under the texts which they illustrate. For the geography, zoology, botany, and manners and customs of Palestine, this will be your counselor and guide... A work of art as well as learning."

- [2 Samuel 1](#)
- [2 Samuel 2](#)

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- [2 Samuel 4](#)
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- [2 Samuel 20:1-22: The Woman Of Abel](#)
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- 2 Samuel 1:8 [An Amalekite](#)
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- 2 Samuel 1:18 [book of Jasher](#)
- 2 Samuel 1:20 [Tell it not](#)
- 2 Samuel 1:27 [How are the mighty fallen](#)
- 2 Samuel 2:1 [Hebron](#)
- 2 Samuel 2:4 [anointed David king](#)
- 2 Samuel 2:5 [sent messengers](#)
- 2 Samuel 2:10 [reigned two years](#)
- 2 Samuel 2:13 [pool of Gibeon](#)
- 2 Samuel 2:14 [play before us](#)
- 2 Samuel 2:18 [three sons of Zeruijah](#)
- 2 Samuel 2:21 [take thee his armour](#)
- 2 Samuel 3:1 [long war](#)
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- 2 Samuel 3:10 [from Dan even to Beersheba](#)
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- 2 Samuel 4:4 [Mephibosheth](#)
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- 2 Samuel 5:3 [anointed David king](#)
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- 2 Samuel 6:13 [sacrificed oxen and fatlings](#)
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- 2 Samuel 7:15 [shall not depart](#)
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- 2 Samuel 7:28 [thy words be true](#)
- 2 Samuel 8:4 [seven hundred horsemen houghed](#)
- 2 Samuel 8:13 [valley of salt](#)
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- 2 Samuel 10:2 [shewed kindness unto me](#)
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- 2 Samuel 10:18 [seven hundred forty thousand horsemen](#)
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- 2 Samuel 17:23 [hanged himself](#)
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- 2 Samuel 23:39 [Uriah the Hittite thirty and seven](#)
- 2 Samuel 24:1 [he moved David](#)
- 2 Samuel 24:9 [eight hundred thousand five hundred thousand men](#)
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- 2 Samuel 24:16 [Araunah the Jebusite](#)
- 2 Samuel 24:24 [fifty shekels of silver](#)

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#### CHARLES SWINDOLL

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**Excerpt - How do I apply this?** David is known as a “man after [God's] own heart” (1 Samuel 13:14) because, though he sinned greatly and made mistakes, he acknowledged those failures and repented before God. Repent means to turn away from sin and turn toward righteousness. Our Father knows we are not perfect. So His Son, Jesus Christ, paid the price for our sins so that we can become righteous in God's sight through faith. And although our salvation is secure, our daily sins can hinder our relationship with God. When we confess our sins, turning to the Lord in humility, He will forgive us and restore our relationship with Him. The apostle James has written what might be an appropriate epitaph for David. It can be yours, too: “Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you” (James 4:10).

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#### JOHN PIPER

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## JOSEPH PARKER

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## CHARLES SIMEON

### Sermons 2 Samuel

**John Piper** says that **Horae Homileticae** "is the best place to go for researching Simeon's theology. You can find his views on almost every key text in the Bible. He did not want to be labeled a Calvinist or an Arminian. He wanted to be Biblical through and through and give every text its due proportion, whether it sounded Arminian as it stands or Calvinistic. But he was known as an evangelical Calvinist, and rightly so. As I have read portions of his sermons on texts concerning election and effectual calling and perseverance he is uninhibited in his affirmation of what we would call the doctrines of grace... What Simeon experienced in the word was remarkable. And it is so utterly different from the counsel that we receive today that **it is worth looking at**" ([Brothers, We Must Not Mind a Little Suffering](#)) (Bolding added)

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