

Ruth

Author: Unknown - Possibly _____

Key Words: Redeem, Kinsman, Glean

Key Chapters:

1. Chapter 3 – Ruth comes to Boaz at the harvest
2. Chapter 4 – Boaz redeems Ruth and becomes her husband

Key Verses:

1. 1:16 – Ruth vows not to leave Naomi
2. 2:15-16 – Ruth gains favour in Boaz' eyes
3. 3:9-11 – Ruth requests Boaz to redeem her;
4. 4:7-10 – Boaz redeems Ruth publicly;
5. 4:17 – King David's _____ is born of Ruth and Boaz

Themes:

1. The Lord is _____ in all of His business
2. God blesses and _____ faithfulness
3. God's _____ is unbelievable!

Key People: Naomi, Ruth, Orpah, Boaz

Key Places: Moab, Bethlehem

The Date of Writing: The prevalent view is a date between 1011 and 931 B.C.

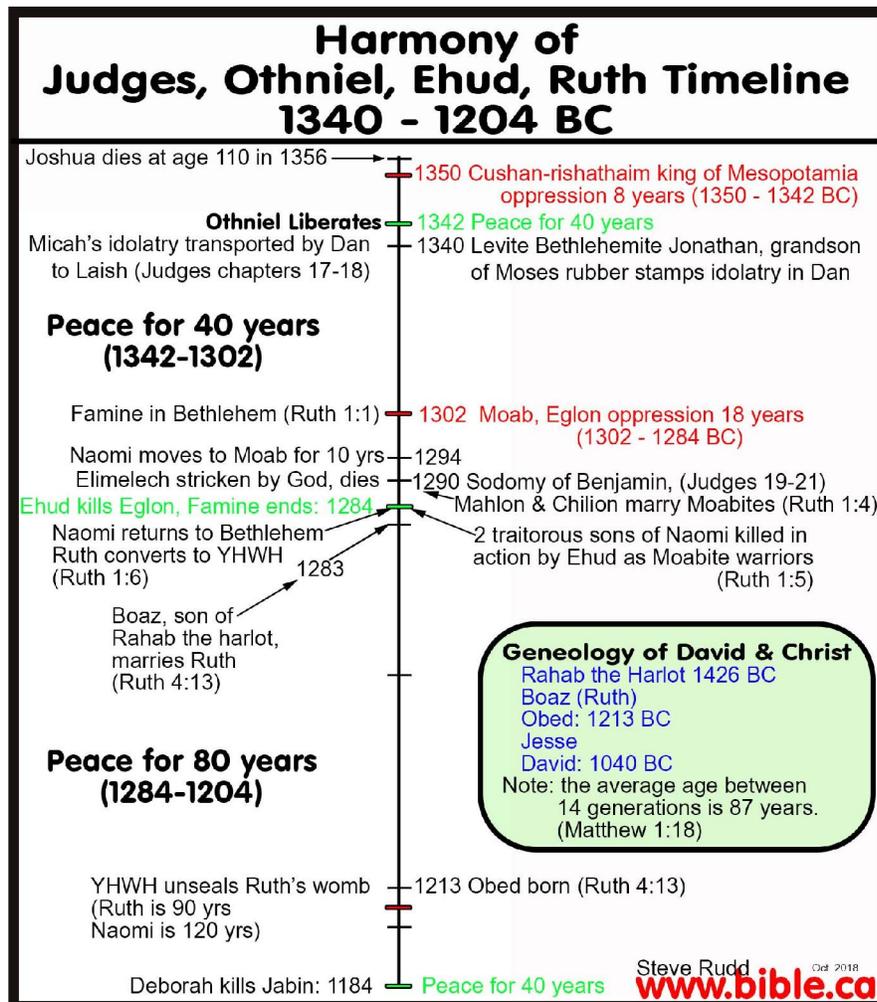
General Thoughts and Overview of Ruth

1. The Book of Ruth offers a striking contrast to the Book of Judges, but its story is associated within the same period.
2. In Judges, national sin and corruption portray a dark picture. The story of Ruth the _____ (a nation cursed by God) and her loyalty and devotion to Naomi, her Hebrew mother-in-law, presents the reader with a picture of the better side of Hebrew life in the days of the judges, and pictures the redemption of this world by Jesus, the Redeemer.
3. **Purpose of Writing:** The Book of Ruth was written to the Israelites, and it teaches that genuine love at times may require uncompromising sacrifice.
4. Regardless of our lot in life, we can live according to the precepts of God. Genuine love and kindness will be rewarded. God abundantly blesses those who seek to live obedient lives.
5. Obedient living does not allow for "accidents" in God's plan. God extends mercy to the merciful.
6. The setting for the Book of Ruth begins in the heathen country of Moab, a region northeast of the Dead Sea, but then moves to Bethlehem.
7. This story of love and devotion tells of Ruth's eventual marriage to a wealthy man named _____, by whom she bears a son, Obed, who becomes the grandfather of David and the ancestor of Jesus.
8. Obedience brings Ruth into the privileged lineage of Christ.
9. **Practical Application:** Check out Matthew 1:5 and you will find that Boaz is the son of the prostitute Rahab. Ruth was a despised foreigner married to the son of a prostitute - but she was an ancestor of Jesus Christ. This kind of thing happens in the Bible. And we should be blessed that they do. We have the Master-weaver that has a place in His plan for each of us.
10. The story of Ruth illustrates that something good can come out of something bad.
11. This book is a _____ story and a love story, as the "Lord of the Harvest" gathers His sheaves even in our day.

12. Ruth was from _____, and the Moabites were excluded from the nation of Israel. (Deuteronomy 23:3)
13. Ruth put her faith in the God of Naomi and was accepted, an illustration of God’s grace to the Gentiles. (Ephesians 2:11-22)
14. Boaz, the kinsman-redeemer, is a _____ of our Lord Jesus Christ who paid the price to redeem us and to make us His bride.
- 15. Several Practical Lessons:**
- No matter how difficult the situation, if we _____ and _____ the Lord, He will see us through.
 - No person is so far outside the reach of God’s _____ that they cannot be saved.
 - God providentially _____ those who want to obey Him and serve others.
 - It does no good to get angry at God and _____ Him for our _____ like Naomi did.
 - There are no _____ decisions with God (Psalm 37:3-7)
 - It is wise to wait on the Lord and let Him work out His loving purposes (Isaiah 28:16). After we have done all that we can do, we must trust the Lord to do the rest; and He will never fail us.
16. This is the eighth book in the Old Testament, and eight is the number of new beginnings.
17. Unlike the book of Judges with the violence and lawlessness of those times, the book of Ruth shows tenderness, love, and sacrifice.
- 18. It is good to know:**
- There are still _____ people in bad days.
 - God is at work in the corners of the land though violence may fill the news.
19. _____ and _____ are the only books of the Bible named after women.
20. The story of Ruth is a great picture of Christ and His bride.
21. Ruth is an important part in Israel and Christian history because she became the ancestress of King David and of Jesus.
22. The period of the Judges was one of turbulence and unrest that was marked by weak _____ and irresponsible conduct. Tribal jealousies and foreign oppression had weakened the Israelites politically. Idolatry had shattered the _____ strength of the people.
23. The story of Ruth presents a different side of life during the period of the Judges. Ruth, the Moabitess, who became a worshipper of Israel’s God, exhibited a faith and loyalty that was very rare at that time in Israel.
24. During the worst of times, God reveals His love and still works on behalf of those who fear and trust Him.
25. The famine could have been caused by the ravages of the invading armies that God used to discipline His people.
26. During the period of the Judges, peace was possible in one part of the land while there was trouble in another part.
27. The book of Ruth is read annually by Orthodox Jews on the Feast of _____.
28. The name “Ruth” means _____.

General Outline of the Book of Ruth

- I. **A Bitter Journey** (1:1-22) – Leaving the Will of God, and Returning Broken
 - A. Naomi’s wrong decision (1:1-5)
 - B. Naomi’s wrong direction (counsel) (1:6-18)
 - C. Naomi’s wrong demeanour (attitude) (1:19-22)
- II. **Ruth Meets Boaz** (2:1-23)
 - A. God exhorts Ruth (2:1-3)
 - B. Boaz exhibits kindness to Ruth (2:4-16)
 - C. Naomi encourages Ruth (2:17-23)
- III. **Naomi Directs Ruth in Getting Boaz as a Husband for Ruth** (3:1-18)
 - A. Ruth respects (obeys) Naomi’s counsel (3:1-5)
 - B. Ruth relinquishes (submits) to Boaz (3:6-13)
 - C. Ruth remains (waits) for Boaz to work (3:14-18)
- IV. **The Marriage of Ruth and Boaz** (4:1-22) and the family of future king David
 - A. Boaz claims (redeems) Ruth (4:1-12)
 - B. Boaz marries Ruth (4:13)
 - C. Boaz and Ruth have a son (4:14-21)



1 Samuel

Author: Unknown - Possibly _____, _____, or _____

Key Chapters:

1. Chapter 1 – The birth of Samuel
2. Chapter 8 – Israel demands a king
3. Chapter 10 – Saul anointed king of Israel
4. Chapter 15 – Saul rejected as the king of Israel
5. Chapter 16 – David chosen as the next king
6. Chapter 17 – David and Goliath

Key Verses:

1. 8:7-22 – Israel demands a king
2. 15:22, 23 – Saul rejected as the king of Israel

Themes:

1. _____ God's People
2. Biblical _____ in Leadership

Key People: Hannah, Samuel, Saul, Eli, Michal, Jonathan, Goliath, Abigail, David, Abner

Key Places: Shiloh, Mizpah, Bethlehem, Gibeah, Scattered places throughout Judah

The Date of Writing: About _____ B.C.

General Thoughts and Overview of 1 Samuel

1. These four books are a continuation of the History Books of the Bible.
2. The events of 1 Samuel span approximately 100 years, from about 1100 B.C. to c. 1000 B.C., and describe the lives of Samuel, Saul, and young David. The events of 2 Samuel cover another 40 years.
3. The author is anonymous. We know that Samuel wrote a book (1 Samuel 10:25), and it is very possible that he wrote part of this book as well. Other possible contributors to 1 Samuel are the prophets/historians Nathan and Gad (1 Chronicles 29:29). Originally, the books of 1 and 2 Samuel were one book.
4. **The Purpose of this Book:** First Samuel records the history of Israel in the land of Canaan as they move from the rule of _____ to being a unified nation under _____. The prophet Samuel emerges as the last judge, and he anoints the first two kings of Israel, _____ and _____.
5. First Samuel can be neatly divided into two sections: the life of _____ (chapters 1-12) and the life of _____ (chapters 13-31).
6. The book starts with the miraculous birth of Samuel in answer to his mother's earnest prayer. As a child, Samuel lived and served in the temple. God singled him out as a prophet (3:19-21), and the child's first prophecy was one of judgment on the corrupt priests.
7. The Israelites go to war with their enemies, the _____. The Philistines capture the ark of the covenant, but when the Lord sends judgment upon them, the Philistines return the ark. Samuel calls Israel to repentance (7:3-6) and then to victory over the Philistines.
8. The people of Israel, wanting to be like other nations, desire a king. Samuel is displeased by their demands, but the Lord tells him that it is not Samuel's leadership they are rejecting, but His own. After warning the people of what having a king would mean, Samuel anoints a Benjamite named Saul, who is crowned in Mizpah (10:17-25).
9. Saul enjoys initial success, defeating the Ammonites in battle (chapter 11). But then he makes a series of errors in judgment:
 - a. He presumptuously offers a _____ (chapter 13)

- b. He makes a foolish vow at the expense of his son Jonathan (chapter 14)
 - c. He disobeys the Lord's direct command to annihilate the Amalekites (chapter 15).
10. As a result of Saul's rebellion, God chooses another man to take Saul's place as king. When God removes His blessing from Saul, an evil spirit drives Saul toward madness (16:14).
 11. Samuel travels to the little village of _____ to anoint a young man named David as the next king of Israel (chapter 16). Later, David has his famous confrontation with _____ the Philistine and becomes a national hero (chapter 17).
 12. David serves in Saul's court, marries Saul's daughter, and is befriended by Saul's son. Saul himself grows jealous of David's success and popularity, and he attempts to kill David.
 13. David flees, and so begins an extraordinary period of adventure, intrigue, and romance while running for his life from king Saul.
 14. With supernatural aid, David narrowly but consistently eludes the bloodthirsty Saul (chapters 19-26). Through it all, David maintains his integrity and his friendship with _____.
 15. Near the end of the book, Samuel has died, and Saul is a lost man. On the eve of a battle with the Philistines, Saul seeks for direction. Having rejected God, he finds no help from heaven, and he seeks counsel from a witch instead. During the séance, _____ soul rises from the dead to give one last prophecy: that Saul would die in battle the next day. The prophecy is fulfilled; Saul's three sons, including Jonathan, die in the battle, and Saul commits suicide.
 16. Practical Application:
 - a. The tragic story of Saul is a study in wasted opportunity. Here was a man who had it all—honour from God and man, authority, riches, good looks, and more. Yet he died in despair, terrified of his enemies and knowing he had failed his nation, his family, and his God.
 - b. Saul made the mistake of thinking disobedience didn't matter. Like many today, he believed that a sensible motive will compensate for bad behaviour. Perhaps his power went to his head, and he began to think he was above the rules. Somehow, he developed a low opinion of God's commands and a high opinion of himself. Even when confronted with his wrongdoing, he attempted to justify himself, and that's when God rejected him (15:16-28).
 - c. Saul's problem is one we all face—a problem of the _____. Obedience to God's will is necessary for success, and if we in pride rebel against Him, we set ourselves up for loss.
 - d. David, on the other hand, did not seem like much at first. Even Samuel was tempted to overlook him (16:6-7). But God sees the heart and saw in David a man who would follow after His own heart (13:14). The humility and integrity of David, coupled with his boldness for the Lord and his commitment to prayer, sets a good example for all of us.
 17. The books of Samuel embrace that critical period of Israel's history from judgeship to monarchy, from loose _____ affiliation to strong central government.
 18. The books of Samuel provide an account of the history of Israel from the end of the 12th through the beginning of the 10th centuries before Christ. The entire period covered is about _____ years.
 19. 1 Samuel reads as a work deeply sensitive to the _____ and _____ of human power and to the abiding ineluctability (can't be eluded or overthrown) of divine election.
 20. 1 & 2 Samuel are named after the prophet Samuel, who served as the _____ judge and who anointed both Saul and David to be kings of Israel.
 21. Viewed together, the books of 1 & 2 Samuel and 1 & 2 Kings cover the entire period of the monarchy, from its commencement to its collapse in 586 B.C.

Old Testament Survey – Student Edition

22. Samuel had the tremendous task of directing the rebuilding of _____ and _____ unity and was God's instrument for establishing the kingdom of Israel in this great national crisis, second only in importance to the Exodus.
23. A nation cannot rise higher than its _____. Followers tend to _____ what their leaders are.
24. A nation's leader determines its _____.
25. Throughout the history of God's people, the leaders determined the spiritual direction of the nation.
26. The morals of a nation are determined by the character of its _____.
27. The morals of a church are determined by the character of the _____ and staff.
28. The morals of a family are determined by the character of the _____.
29. During Judges and Ruth, there was no national leadership and it was a time of _____.
30. Great leaders make a nation great and poor leaders make it wicked.
31. The absence of leadership always results in anarchy.
32. The following books of 1 Samuel – 2 Chronicles need to be viewed theologically and not only as recounting of events separated from the purposes and plan of God. Don't look at these books as just _____.

A Simple Outline of 1 Samuel

- I. **Birth and Early Years of _____** (1:1-4:1a) – Hannah’s Burden, Faith, and Blessing
 - A. Eli's Family Problems (2:12-36)
 - B. God speaks with Samuel (3:1-18)
 - C. Samuel, the prophet (3:19-4:1a)
- II. **Samuel’s Leadership of Israel** (4 – 15)
 - A. Abuse of the _____ by the Philistines (4:1b-7:2)
 - B. Samuel Judges Israel (7:3-17)
 - C. The Quest for a King (8:1-12:25) – Saul is selected
 - D. Samuel Steps Down from being Judge in Israel (12:1-25)
 - E. Saul's Kingship (13:1-15:35) – Pretty good leader at first
 - F. Saul's rejection as king after only two years (15:10-35)
- III. **Saul and David** (16:1-30:31)
 - A. David's Rise to Power (16:1-18:30)
 - 1. Samuel anoints young David (16:1-13)
 - 2. David enters Saul's service as a _____ player (16:14-23)
 - 3. David kills Goliath (17:1-58)
 - 4. Jonathan and David become best of friends (18:1-5)
 - 5. Women praise David's abilities in battle (18:6-9) and causes envy in Saul’s heart
 - 6. Saul tries to kill David (18:10-11)
 - 7. David continues to succeed (18:12-16)
 - 8. David kills Philistines to marry Saul's daughter _____ (18:17-29)
 - B. Saul Versus David (19:1-27:12)
 - 1. God protects David (19:1-21:15)
 - 2. David Protects His _____ (22:1-23:5)
- IV. **Saul's _____ Battle** (28:1-31:13)
 - A. Saul and the woman at Endor (28:1-25)
 - B. The Philistines Dismiss David from joining the battle (29:1-11)
 - C. Destruction of Ziklag and David gives chase to the Amalekites (30:1-31)
 - D. Saul and his sons die in the battle against the Philistines (31:1-13)

2 Samuel

Author: Unknown - Possibly _____ or Gad (1 Corinthians 29:29)

Key Chapters:

1. Chapter 3 – The assassination of Abner by Joab
2. Chapter 7 – God’s covenant with David that his seed will be established forever (Christ)
3. Chapter 12 – David & Bathsheba
4. Chapter 22 – David’s song of praise to God

Key Verses:

1. 3:18 – Abner encourages Israel to make David the king.
2. 7:4-17 – Prophecy of Christ being a heir of David
3. 24:24 - You cannot worship God without a cost

Themes:

1. Future _____ is never _____ – No guarantee unless you walk with the Lord in righteousness.
2. Righteousness brings _____ and sin brings _____.

Key People: David, Abner, Joab, Abishai, Nathan, Bathsheba, Mephibosheth, Uriaah, Absalom, Amasa

Key Places: Hebron, Jerusalem, Various Battles

The Date of Writing: About _____ B.C.

General Thoughts and Overview of 2 Samuel

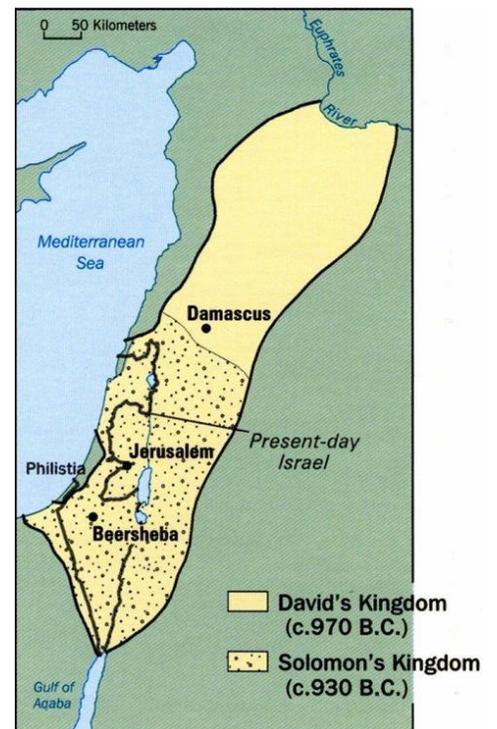
1. **The Purpose of Writing:** 2 Samuel is the inspired record of King David’s reign.
2. The book of 2 Samuel is broadly divided into two main sections—David’s _____ (chapters 1-10) and David’s _____ (chapters 11-20).
3. The last part of the book (chapters 21-24) is an appendix which contains further details of David’s reign that are not in chronological order.
4. The book begins with David receiving news of the death of Saul and his sons. He proclaims a time of mourning.
5. Soon afterward, David is crowned king over Judah, while Ish-bosheth, one of Saul’s surviving sons, is crowned king over Israel (chapter 2). A civil war follows, but Ish-bosheth is murdered, and the Israelites ask David to reign over them as well (chapters 4-5).
6. David moves the country’s capital from Hebron to Jerusalem and later moves the ark of the covenant there as well in anticipation of building a permanent Temple there (chapters 5-6).
7. David’s plan to build a temple in Jerusalem is vetoed by God, Who then promises David the following things:
 - a. That David would have a son to rule after him
 - b. 2) David’s son would build the temple
 - c. 3) The throne occupied by David’s lineage would be established forever
 - d. 4) God would _____ take His mercy from David’s house (2 Samuel 7:4-16).
8. David leads Israel to victory over many of the enemy nations which surrounded them. He also shows kindness to the family of Jonathan by taking in _____, Jonathan’s crippled son (chapters 8-10) and treating him as his own son. A great picture of mercy and grace!
9. Then, David falls. He lusts after a beautiful woman named Bathsheba, commits adultery with her, and then has her husband murdered (chapter 11). When Nathan the prophet

confronts David with his sin, David confesses, and God graciously forgives. However, the Lord tells David that trouble would arise from within his own household.

10. David's troubles from within his own house:
 - a. David's firstborn son, Amnon, rapes his half-sister, Tamar.
 - b. In retaliation, Tamar's brother Absalom kills Amnon. Absalom then flees Jerusalem rather than face his father's anger.
 - c. Later, Absalom leads a revolt against David, and some of David's former associates join the rebellion (chapters 15-16). David is forced out of Jerusalem, and Absalom sets himself up as king for a short time. Absalom is overthrown, however, and—against David's wishes—is killed by David's general, Joab. David mourns his fallen son.
11. A general feeling of unrest plagues the remainder of David's reign. The men of Israel threaten to split from Judah, and David must suppress another uprising (chapter 20).
12. The book's appendix includes information concerning a three-year famine in the land (chapter 21), a song of David (chapter 22), a record of the exploits of David's bravest warriors (chapter 23), and David's sinful census and the ensuing plague (chapter 24).
13. **PRACTICAL Applications:**
 - a. Anyone can fall. Even a godly man like David, who truly desired to follow God and who was richly blessed by God, was susceptible to temptation. David's sin with Bathsheba should be a warning to all of us to guard the heart. "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall" (1 Corinthians 10:12).
 - b. God is gracious to forgive even the most awful of sins when we truly repent. However, healing the wound caused by sin does not always erase the scar.
 - c. Sin has natural consequences, and even after he was forgiven, David reaped what he had sown. How much better to avoid sin in the first place, rather than having to seek forgiveness later!
14. 2 Samuel concludes with a chronicle of royal succession in which David on his deathbed made provision for his son _____ to follow him on the throne. This must be dated at 971 B.C.
15. Most of David's life is a testimony to the way God blesses the godly or righteous.
16. David and his dynasty demonstrate what it means to rule under God. When you don't have direction, you will be dismayed.
17. Taken together, the books of 1 Samuel and 2 Samuel demonstrate the contrast between Saul and David. Saul began well but ended poorly, having _____ the path of obedience to God's commands. David, although lapsing at times from obedience to God, _____ of his sins and began a golden age of Israelite glory. In all the times Saul disobeyed, he never repented and it led him onto a path of his own destruction.
18. God selected David's dynasty to continue on Israel's throne _____, culminating in the reign of Jesus Christ.

A Simple Outline of the Events of 2 Samuel

- I. **David Mourns for Saul and Jonathan** (1:1-27)
- A. David discovers Saul and Jonathan are dead (1:1-16) – the battle with the Philistines went bad
 - B. The Song of David about Jonathan’s Death (1:17-27)
- II. **David’s Way to Kingship** (2:1-5:5)
- A. David is anointed King of Judah (2:1-4a)
 - B. David rewards Jabesh-gilead for caring for Saul’s body (2:4b-7)
 - C. Rebellious Ishbosheth appointed King of Israel (2:8-11)
 - D. There is a brief War between Israel and Judah (2:12-3:1)
 - E. David’s sons are born (3:2-5)
 - F. Abner defects from Saul’s army to David, Joab kills Abner out of jealousy (3:6-39)
 - G. Ishbosheth is murdered and his head brought to David (4:1-12)
 - H. David is finally anointed king of all Israel (5:1-3) – it has been _____ years since David’s anointing by Samuel
- III. **David’s Early Successes as King** (5:6-10:19)
- A. David captures _____ from the Jebusites for his capital (5:6-12)
 - B. David has more sons (5:13-16)
 - C. David’s Victories over the Philistines (5:17-25)
 - D. David brings Ark to Jerusalem (6:1-23)
 - E. God makes a covenant with David (7:1-29)
 - F. Some of the nations David subdued (8:1-14)
 - G. David’s administration of Israel (8:15-18)
 - H. David cares for Jonathan’s son Mephibosheth (9:1-13)
 - I. David defeats the Ammonites and Arameans (10:1-19)
- IV. **David’s Difficulties** (11:1-21:22)
- A. David and Bathsheba (11:1-12:25)
 1. Adultery and murder (11:1-27)
 2. Nathan, the prophet, confronts David (12:1-15a)
 3. Death of Bathsheba’s son (12:15b-23)
 4. The Birth of _____ (12:24-25)
 - B. David conquers the Ammonites (12:26-31)
 - C. Rape of David’s daughter Tamar (13:1-39)
 1. Amnon rapes Tamar (13:1-19)
 2. David’s inaction (13:20-22)
 3. Absalom kills Amnon and flees (13:23-39)
 - D. _____ rebellion against God, and his family (14:1-19:43)
 1. Absalom’s return to David (14:1-33)
 2. Absalom leads a rebellion against David (15:1-12) – takes over the kingdom
 3. David flees Jerusalem (15:13-16:14)
 4. Absalom follows bad advice (16:15-17:14)
 5. David follows good advice (17:15-29)
 6. David’s army defeats Absalom and Joab wrongfully kills Absalom (18:1-32)
 7. David mourns for Absalom (18:33-19:4)
 8. Joab shames David out of his mourning (19:5-8a)
 9. Those who opposed David plead for mercy (19:8b-43)
 - E. The Rebellion of Sheba (20:1-22) – tries to set himself up as king, but is defeated
 - F. David’s officers and administrators (20:23-26)



- G. The Gibeonites get justice concerning Saul’s wrongful acts against them (21:1-14)
 - H. David's age shows in a battle with Philistia (21:15-17)
 - I. Battles against giants that were in the land still (21:18-22)
- V. **The Song of David** (22:1-51)
- VI. **The Last Words of David** (23:1-7)
- VII. **David's Thirty Three Mighty Men and Their Victories** (23:8-39)
- A. The Three Mightiest of the Mighty Men (23:8-17)
 - 1. Adino the Eznite (23:8) – slew _____ men single-handedly
 - 2. Eleazar (23:9-10) – fought all alone, until the sword “clave to his hand”
 - 3. Shammah (23:11-12) – defended a field of bean plants (_____) single-handedly
 - B. Bravery of three other mighty men (23:13-17) – risked their lives to get water for David from a well in Bethlehem
 - C. The list of the Thirty Mighty men (23:18-39)
- VIII. **David's Sinful _____** (24:1-25) – a matter of pride instead of war
- A. The Census (24:1-9) – not for war, but only for pride
 - B. David repents (24:10)
 - C. David's punishment (24:11-17)
 - D. David builds an altar (24:18-25)