

**GOD'S BIG PICTURE –
5. God's King
(2 Samuel 5: 1-12)**

Q1: Brainstorm all you know about the life of David.

Q2: Read Deuteronomy 17: 14-20 (if you didn't do this earlier). What were the criteria for a king?

Q3: What two words are used in verse 2 (2 Samuel 5) to characterise David as King. What do they convey?

Q4: What does it mean that Jesus is our *Good Shepherd*? (cf. John 10: 11) How does it encourage us knowing that Jesus is 'our own flesh and blood'? (v 1; cf. Hebrews 2: 14)

Q5: What lessons does the writer of 2 Samuel want us to learn from how Jerusalem is captured? (vs. 6-10) Who had established David's kingdom and why? (v 12)

Q6: Read Acts 2: 22-36. How does Peter view David's kingship pointing forward to Jesus?

Q7: In what ways is David a 'model' king? If Jesus fulfils all these categories then what difference does it make to how you view him? What changes are you going to make to how you think and behave because of this Bible study?



**God's Big Picture
Bible Overview**



**No. 5 (God's Rule – The Coming King)
Ruth – II Chronicles**

1. The Promise of a King

a) Ruth

Q: **READ** : Ruth 4: 13-22 How does Ruth finish? Why is that significant?

The answer to the book of Judges was the need for a King. The answer to the book of Ruth is 'David'. So the book of Ruth does two things:

1. It continues the line of the promise to David. 2. It continues the 'Scarlet thread' (cf. Genesis 38: 28; Joshua 2: 18; Ruth 1: 4, 16-17; Matt. 1: 1-17).

b) Samuel

Samuel comes as an answer to Hannah's prayer. Yet the promise of 1 Samuel 2: 10 is even more amazing when we remember that at the time Israel had no King! Samuel was the last and best Judge. Samuel was clearly a prophet (1 Samuel 3: 20).

2. The Demand for a King

Q: **READ : Deuteronomy 17: 14-20** Was Kingship part of God's plan? List all the necessary qualifications for the right King.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

But Saul failed on three of them. David also failed on two. There was nothing wrong in having a King, *per se*. However, problems occur in life when we look to human leaders to fulfil needs that can only be met by God. God responded in mercy. He gave them what they wanted - Saul (1 Samuel 9: 2). A good looking and capable leader, but one who was too easily swayed by public opinion. Saul chose to obey the people rather than God, and so a new King, one of God's choosing, was needed.

3. King David

This time the initiative to get a King, and the choice itself, came from God (1 Samuel 15: 28; 16: 12-13). David was now the 'Lord's anointed'. Messiah means 'the anointed'. In 2 Samuel 5: 10-12, David conquers Jerusalem and then is King over all Israel. Jerusalem becomes the focus of David's rule, and therefore symbolic of God's promise of the Land (See Psalm 48: 1-3). Even though David was described as a '*man after God's heart*' (1 Samuel 13: 14; Acts 13: 22), he was still sinful - he committed adultery and murder (2 Samuel 11-12).

Q: **READ : 2 Samuel 7: 8-16** Is David the answer? How will the promise be fulfilled? To whom do verses 13 & 14 refer?

4. The Golden Age - Solomon

1 Kings 3: 9; 4: 25 - God's people living safely in the land, under a godly king who walks in God's statutes and is wise. God's Temple is built ('heaven on earth' - 1 Kings 8: 27). The tabernacle now finds a permanent resting place. The Temple reveals a need for forgiveness, which applies to all nations (1 Kings 8: 41-43).

Q: **READ : 1 Kings 11: 1-13** Has the promise been completely fulfilled? What is going to happen? Which of the criteria from Deuteronomy 17 did Solomon fail?

Is this the fulfilment? NO! The 'except' was already there in 1 Kings 3: 3. The 'fall' came in 1 Kings 11.

5. Good King, Bad King mostly Bad King!

After Solomon the Kingdom was split in half (1 Kings 11: 29-32). The ten northern tribes (known from here after as *Israel*) went with Jeroboam. The two southern tribes of Judah and Benjamin (known from now on as *Judah*) remained faithful to Solomon's son, Rehoboam.

The History of the subsequent Kings of Israel and Judah makes pretty depressing reading. Although there were some good Kings (mostly in Judah), generally they get worse and worse.

6. Hope of Revival

Q: **READ : 2 Kings 22: 1-2, 8-20; 23: 1-3** What brought about the return to God? What does this tell us about leadership?

Without godly leadership, which is according to the Bible, people do not obey God. In 2 Kings 23: 21-23 we read that the Passover had not been kept since the days of the judges. Even with such godly leadership people continue to rebel against God. God still had to judge this sin – 2 Kings 23: 26-27.

After the promise was given to Abraham all the requirements are progressively fulfilled until a peak is reached in the reign of Solomon - but unfortunately the answer is not found here. Repeated disobedience led, in the end to exile. So the focus now shifts from the *people* to the *promise* itself.