

Lesson 22

David's Wars and Mighty Men

(2 Samuel 21:1 – 23:39; 1 Chronicles 11:10-47; 20:4-8)

Questions

1. What did the Gibeonites want as atonement for what Saul had done to them (21:1-6)?

2. Why did David spare Mephibosheth and what did he do to the two sons of Rizpah, and the five sons of Michal [or Merab] (21:7-9)?

3. What did Rizpah do for the dead bodies that were hanged and what did David do for them (21:10-14)?

4. What did Abishai, Sibbecai, Elhanan, and Jonathan do (21:15-22; 1 Chron. 20:4-8)?

5. David's psalm of praise (22:1-51; Psa. 18:1-50). [Summarize what is in the text for your answers.]
 - a. What was the Lord to David and what did David do to him (22:1-4)?

 - b. What troubles did David have and what did he do to the Lord (22:5-7)?

 - c. How did the Lord respond to David's cry (22:8-16)?

 - d. What did the Lord do for David and why (22:17-25)?

 - e. How does the Lord act toward various people (22:26-28)?

- f. What did the Lord help David to do (22:29-37)?
 - g. What did David do to his enemies (22:38-43)?
 - h. What did the Lord do to help David as a king (22:44-51)?
6. What did David say about himself in his last words (23:1-2)?
7. What did David say about the conduct of a proper ruler in his last words (23:3-7)?
8. What did the following men do: Adino (23:8; 1 Chron. 11:10-11), Eleazar (23:9-10; 1 Chron. 11:12-14), Shammah (23:11-12), the three mighty men (23:13-17; 1 Chron. 11:15-19), Abishai (23:18-19; 1 Chron. 11:20-21), and Benaiah (23:20-23; 1 Chron. 11:22-25)?
9. Which two of David's mighty men listed at the end of 2 Samuel 23 were killed earlier in the book (23:24-39; 1 Chron. 11:26-47)?

Digging Deeper

1. Where in the OT had the Israelites made a covenant of peace with the Gibeonites (21:2) and is there any record of Saul putting them to death?
2. Where in 1 Samuel is the covenant between David and Jonathan mentioned (21:7)?
3. What time of the year was the "beginning of the barley harvest" (21:9)?

4. Where in 1 Samuel are we told about the dead bodies of Saul and Jonathan and what was done to them (21:12)?

5. What is the “lamp of Israel” a reference to in 21:17?

6. Who did Elhanan kill, Goliath, or the brother of Goliath (21:10; see 1 Chron. 20:5)?

7. How does Psalm 18 relate to David’s psalm in 2 Samuel 22 (see also Psa. 96:1-13 and 105:1-15)?

8. What covenant mentioned earlier in 2 Samuel does David refer to in 2 Samuel 22:51 and 23:5?

9. How many of the 150 psalms in the book of Psalms are attributed to David, “the sweet psalmist of Israel” (23:1)?

Applications for Today

1. In times of trouble, when you need help, seek the face of the Lord (21:1; 1 Chron. 16:11; Psa. 27:8; 105:4).
2. When you make a covenant, keep it (21:2; Rom. 1:31).
3. Good and godly leaders are a light to the people they lead (21:17; Mt. 4:16; Lk. 2:32).
4. Praise the Lord and thank him for all the good things he gives you and does for you (22:1-51; Heb. 13:15).
5. The Lord delivers all who are righteous and keep his ways (22:21-27; 2 Tim. 3:11; 4:17-18).
6. The Lord resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble (22:28; Jas. 4:6; 1 Pet. 5:5).

7. The scriptures are the Spirit-inspired word of the Lord (23:2; 2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Pet. 1:20-21).
8. Those who rule over others should be righteous and God-fearing, not ungodly (23:3, 6; 1 Tim. 3:1-7).
9. Many hands make for light work (23:8-39; Phil. 4:3).