

Establishing a Kingdom

2 Samuel 5

I. INTRO

- A. Ever notice how when you make your resume you always put the most impressive credentials at the top?
- B. Towards the bottom is when you start getting some really lame bragging points:
 - 1. Won the 4th grade spelling bee
 - 2. Yellow Belt in Tae Kwon Do
 - 3. Crushed 9 hot dogs at “dollar dog day”
- C. This chapter in 2 Samuel reads a bit like David’s resume. Imagine that the author wants to make it clear in your mind, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that David is IN FACT, the king God has for Israel / signed, sealed, & delivered
- D. Now remember: David was anointed as king 15 years ago, but it’s taken this long for all the dominoes to line up (Last week: Preparation time isn’t wasted time; God knows what he’s doing.)
- E. In 2 Sam 5, God wants to show us that this is HIS king. It doesn’t matter what the naysayers thought in the past, this is the chapter where every knee starts to bow

II. 2 Samuel 5, [1] Then all the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said, “Behold, we are your bone and flesh. [2] In times past, when Saul was king over us, it was you who led out and brought in Israel. And the LORD said to you, ‘You shall be shepherd of my people Israel, and you shall be prince over Israel.’” [3] So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the LORD, and they anointed David king over Israel. [4] David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. [5] At Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months, and at Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years.

- A. After Saul’s death and the civil war with Ish-bosheth, all the tribes came to David at Hebron. They are ready to acknowledge him as king.
- B. Interestingly, they recognize three things:
 - 1. **Kinship:** “We are your bone and flesh.”
 - 2. **Leadership:** “when Saul was our king, you were the real leader in Israel.”
 - 3. **Divine Calling:** “The LORD said to YOU”
- C. David is 30 years old when he begins his reign, same age as Jesus at the start of His public ministry (Luke 3:23).
 - 1. He reigned 40 years total: 7½ in Hebron (Judah only) and 33 in Jerusalem (all Israel).
- D. In the ANE, you’d normally brag on a king b/c of his military strength or divine right (e.g. Egyptians thought Pharaoh was a god), but David is a shepherd/prince
 - 1. Shepherd language: You “led us out and brought us in...”
 - 2. Prince... b/c who is king? God! David is a steward on YHWH’s throne
 - 3. He is an undershepherd under the chief shepherd

4. What a contrast to political leaders of our world (Mt 20:25, Jesus called them over and said, *"You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those in high positions act as tyrants over them."*)
- E. God is establishing David as king. The people finally see what God had proclaimed over him 15 years ago
 1. The truth is that David WAS the anointed king, but the people had yet to receive him. Their rejection didn't change God's reality for him, but now **the king has his people**

III. *[6] And the king and his men went to Jerusalem against the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land, who said to David, "You will not come in here, but the blind and the lame will ward you off"—thinking, "David cannot come in here." [7] Nevertheless, David took the stronghold of Zion, that is, the city of David. [8] And David said on that day, "Whoever would strike the Jebusites, let him get up the water shaft to attack 'the lame and the blind,' who are hated by David's soul." Therefore it is said, "The blind and the lame shall not come into the house." [9] And David lived in the stronghold and called it the city of David. And David built the city all around from the Millo inward. [10] And David became greater and greater, for the LORD, the God of hosts, was with him.*

- A. A king is only as good as the safety and victory he can provide
- B. The Jebusites controlled Jerusalem, taunting David that even the "blind and lame" could defend it.
- C. Well, David takes the fortress and renames it the City of David.
- D. David strengthened the city, built it up, and "the LORD was with him"
 1. God's hand of divine blessing is all over this
- E. Jerusalem's choice was brilliant politically and theologically.
 1. It sat between north and south, making it neutral ground. This would be a unifying choice for the king
 2. On a hill
 3. Spiritually, it would become the center of worship when the ark and later the temple were placed there (Deut 12:5)
- F. Again, God is establishing David's monarchy. You can't have a king without a home. The king needs a place from which to reign.
- G. **The king needs a castle, and now he has it.**

IV. *[11] And Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, and cedar trees, also carpenters and masons who built David a house. [12] And David knew that the LORD had established him king over Israel, and that he had exalted his kingdom for the sake of his people Israel. [13] And David took more concubines and wives from Jerusalem, after he came from Hebron, and more sons and daughters were born to David. [14] And these are the names of those who were born to him in Jerusalem: Shammua, Shobab, Nathan, Solomon, [15] Ibhar, Elishua, Nepheg, Japhia, [16] Elishama, Eliada, and Eliphelet.*

- A. Hiram, king of Tyre, sends cedar, carpenters, and masons to build David a palace. The nations come and honor him as king...
 1. This is significant b/c the nations are acknowledging David as king
- B. David knew: "The LORD had established him king over Israel."
 1. This is what we are seeing time and time again here

- C. Why? God is doing it for the sake of the people. There is good purpose in it for the community
- D. David secures power by having lots of babies and wives
 - 1. Here we see a hole in the armor...
 - 2. *Deuteronomy 17:17a, And [your king] shall not acquire many wives for himself, lest his heart turn away...*
 - 3. The enemy (Satan) knows how to exploit us in our weaknesses, and David was a ladies' man
 - 4. We know his tactics... The lust of the eyes... the lust of the flesh... the pride of life
 - 5. It's a dangerous place for a good-looking king who can have any lady...
 - a) Narrative foreshadowing: looking forward to what will happen
- V. [17] When the Philistines heard that David had been anointed king over Israel, all the Philistines went up to search for David. But David heard of it and went down to the stronghold. [18] Now the Philistines had come and spread out in the Valley of Rephaim. [19] And David inquired of the LORD, "Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will you give them into my hand?" And the LORD said to David, "Go up, for I will certainly give the Philistines into your hand." [20] And David came to Baal-perazim, and David defeated them there. And he said, "The LORD has broken through my enemies before me like a breaking flood." Therefore the name of that place is called Baal-perazim. [21] And the Philistines left their idols there, and David and his men carried them away. [22] And the Philistines came up yet again and spread out in the Valley of Rephaim. [23] And when David inquired of the LORD, he said, "You shall not go up; go around to their rear, and come against them opposite the balsam trees. [24] And when you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam trees, then rouse yourself, for then the LORD has gone out before you to strike down the army of the Philistines." [25] And David did as the LORD commanded him, and struck down the Philistines from Geba to Gezer.
 - A. The Philistines (Goliath), long enemies of Israel, march against David
 - B. David inquires of the LORD before acting (contrast with Saul, who acted presumptuously).
 - 1. First battle: God gives victory at Baal-perazim ("The Lord breaks out").
 - 2. Second battle: David waits for God's sign (sound of marching in the trees). The Lord goes to fight for them.
 - C. Victory goes to God, not David's military genius → The LORD will strike
 - 1. Once again, David is realizing that the LORD is establishing him, and he doesn't steal God's glory
 - D. Remember, this is what makes David different from Saul: his heart posture
 - 1. He waits on God, inquires of God, & wants to follow him
 - 2. It doesn't mean he is perfect, but he is striving for a surrender heart
 - 3. He knows who he is and who God is, and he is okay with that
 - 4. He knows God is the true king and he is the under-shepherd
 - E. The Lord is establishing David, but it's really about God at the end of the day
- VI. Pulling It Together.
 - A. What's this chapter all about? David's resume and God establishing his kingdom

1. He unites the clans
 2. They acknowledge him as the true king of Israel
 3. He conquers Jerusalem
 4. The nations acknowledge his monarchy
 5. He defeats their enemies
- B. We see God's character and nature on display in this story:
1. **Faithful:** Keeps His promise to raise David as shepherd of Israel
 2. **Sovereign:** Establishes David's throne, directs battles, secures victory
 3. **Presence:** "The LORD was with David" (5:10) in the midst of all of it
- C. We can even look to David as an example of what it means to have a heart after God's own heart:
1. David waited on God's timing
 2. David led with humility as a shepherd rather than as a tyrant
 3. David sought God's guidance in decisions
 4. David recognized victories as God's work, not his own awesomeness
 5. And he chose unity over division, as seen in his choice of Jerusalem
- D. God records this resume so that all of Israel would know that David was the king God established.
1. He is saying. This is the king. This is the guy. This is the one. Follow him. Listen to him. I have established HIM for you. HE is YOUR King!
- E. But what about for us? We aren't Jews living in 1000 BCE
1. For you and me, the call of 2 Samuel 5 is not, "Be like David."
 2. The lesson for us is **"Follow the King that God has established."**
- F. David's kingship points to another King, greater than David, whose kingdom will never end. Follow the King that God has established.
1. Jesus came from God as the GodMan. He was the king. He was anointed in public. He demonstrated his authority in the way he taught, how he spoke, how he healed and cast out demonic affliction.
 2. He showed how his kingdom was not of this world, an upside-down kingdom that wasn't about power, money, and personal gain
 3. He lay down his life in Jerusalem, dying at the hands of the people he came to save.
 4. Written across his cross, the weapon of his execution was, "King of the Jews" → and that's what he was
 5. Their rejection of him doesn't change that reality
 6. David was the shepherd of God's people. Jesus is the Good Shepherd who lays down His life for the sheep.
 7. He died to pay the penalty, to satisfy the wrath of God, and break the curse of sin
 8. And when he rose from the grave he declared, *"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me..."*
 9. David established his throne with the nations around him. Upon his resurrection, Jesus is enthroned as the King of every tribe, tongue, and nation.

10. *Philippians 2:8–11, [8] And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. [9] Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, [10] so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, [11] and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

a) Doesn't matter whether you like that he is the king, or want him to be your king. He IS the king. You will bend the knee → either out of worship or as you beg for mercy in fear.

b) Then, every tongue will confess who he really is!

11. *Acts 17:30–31, [30] The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, [31] because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."*

G. God has already established Jesus as king

1. All authority... All dominion... His kingdom.

2. He's not just a savior. He's not just an example. He's not just a friend of sinners. He's not just a comfort in times of trouble. Yes, he's those things too. But he's also the king.

3. And he wants to be king and LORD in your life.

4. He wants to reign over every square inch, every room of your house, every dollar in your bank account, every minute at your job, every thought in your mind, every text on your phone, and every word on your tongue

5. Will you surrender to him?

H. One day, the King who was crucified in Jerusalem will return to establish the New Jerusalem... and on that day he won't come riding on a donkey for peace.

I. On that day, every knee will bow, every tongue will confess, and his people will reign with Him forever, while his enemies are destroyed in judgment

J. Will you follow the king that God has established, or will you ignore him?