

David the King

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2 Samuel 5:1-5 Then came all the tribes of Israel to David unto Hebron, and spake, saying, Behold, we are thy bone and thy flesh. Also in time past, when Saul was king over us, thou wast he that leddest out and broughtest in Israel: and the LORD said to thee, Thou shalt feed my people Israel, and thou shalt be a captain over Israel. So all the elders of Israel came to the king to Hebron; and king David made a league with them in Hebron before the LORD: and they anointed David king over Israel. David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months: and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty and three years over all Israel and Judah.

- I. There are many things to stop and ponder about this day in the life of David.
 - A. It has been a long time coming.
 - 1. When God is doing something with a man or a people it takes a long time.
 - B. It was a major change in the life of David.
 - 1. From being on the bottom to being on the top.
 - 2. The wheel has finally turned, and instead of being on the bottom he is on the top.
 - C. His being made King unified the country and brought peace to the land.
 - 1. Israel had been in civil war for over 7 years.
 - D. David did not have to vanquish anyone to become the king.
 - 1. He simply had to wait until those few who were in the way were removed, and he did not lift a finger to remove them.
 - 2. David simply became the king one long-awaited day.
 - 3. It just happened – without his reaching for it, fighting for it, or campaigning for it.
 - 4. He simply “waited” for it, and he testified of this fact in the Psalms:

Psalm 27:14 Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.

Psalm 37:34 Wait on the LORD, and keep his way, and he shall exalt thee to inherit the land: when the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see it.

- 5. Surely he longed for it – for peace, for safety, for the opportunity to reveal what he was really like to the people who had believed all the lies about him.
 - 6. Being human, like the rest of us, he surely had times when he wondered if it would ever be any different for him.
 - 7. And without a doubt, he was tempted and counseled by others to do something to bring it to pass.
 - 8. He never formulated plans or took polls to get the pulse of the public on whether he could win the position of king or not.
 - 9. All David did in the matter of his being made king was to patiently wait and trust the whole matter into the hands of God.
- E. This is lifelong lesson that we all are learning and we should take the example of David for our encouragement in this matter.

1. Whatever you may think God has in store for you life concerning your own desires – marriage, children, service to God.
2. You must be prepared to wait and wait, and wait some more.

II. Because of the long wait and all that transpired during that time, when David became the king it was much different than when Saul became the king.

2 Samuel 5:12 And David perceived that the LORD had established him king over Israel, and that he had exalted his kingdom for his people Israel's sake.

- A. David had the absolute assurance that God had put him in this position and not he himself.
 1. That is a great blessing to have and it does not come without much self-denial and patient waiting on the Lord to accomplish his work in us.
 2. The sure knowledge in our heart that God has brought us to where we are gives us confidence and assurance that the road ahead will likewise be under his direction and Providence.
 3. It will be very much worth it when you wait on God and when it comes to pass you know that God did it and not yourself.
 4. The alternative is to live with deep regrets about jumping at the bait the devil set his trap with for you and the mess and misery you have in your life because of it.
 - a) At the same time having to live with the knowledge that you missed the best God had for you in your life and in his service.
- B. David knew that God had put him on the throne for the people's sake and not his own.
 1. This was one of the major things that set David apart from all other kings.
 2. He knew that God had put him there to be a blessing to the people of God and not to make him great or wealthy.
 3. He was a king who viewed himself as a servant of the people.
 4. This was produced in part by the long years of humiliation he had suffered before he became the king.
- C. David knew that God had "established" him as the king over Israel.
 1. This is a strong word that signifies how firmly his position was as king.
 2. Saul was never established, but was one long tragedy.
 3. David on the throne of Israel was what God had been preparing for his people for centuries.
 4. At this point in his life David knew he had nothing opposing him as he began to rule over the nation God had established for his people.
 5. He had full confidence in the fact that he was right where God had put him.
 6. He could act with assurance, confidence, strength, courage, and the sure support of the people.
- D. It probably took a little while for David to get used to this fact.
 1. After all the years of opposition, persecution, rejection, slander, enemies among his own people, and not even a settled home to live in.
- E. It was a major change in David's life and it came about pretty suddenly after a long, long wait – so we can likely expect the same kind of pattern in our own lives.