

# Great Stories of the Bible - 03/13/22

David – A Man After God’s Heart

**TEXT-** Psalms 63:1-3 **A Psalm of David, when he was in the wilderness of Judah.** *O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee; my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is; To see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary. Because thy lovingkindness is better than life, my lips shall praise thee.*

**INTRO - More has been written about David than any other biblical character. Sixty-six chapters are dedicated to him. That doesn’t include fifty-nine references to him in the New Testament. How important do you think King David was to Israel?**

## I. David as a Shepherd Boy (1 Samuel 16-19)

**David Was a Shepherd Boy Before David slew Goliath and eventually became the King of Israel, he was an unknown shepherd boy. But it was in the sheep fields that David learned to trust God, worship God, and understand that God is a powerful God who loves His people.**

## II. David as a Fugitive From King Saul (1 Samuel 20-31)

- Saul became jealous of David
- Saul twice lifted his spear at David
- He wandered in the deserts of Judea for several years
- David demonstrated great patience and love toward King Saul. David went the second mile. He turned the other cheek.
- He assembled mighty men

**King David, while he was avoiding Saul's wrath, attracted a motley crew of malcontents and dissatisfied men (1 Samuel 22:2, 1 Chronicles 12).**

**400 men and 30 mighty men - of whom three were chief**

**Josheb-basshebeth**, who killed 800 men in one battle with a spear  
**Eleazar**, who stayed on the battlefield when other warriors fled and killed Philistines until his hand was stuck clenched around his sword  
**Abishai**, the leader of the mighty men, who killed 300 men with a spear

## III. David’s Reign as King of Israel (2 Samuel 1-10)

- He waited for God’s timing to become king
- He defeated Goliath
- David reigned for 40 years
- He returned the Ark of the Covenant from the house of Abinadab to Jerusalem the new capital

- He greatly extended the borders of Israel, and established peace throughout much of the land.

**David stood out as one of the greatest political and spiritual leaders in Old Testament history.**

## IV. David’s Sin With Bathsheba (2 Samuel 11-20)

### **A. David was not without faults.**

Even though David was a powerful king over Israel for 40 years and his heart was definitely inclined Godward, he was not without faults. David sinned in placing confidence in human strength (2 Samuel 24:9-10). He manifested weakness as a father, whose sons brought him shame

- The child born to Bathsheba died.
- David’s oldest son, Amnon, fell into shameful immorality with his half-sister Tamar.
- Another son, Absalom, led a rebellion against his father’s kingdom. Yet God used him!

David, after being confronted by the prophet Nathan, acknowledged his sin, and his sin was forgiven.

David’s life is a prime example in the Scriptures of how God works through weak and frail and sinful persons, like you and me.

### **B. David was not without troubles.**

He brought some of them upon himself because of his sin with Bathsheba and his lack of discipline over his children—but it’s also clear that David faced many troubles for which he was not responsible.

Adversity and trouble are not always punishment for evil.

It’s certainly proper for us to examine ourselves and to confess our sins frequently, but we will not always have an immediate explanation as to why we have been dealt with so harshly.

### **C. David was not without limitations.**

**Psalms 42:2** *My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God?*

**Psalms 27:1** *The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?*

There are some lessons to be learned from this dark period in David’s life:

1. Beware of idleness.
2. Beware of exposing nakedness.
3. Beware of letting the eyes and mind dwell on sinful things.
4. Never think that unconfessed sin can be covered up.
5. Beware of thinking, “It can’t happen to me.”

The difference in David’s attitude is what set him apart from others. David wasn’t just a passionate man, but a man passionate about the right things.

Though men and women may not have seen it, God certainly did. He chose David to be king because God saw what was in David's heart.

**1 Samuel 13:14** *But now thy kingdom shall not continue: the LORD hath sought him a man after his own heart, and the LORD hath commanded him to be captain over his people, because thou hast not kept that which the LORD commanded thee.*

**Acts 13:22** *And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will.*

**King David was the only person described by God as**

*“a man after my own heart”*

**How could God call an adulterer and murderer a man after his own heart? The answer is the greatest lesson we can learn from the life of David — repentance.**

**CONCL – Although David sinned, he always repented.**

**Hebrews 11:32** *And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; **of David also,** and Samuel, and of the prophets:*