

Study No.12 King David

Timeframe of events:

c.1000 to c.960 B.C.



Summary: David became king of Judah after Saul's death, but it wasn't for another 7 years that he would become king over all of Israel. After he captured Jerusalem and established it as his home base and the nation's capital, several significant events took place during David's reign (the exact sequence is not clear): The ark was brought to Jerusalem, David took several more wives, he was promised an eternal dynasty, he committed adultery with Bathsheba, there were three years of famine, David's armies conquered the surrounding nations resulting in Israel becoming financially prosperous, three uprisings were quelled, a census of the whole nation was taken (wrongly), the temple site was chosen, preparations for the future temple were made, and organisational administration was improved.

Main Reading / Listening



Read and/or listen to the following passages at least once. Twice is better for taking it all in!

As a minimum, please read or listen to:

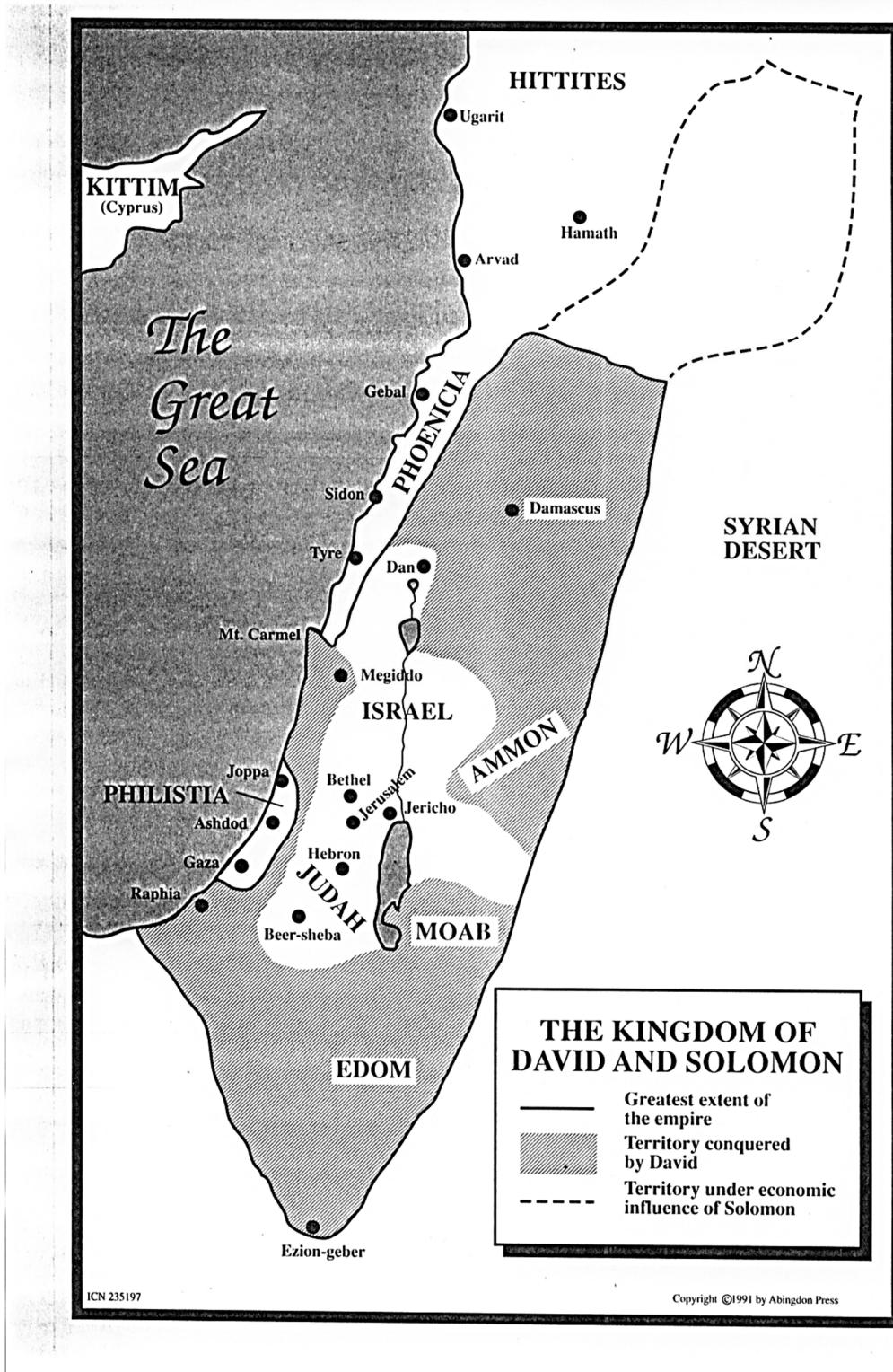
2 Samuel 5:1-12

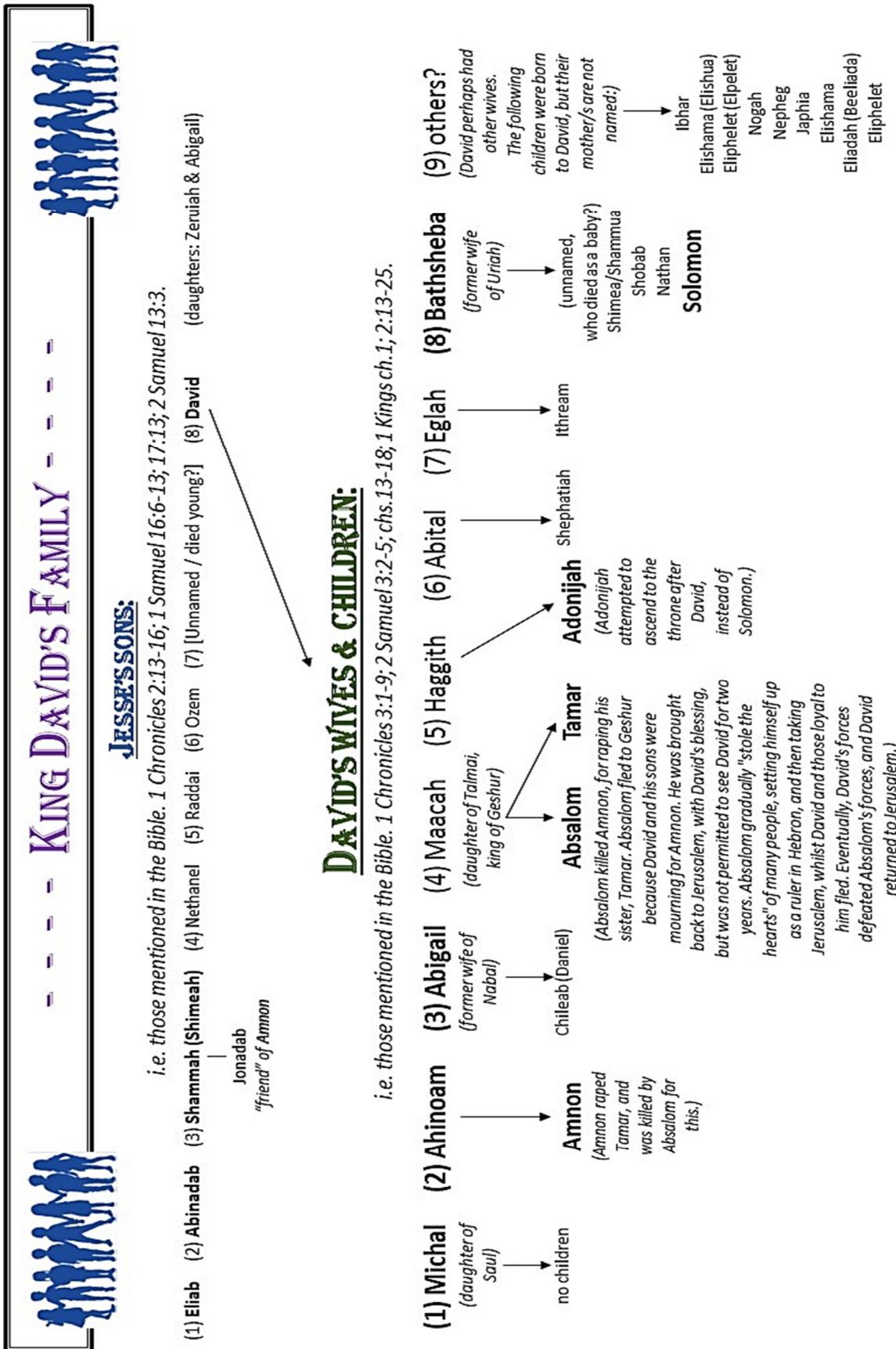
To read or listen to the entire Bible systematically, this week's passages are:

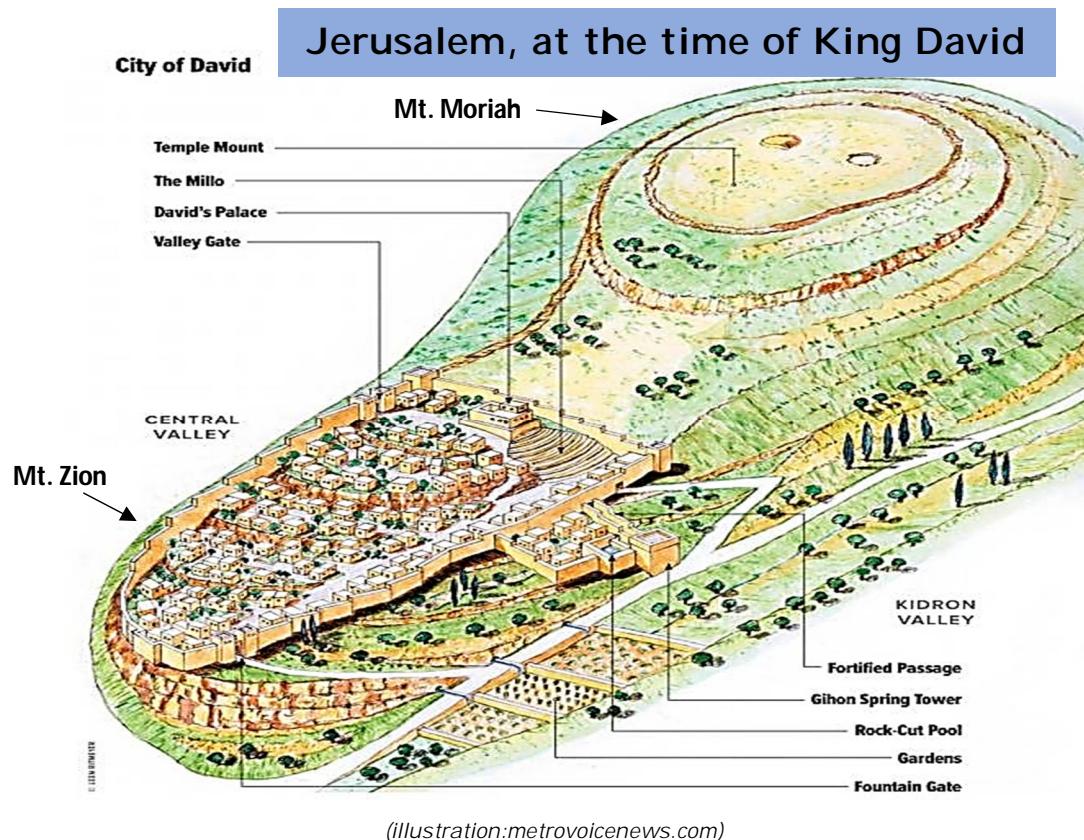
2 Samuel 1 to 24

1 Chronicles 11-29

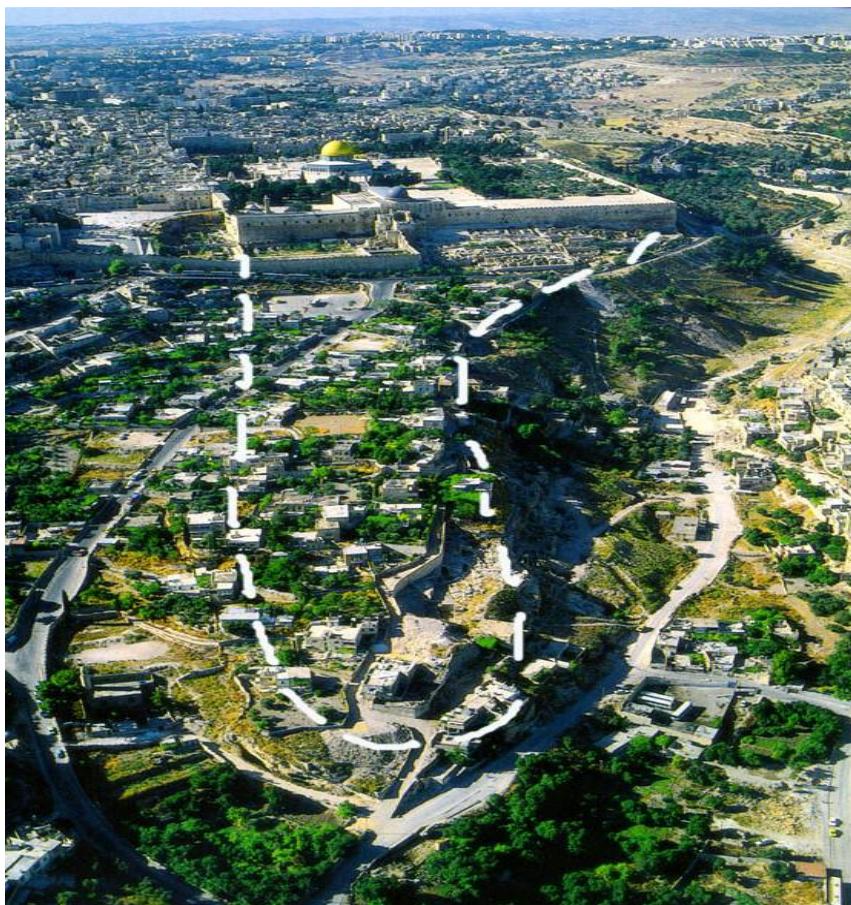
Relevant Charts:







(illustration:metrovoicenews.com)



(photo:christianlifeministries.com.au)

**Jerusalem
today,
showing the
“City of
David”
(within the
white
broken
lines)**

Enhancing your reading:

Attempt one or more of the following tasks for a better appreciation of the subjects covered by the main readings for this study.



- Jot down any questions arising from this study's readings. Ask someone else for help, or conduct your own research to try and answer these questions.
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- Note any passages, verses, themes or lessons that have stood out to you from this study's readings. Write down or verbalise your reasons.
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- Read or listen to these other Bible passages that relate to the content of this week's readings:

Psalm 2, 16, 18, 32, 69, 95, 109, 110.

(Eight psalms, definitely penned by David, reflecting circumstances in his life, and his devotion to Jehovah.)

Consider and discuss the following questions:



(1) In 2 Samuel 1:1, David is said to have slaughtered the Amalekites. Where else does the Bible speak about this event?

(2) How does the young man's report of Saul's death in 2 Samuel 1:6-10 differ from the Biblical accounts given in 1 Samuel 31:4-6 and 1 Chronicles 10:4-6?

- (3) Why did the young man lie to David about the way Saul died? Cp 2 Samuel 4:10.
- (4) What was David's immediate response to the young man and his account of Saul's death? (2 Samuel 1:13-16)
- (5) Compare 2 Samuel 1:18 in the KJV with different translations. What is the difference between each, and why do you think this is?
- (6) What is the gist of "The Song/Lament of the Bow" (2 Samuel 1:19-27)? Why are its themes not spoken of in plainer language?
- (7) What is the meaning of the repeated phrase, "How the mighty are fallen" (2 Samuel 1:19,25,27)?
- (8) What is/was the Book of Jasher (2 Samuel 1:18)? Where else in the Bible is that book mentioned?
- (9) How exactly would David have "inquired of the LORD" (2 Samuel 2:1,2)? How would he have received God's responses? Cp 1 Samuel 30:7,8 and Numbers 12:6
- (10) In 2 Samuel 2:4, David was anointed as king. (a) Over whom or what was David made king in this verse? (b) What is the difference between this and the anointing that took place in 1 Samuel 16:1,13?
- (11) Who was Ishbosheth (2 Samuel 2:8-11)? Over what or whom did he reign?
- (12) Who were Abner and Joab (chs. 2 Samuel 2 & 3; esp. 2:12,13)? What were their respective roles? Cp 1 Samuel 14:50,51 and 2 Samuel 8:16.
- (13) Why was Abner killed? (2 Samuel 3:30)
- (14) What was David's response to Abner's death? (2 Samuel 3:31-39)
- (15) Why was Ishbosheth killed, and what was David's reaction? (2 Samuel 4:5-12)
- (16) Both 2 Samuel 5:1-4 and 1 Chronicles 10:13-11:3 tell us how the kingship of Israel transferred from Saul to David. The account in Chronicles omits the deeds of Abner and the period of Ishbosheth's reign described in 2 Samuel 2:8-4:12. Why do you think 1 Chronicles does not record these events?

(17) Summarize the two distinct periods of David's reign, as described in 2 Samuel 5:5.

(18) Compare Joshua 15:63; Judges 1:21 and 19:11,12 with the conquest described in 2 Samuel 5 and 1 Chronicles 11:4-6. When was the city of Jebus / Jerusalem captured?

(19) What is the difference between the following terms from 1 Chronicles 11:4-8 - Jebus, Jerusalem, Zion, City of David, the Millo?

(20) How was it confirmed to David that his kingship and the Kingdom of Israel were God-ordained? 2 Samuel 5:11,12.

(21) What do you think of David taking several more wives to himself? 2 Samuel 5:13. Did God approve of this?

(22) What was David doing when he poured out water to the LORD? 1 Chronicles 11:18?

(23) 1 Chronicles 11:12-21 makes mention of "three mighty men" and "the three". Who were these people? Why were they deemed to be specially mentioned? Who is honourably listed in this passage, but not one of "the three"? Cp 2 Samuel 23:8-11

(24) Was it really a lion that was killed in 1 Chronicles 11:22, or some other animal? Do lions exist in modern day Israel?

(25) Why did the Philistines seek to kill David upon hearing he had become king over all Israel? (2 Samuel 5:17)

(26) Why did David wish to bring the ark to Jerusalem instead of moving it into the tabernacle? 2 Samuel 6:2

(27) How did the first attempt at moving the ark to Jerusalem fail? (2 Samuel 6:2-8; 1 Chronicles 13) What was wrong about the method of the first attempt (Numbers 4:4-6,15)? How did the second successful attempt differ in method? (2 Samuel 6:12-15; 1 Chronicles 15 & 16)

(28) What is an ephod and why did David wear one when the ark was brought into Jerusalem? (2 Samuel 6:14)

(29) The promise to David of an eternal dynasty in 2 Samuel 7 and 1 Chronicles 17 is a significant one. (a) What are the two different usages of "house" in this incident? (b) Does the promise given in 2 Samuel 7:12-16

refer to Solomon and the kings of Judah who would succeed him, or to Jesus Christ, or both? (2 Chronicles; cp. Matthew 1:6-11,16)

(30) What role did this promise play during the earthly life and ministry of Jesus of Nazareth? (Matthew 1:1; Luke 1:32; 20:41-44; John 7:42; 2 Timothy 2:8)

(31) Which of the nations surrounding Israel were subdued by David in 2 Samuel 8 & 10; 1 Chronicles ch.14; 18:1-13 and chs.19 & 20?

(32) What effect was this to have on the kingdom? (1 Chronicles 22:17-19; 28:3-6; 1 Kings 4:21)

(32) What role did Mephibosheth play in David's life? (2 Samuel 9; 1 Samuel 18:1-3)

(33) The story of David and Bathsheba occurs only in 2 Samuel (ch. 11 & 12). Why do you think it doesn't appear in 1 Chronicles? (cp. 1 Chronicles 20:1)

(34) What role does the battle at Rabbah play in this event? (2 Samuel 11; 12:26-29; 1 Chronicles 20:1)

(35) How many wives did David have before his encounter with Bathsheba (1 Chronicles 3:1-5)? What made the taking of Bathsheba as a wife different?

(36) Uriah the Hittite features in this story (2 Samuel 11:6-24), but he is also mentioned in 2 Samuel 23:39 and 1 Chronicles 11:41. In what context?

(37) How many sons did Bathsheba have with David? (2 Samuel 12:15-18,24; 1 Chronicles 3:5)

(38) What was the Lord's response regarding adversity/calamity in David's family (2 Samuel 12:9-12)? What are some of the ways this came to pass? (e.g. 2 Samuel 12:15-19; chs. 13-18; 1 Kings 1)

(39) How were Absalom, Tamar, Amnon, Jonadab, Shimeah, also called Shammah each related to David? (2 Samuel 13:1; 1 Samuel 16:9; 1 Chronicles 2:13-15).

(40) Summarise the role played by Absalom in 2 Samuel chs. 13 to 19.

(41) Why do you think that Absalom's quite significant and tumultuous uprising is not mentioned in 1 Chronicles?

- (42) Who was Shimei and what role did he play in David's life (2 Samuel 16:5-13; 19:15-23; 1 Kings 2:36-46)?
- (43) Who was Sheba the Benjamite, and what role did he play in David's life (2 Samuel 20:1-22)?
- (44) How does the story in 2 Samuel 21:1-14 relate to Joshua ch.9? How is this story an example of atonement?
- (45) How does the song of 2 Samuel 22 relate to Psalm 18? What is the point of such songs and psalms in the Bible?
- (46) 2 Samuel 23:1-7 is said to be "the last words of David", but there are several passages after this detailing other words of David. Explain this anomaly.
- (47) 2 Samuel 23:1 describes David as the "sweet psalmist of Israel". What is meant by this term?
- (48) 2 Samuel 23:8-39 and 1 Chronicles 11:10-47 provide lists of David's "mighty men". What made these men "mighty"?
- (49) What reasons are given for David to take a census of all Israelites? Compare 2 Samuel 24:1 with 1 Chronicles 21:1 and explain this anomaly.
- (50) Why was it wrong for David to conduct a census of all the Israelites? (2 Samuel 24:10,11; 1 Chronicles 21:7,8; 27:23,24)
- (51) How did the taking of the census eventually lead to the site of the future temple being chosen? (2 Samuel 24:14-30; 2 Chronicles 3:1)
- (52) Why is Araunah (2 Samuel 24:16-24) called Ornan in 1 Chronicles 21:15-28?
- (53) What role does Mt. Moriah play in this story, and elsewhere in the Bible? e.g. 2 Chronicles 3:1; Genesis 22:2
- (54) 1 Chronicles 12:23-37 numbers approximately 340,000 men of fighting age and ability, from all of the tribes of Israel, who endorsed the kingdom of Israel being passed to David. What conclusions may be drawn from this in the context of the kingdom having previously been reigned over by the house of Saul?
- (55) According to 1 Chronicles 14:2, how did David know that God had established his kingdom?

(56) Compare the song of 1 Chronicles 16:8-36 with Psalm 96:1-13; Psalm 105:1-15 and Psalm 106:1,47,48. Why are these sections repeated in the Bible?

(57) Obed-Edom housed the ark for a time (2 Samuel 6:10-12; 1 Chronicles 13:13,14). In what other contexts do we read about Obed-Edom elsewhere?

(58) 1 Chronicles 22 to 29 lists a number of preparations David made for the future. (a) In summary, list what these preparations were. (b) Why was it David, and not Solomon, who made these preparations (1 Chronicles 22:5)? (c) Why was David not permitted to build the temple (1 Chronicles 22:7,8; 28:3)? (d) Why would the reason given about David's prohibition make any difference anyway? (e) Was David in error to prepare for the temple, given that he was not permitted to build it (1 Chronicles 22:7,8; 28:11-19)?

(59) Why would the Levites need organising (1 Chronicles chs.23 to 26)?

(60) How were the main tasks of the Levites divided (1 Chronicles 23:4,5)?

(61) How does Luke 1:5 relate to 1 Chronicles 24:10?

(62) What general administrative organisation did David oversee (1 Chronicles 27)?

(63) Why did David gather the administrative heads in 1 Chronicles 28:1?

(64) In 1 Chronicles 28:20, David tells Solomon to "be strong and of good courage". (a) What does this phrase mean? (b) Why did Solomon need to hear this? (c) Search for this phrase in the Bible - who else is told this and under what circumstances?

(65) What is the subject of the prayer in 1 Chronicles 29:10-19? How does it relate to v.1-9?

(66) Compare the words of David's prayer in 1 Chronicles 29:11 with Matthew 6:9-13 (also check footnotes to these verses in some editions). What similarities may be found?

(67) Why were so many animals slaughtered in 1 Chronicles 29:21?

(68) What are these other books referred to in 1 Chronicles 29:29?

(69) How is David's devotion to Jehovah emphasised throughout the record of his life? (e.g. 2 Samuel 1:14; 6:17,18; 7:18-29; 1 Chronicles 29:10-15; 1 Kings 1:28-30; etc.)