

## David Lessons in Hope

**Acts 13:21-23 HCSB** Then they asked for a king, so God gave them Saul the son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, for 40 years. (22) After removing him, He raised up David as their king, of whom He testified: 'I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My heart, who will carry out all My will.' (23) "From this man's descendants, according to the promise, God brought the Savior, Jesus, to Israel.

### **Peshat: The Facts of the Matter**

David was born in the 10th Century BC into the tribe of Judah. He was the youngest of eight brothers.<sup>1</sup> His father was Jesse.

### **Picture of David as Shepherd**



Unlike his brothers, David was a shepherd, in which capacity he learnt courage which he later used in battle.<sup>2</sup> He also learned tenderness and care for his flocks, a side of David which was reflected in his writings of God.<sup>3</sup> Like Joseph before him, his many talents were a cause of jealousy for his brothers.<sup>4</sup>

### **Picture of David being anointed**



When Saul was rejected, Samuel, guided by God, anointed David at Bethlehem.<sup>5</sup>

### **Picture of David and Saul**



God selected David to minister to Saul,<sup>6</sup> which he did, utilizing his musical skills.

### **Picture of David killing Goliath**



David in his famous contest with Goliath showed himself as a courageous believer.

### **Picture of Saul attacking David**



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<sup>1</sup> 1 Samuel 17:12

<sup>2</sup> 1 Samuel 17:34-35

<sup>3</sup> Psalm 23

<sup>4</sup> 1 Samuel 17:28

<sup>5</sup> 1 Samuel 16:1-13

<sup>6</sup> 1 Samuel 16:17-21

Saul's attitude continued to decline. He became jealous of David, which resulted in David's flight from the King.<sup>7</sup> Eventually Saul was killed in the battle of Gilboa in 1056 BC. David mourned his passing.<sup>8</sup>

### Picture of David on throne



At 30 years of age<sup>9</sup> David began his reign of 40 years in Hebron as King of Judah.

### Picture of David's triumphant entry



Seven years later he became King of the whole of Israel, reigning from Jerusalem,<sup>10</sup> which he captured from the Jebusites.

### Picture of David and Bathsheba



David's life, however, was not without sin and anguish. His scheming in conjunction with his taking of Bathsheba and consequent loss of his children is well known.

### Picture of aged David playing harp



He is nevertheless held up as the prime example of a man after God's heart and the great King from whom the King of Kings was to descend. David died aged 70 and was buried at Jerusalem.<sup>11</sup>

### Derash – Life Applications

1. As David was not highly regarded by his father (1 Samuel 16:11) so we too may not be well regarded by unbelieving family. (Hebrews 11:36-40)

- [Hebrews 11:36-40 HCSB](#) and others experienced mockings and scourgings, as well as bonds and imprisonment. (37) They were stoned, they were sawed in two, they died by the sword, they wandered about in sheepskins, in goatskins, destitute, afflicted, and mistreated. (38) The world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts, mountains, caves, and holes in the ground. (39) All these were approved through their faith, but they did not receive what was promised, (40) since God had provided something better for us, so that they would not be made perfect without us.

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<sup>7</sup> 1 Samuel 22:6-19

<sup>8</sup> 2 Samuel 1:17-27

<sup>9</sup> 2 Samuel 5:4

<sup>10</sup> 2 Samuel 5:5

<sup>11</sup> 1 Kings 2:10-11

2. As Samuel however was able to discern that the youngest son of Jesse was the chosen one of Israel (1 Samuel 16:12-13) so Hashem has chosen to see potential greatness in each of us. (Ephesians 2:10)

- **Ephesians 2:10 HCSB** For we are His creation--created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time so that we should walk in them.

3. As he was able to assist Saul in times of stress with his skilful playing of the harp (1 Samuel 16:23) so each of us have been given spiritual gifts so that we can serve others. (Ephesians 4:8-13)

- **Ephesians 4:8-13 HCSB** For it says: **When He ascended on high, He took prisoners into captivity; He gave gifts to people.** (9) But what does "He ascended" mean except that He descended to the lower parts of the earth? (10) The One who descended is the same as the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things. (11) And He personally gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, (12) for the training of the saints in the work of ministry, to build up the body of Christ, (13) until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of God's Son, *growing* into a mature man with a stature measured by Christ's fullness.

David selected five smooth stones because there were five giants in the Philistine army:

#### **Picture of the names of the five giants**

1. Goliath,
2. Goliath's brother (2 Samuel 21:19),
3. Ishbi-benob (2 Samuel 21:16),
4. Saph (2 Samuel 21:18),
5. and six fingers and six toes (2 Samuel 21:20)

4. As David prepared contingency plans, while trusting God to provide the victory – so we too should practice faith while simultaneously using the brains Yahweh gave us. (Matthew 10:16)

- **Matthew 10:16 HCSB** "Look, I'm sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as serpents and as harmless as doves.

5. As David, in his flight from Saul, had opportunities to ascend the throne by killing Saul, but did not take them, (1 Samuel 24:4-7; 26:7-12) so we must be willing to set aside our "rights" for the greater good. (1 Corinthians 6:12)

- **1 Corinthians 6:12 HCSB** (12) "Everything is permissible for me," but not everything is helpful. "Everything is permissible for me," but I will not be brought under the control of anything.

6. As David showed compassion to Mephibosheth, the crippled descendant of Saul (2 Samuel 9) so we should demonstrate true nobility by showing compassion to our persecutors. (Matthew 5:43-48; Romans 12:19-21)

- **Matthew 5:43-48 HCSB** "You have heard that it was said, **Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.** (44) But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, (45) so that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. For He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. (46) For if you love those who love you, what reward will you have? Don't even the tax collectors do the same? (47) And if you greet only your brothers, what

are you doing out of the ordinary? Don't even the Gentiles do the same? (48) Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

- **Romans 12:19-21 HCSB** Friends, do not avenge yourselves; instead, leave room for His wrath. For it is written: **Vengeance belongs to Me; I will repay**, says the Lord. (20) **But If your enemy is hungry, feed him. If he is thirsty, give him something to drink. For in so doing you will be heaping fiery coals on his head.** (21) Do not be conquered by evil, but conquer evil with good.

### Sod – Spiritual Applications

1. God uses people who may not be of great importance in the world's view (1 Corinthians 1:26-28).

- **1 Corinthians 1:26-28 HCSB** (26) Brothers, consider your calling: not many are wise from a human perspective, not many powerful, not many of noble birth. (27) Instead, God has chosen the world's foolish things to shame the wise, and God has chosen the world's weak things to shame the strong. (28) God has chosen the world's insignificant and despised things--the things viewed as nothing--so He might bring to nothing the things that are viewed as something,

2. Spiritual values are spiritually discerned (1 Corinthians 2:14).

- **1 Corinthians 2:14 HCSB** (14) But the natural man does not welcome what comes from God's Spirit, because it is foolishness to him; he is not able to know it since it is evaluated spiritually.

3. Previous experience and skills can be utilized by God in His service (Acts 22:3).

- **Acts 22:3 HCSB** He continued, "I am a Jewish man, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, and educated according to the strict view of our patriarchal law. Being zealous for God, just as all of you are today,

4. The timing for change is in the hand of the Lord; whether one is promoted or not is dependent on God's plan for your life (Psalm 113:5-8).

- **Psalms 113:5-8 HCSB** Who is like the LORD our God--the One enthroned on high, (6) who stoops down to look on the heavens and the earth? (7) He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the garbage pile (8) in order to seat them with nobles--with the nobles of His people.

5. With God nothing is impossible (Luke 1:37).

- **Luke 1:37 HCSB** For nothing will be impossible with God."