

17.22 David Reigns Over All Israel (2 Samuel 4:1–12;5:1–18; 1 Chronicles 3:5–9; 11:1–10;12:8–15, 23–40; 14:1–7)

✓ “Check” it out; opinion, inference, supposed conversation, or fact one can verify follows

Brackets [. . .] indicate a remark to the teacher that should not be read aloud, or they show answers to questions.

Visuals and Tools:

- Pictures and other visuals found at the end of this lesson. Please give credit to the sources of pictures.
- Check “Activities” and “Handwork” found below for additional materials.
- Pictures of this Bible story are rare. Suggestion: use 2 wooden kings (Ishbosheth and David) and 2 toy Bible soldiers (Baanah and Rechab) for a 3D illustration of this story.

Bible Time Tips and Terms to Teach: Vocabulary words are enlarged for flashcards at the end of this lesson. Print, cut out, and glue to card stock, or just print on colorful cardstock.

- *to raid*: to attack a town or area in order to expand territory and get spoil

Scripture: (ESV)

2 Samuel 4:1 When Ish-bosheth, Saul’s son, heard that Abner had died at Hebron, his courage failed, and all Israel was dismayed. 2 Now Saul’s son had two men who were captains of raiding bands; the name of the one was Baanah, and the name of the other Rechab, sons of Rimmon a man of Benjamin from Beeroth (for Beeroth also is counted part of Benjamin; 3 the Beerothites fled to Gittaim and have been sojourners there to this day).

5 Now the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, Rechab and Baanah, set out, and about the heat of the day they came to the house of Ish-bosheth as he was taking his noonday rest. 6 And they came into the midst of the house as if to get wheat, and they stabbed him in the stomach. Then Rechab and Baanah his brother escaped. 7 When they came into the house, as he lay on his bed in his bedroom, they struck him and put him to death and beheaded him. They took his head and went by the way of the Arabah all night, 8 and brought the head of Ish-bosheth to David at Hebron. And they said to the king, “Here is the head of Ish-bosheth, the son of Saul, your enemy, who sought your life. The Lord has avenged my lord the king this day on Saul and on his offspring.” 9 But David answered Rechab and Baanah his brother, the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, “As the Lord lives, who has redeemed my life out of every adversity, 10 when one told me, ‘Behold, Saul is dead,’ and thought he was bringing good news, I seized him and killed him at Ziklag, which was the reward I gave him for his news. 11 How much more, when wicked men have killed a righteous man in his own house on his bed, shall I not now require his blood at your hand and destroy you from the earth?” 12 And David commanded his young men, and they killed them and cut off their hands and feet and hanged them beside the pool at Hebron. But they took the head of Ish-bosheth and buried it in the tomb of Abner at Hebron.

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.

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.

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.

1 Chronicles 3:9 These were born to him in Jerusalem: Shimea, Shobab, Nathan and Solomon, four by Bathshua, the daughter of Ammiel; 6 then Ibhar, Elishama, Eliphelet, 7 Nogah, Nepheg, Japhia, 8 Elishama, Eliada, and Eliphelet, nine. 9 All these were David's sons, besides the sons of the concubines, and Tamar was their sister.

11:10 Now these are the chiefs of David's mighty men, who gave him strong support in his kingdom, together with all Israel, to make him king, according to the word of the Lord concerning Israel. 11 This is an account of David's mighty men: Jashobeam, a Hachmonite, was chief of the three. He wielded his spear against 300 whom he killed at one time.

8 From the Gadites there went over to David at the stronghold in the wilderness mighty and experienced warriors, expert with shield and spear, whose faces were like the faces of lions and who were swift as gazelles upon the mountains: 9 Ezer the chief, Obadiah second, Eliab third, 10 Mishmannah fourth, Jeremiah fifth, 11 Attai sixth, Eliel seventh, 12 Johanan eighth, Elzabad ninth, 13 Jeremiah tenth, Machbannai eleventh. 14 These Gadites were officers of the army; the least was a match for a hundred men and the greatest for a thousand. 15 These are the men who crossed the Jordan in the first month, when it was overflowing all its banks, and put to flight all those in the valleys, to the east and to the west.

23 These are the numbers of the divisions of the armed troops who came to David in Hebron to turn the kingdom of Saul over to him, according to the word of the Lord. 24 The men of Judah bearing shield and spear were 6,800 armed troops. 25 Of the Simeonites, mighty men of valor for war, 7,100. 26 Of the Levites 4,600. 27 The prince Jehoiada, of the house of Aaron, and with him 3,700. 28 Zadok, a young man mighty in valor, and twenty-two commanders from his own fathers' house. 29 Of the Benjaminites, the kinsmen of Saul, 3,000, of whom the majority had to that point kept their allegiance to the house of Saul. 30 Of the Ephraimites 20,800, mighty men of valor, famous men in their fathers' houses. 31 Of the half-tribe of Manasseh 18,000, who were expressly named to come and make David king. 32 Of Issachar, men who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do, 200 chiefs, and all their kinsmen under their command. 33 Of Zebulun 50,000 seasoned troops, equipped for battle with all the weapons of war, to help David with singleness of purpose. 34 Of Naphtali 1,000 commanders with whom were 37,000 men armed with shield and spear. 35 Of the Danites 28,600 men equipped for battle. 36 Of Asher 40,000 seasoned troops ready for battle. 37 Of the Reubenites and Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh from beyond the Jordan, 120,000 men armed with all the weapons of war.

38 All these, men of war, arrayed in battle order, came to Hebron with a whole heart to make David king over all Israel. Likewise, all the rest of Israel were of a single mind to make David king. 39 And they were there with David for three days, eating and drinking, for their brothers had made preparation for them. 40 And also their relatives, from as far as Issachar and Zebulun and Naphtali, came bringing food on donkeys and on camels and on mules and on oxen, abundant provisions of flour, cakes of figs, clusters of raisins, and wine and oil, oxen and sheep, for there was joy in Israel.

Introduction/Review:

David had been king in Hebron over Judah while Ishbosheth, Saul's son, with Abner's help, ruled the rest of Israel. But after Joab slew unsuspecting Abner, Ishbosheth's kingdom became very weak.

Story:

Assassination

Ishbosheth was taking his noonday rest. Some people might think he rested because he was depressed about

the state of his kingdom or perhaps because he was lazy. However, we should be charitable, for many people like to take naps after lunch. In fact, it is the custom in Italy to take an afternoon break from work that includes a *riposo* and in Spanish countries to take a *siesta*. Certainly, in the hot Middle East, such a custom would be practical.

Two brothers who were captains of Ishbosheth's army, Baanah [BAY ah nah] and Rechab [REE kab], came to Ishbosheth's house, pretending to get some wheat. Rather than get wheat, however, they got the king, slaying him in his bed with a sword and taking his head from him. Baanah and Rechab then escaped from Ishbosheth's house in Mahanaim and ran off, going all night through the plain down to Hebron.

Expectation

✓I imagine they were quite proud of themselves for assassinating David's competition, and they expected David to be pleased with them too. They presented Ishbosheth's head to David, saying, "The Lord has punished the family of Saul, your enemy. He has paid them back for what Saul did to you."

Now, think a moment. Had Ishbosheth died in battle? [No.] Had he died of sickness? [No.] Had he been murdered in his bed? [Yes.] Does that sound as if the Lord had directly done the deed? [No.] Yet these brothers said the Lord had paid the punishment.

Execution

David agreed with your opinion in this. He answered, "As the Lord lives, the Lord who has delivered me from every trouble, when someone thought he was bringing me good news and would get a reward, saying, 'I destroyed Saul,' I took that man and slew him in Ziklag. How much more will I do the same to wicked men like yourselves who have slain a righteous person in his own house and on his own bed?"

Then David commanded his young men to slay these two wicked men but to bury Ishbosheth's head in Abner's grave there in Hebron.

Some people, like Baanah and Rechab, think they are doing God's will by doing their own will and not waiting for God; they are wrong.

Unification

Since the tribes of Israel no longer had a strong army commander nor a king, they now came to David at Hebron. They said three things: (1) "We are your bone and your flesh," or in other words, "We are brothers."¹ (2) "When Saul was king, it was really you who led us out against our enemies and brought us in." (3) "The Lord said to you, 'You will feed my people Israel and shall be the ruler over Israel.'" (Why hadn't they thought of this seven and one-half years earlier? Well, they had to be loyal to their king.)

Ah! They knew *God* had made David king over all Israel. So they made a covenant with David and anointed him king over all Israel. How many times had David been anointed king? Three: first by Samuel, then by Judah, and now by all the tribes. This anointing was "according to the word of the Lord" (1 Chronicles 11:3). The tribes of Israel brought their soldiers, ✓who perhaps marched before David, saluting him as their captain and king. What a sight! [Show chart found below.] There were 340,822 soldiers—forty times as many people as live in Lamar, Colorado. [Teacher, compare to the population of a city near you.] With one heart, all of these came to make David king.

The city of Hebron and tribes nearby had prepared for these additional men,² bringing donkeys, camels, mules, and oxen loaded with bread, meat, grain, cakes of figs, bunches of raisins, wine, oil, oxen, sheep. Oh, it was a great, glorious, and happy three days of celebration in Israel!

Subjugation

After everyone went back home, David chose a city to be Israel's most important city and the place where he would live. Oh, Jerusalem, the city he chose, was in the tribe of Benjamin, very close to Judah, but there was one problem: it had never really been conquered since the time of Joshua. Now people named Jebusites

lived there, and they were not about to give up their city on a mountain!

“You can’t conquer us!” they said. “Unless you take away the blind and lame, you can’t come in here.”

✓Perhaps they were talking about their gods who couldn’t see or walk, or perhaps they meant their fort-like city was so strong that mere blind and lame people could defend it. That might be why they said, “Unless you take away the blind and lame, you can’t come in here.”

Hearing this challenge, David challenged his own men, saying, “Whoever smites the Jebusites first shall be chief and captain.”

Which of David’s men do you think was first to cut down the Jebusites? Yes, it was Joab, David’s nephew, son of his sister, Zeruah [Zer u I ah or Zer U iah]. Eventually, David and his men took the whole city, lived in it, repaired it, and developed it. This city, Jerusalem, is also called the City of David, or Zion. [Show pictures of Jerusalem.] Today it has Muslims, Jews, and Christians living in it. The Eastern Gate is all bricked up, but one day when Jesus comes again, He will open that gate and go into Jerusalem. David, the great king, prepared a city for our great God, David’s greater grandson, Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

¹These remarks are significant because the fact of Judah’s separateness from the rest of Israel is mentioned earlier and becomes a major contention later.

²Perhaps ✓some of these soldiers had brought their own food as well.

Lessons from This Lesson:

- We see Jesus:
As stated above, David, the great king, prepared a city for our great God, David’s greater grandson, Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
- Be willing to wait on God. It was seven and one-half years after Saul’s death before David was king over all Israel. [Students might think about how old they were seven and one-half years ago.] In all that time, David waited upon God.

Activities:

- Play dough: donkeys, camels, mules, oxen, bread, meat, cakes of figs, bunches of raisins, oxen, sheep
- Snack: Bread, figs, raisins
- Play-act the scene when all Israel anointed him king.
- Ask some questions based on the chart or cards of the soldiers and tribes found below. (If this activity is done after Handwork, students may answer by showing the correct card.) Here are some suggested questions:
 1. What was the total number of soldiers who came to support David as king over all Israel? [340,822.]
 2. Which tribe had the most soldiers? [Zebulun with 50,000.]
 3. Included in the tribe of Levi were the next two names. What are those names? [Aaronites; Zadok.] Zadok was the high priest; he had 22 in his family who would fight for David. Aaronites were the descendants of Aaron and therefore also priests.
 4. Which tribe had the fewest soldiers? Do not include Zadok. [Issachar with 200.]
 5. Who had the next fewest soldiers after Issachar? [Benjamin with 3,000.] Remember, that during the time of the judges, the tribe of Benjamin was almost wiped out. Nevertheless, some important people came from this tribe, including King Saul.
 6. Which two and one-half tribes had a total of 120,000 soldiers? [One-half Manasseh, Gad, Reuben.] These tribes lived on the east side of the Jordan River and are often mentioned together.

- Review questions: (Game: Print on card stock the tribes and numbers of soldiers found below. [See also “Handwork.”] Cut out rectangles. A student who answers a question correctly may place a card in a pocket chart.)
 1. What did Rechab and Baanah do to their king, Ishbosheth, as he was resting? [Slew him with a sword; took off his head.]
 2. Where did Rechab and Baanah go after assassinating Ishbosheth? [To David.]
 3. How did David receive Rechab and Baanah? [He executed them for killing an innocent man.]
 4. The elders of the tribes of Israel came to David to do what? [Anoint him king over all Israel.]
 5. Fill in the blank. The elders of Israel said to David, “When Saul was king, it was really _____ who led us out against our enemies.” [You, David.]
 6. In what city did David choose to rule? [Jerusalem.]
 7. What did David promise to the man who would take Jerusalem? [He would become his commander.]
 7. Who became David’s commander? [Joab.]

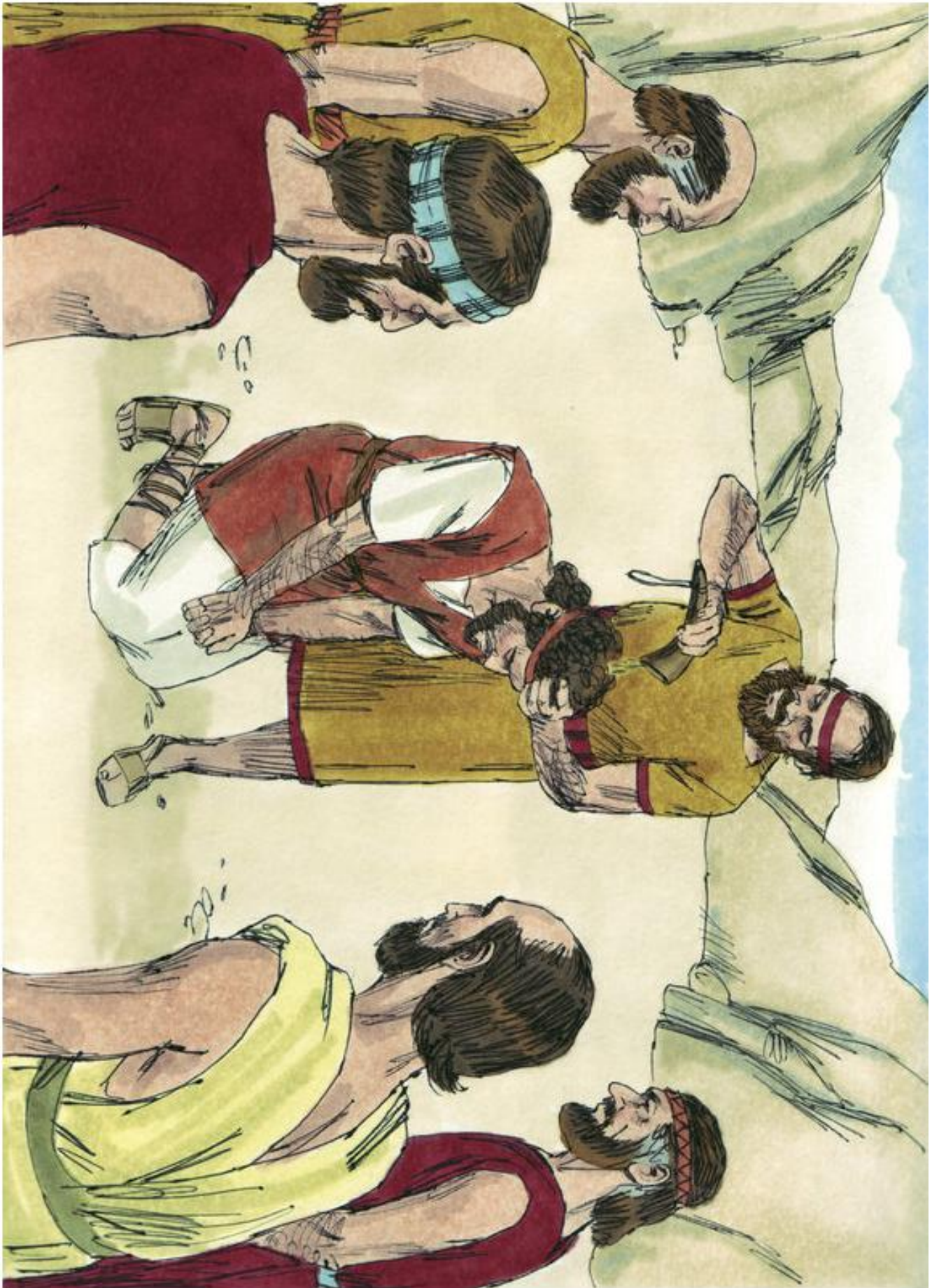
Memory Verse[s]: (KJV)

- Psalm 100:1 Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. 2 Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing. 3 Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. 4 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. 5 For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.

Handwork:

- (Requires ability to read.) On card stock, print out a set of the eight cards with tribes and numbers of soldiers found below. Students may cut apart on the lines. The students may then separate into pairs and ask questions based on information on the cards. The responding student answers by showing the card with the information.









[joab.jpg \(736×817\) \(biblestudywithrandy.com\)](#)





https://www.google.com/search?q=jerusalem&rlz=1T4ACAW_enUS479US479&source=lnms&tbn=isch&sa=X&ved=0CAgQ_AUoAmoVChMI5L7t1MOVyAIVDpmICh3bmwqm&biw=1600&bih=760#imgrc=WNOy-WM3VtzewM%3A



Soldiers Who Made David King Over All Israel

Judah	6,800
Simeon	7,100
Levi	4,600
Aaronites	3,700
Zadok	22
Benjamin	3,000
Ephraim	20,800
$\frac{1}{2}$ Manasseh	18,000
Issachar	200
Zebulun	50,000
Naphtali	38,000
Dan	28,600
Asher	40,000
$\frac{1}{2}$ Manasseh, Gad, Reuben	<u>120,000</u>

TOTAL	340,822
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**Kingdoms of
David (Judah)
and
Ish-Bosheth
(Israel)
2 Samuel 2-5**



<div>½ Manasseh, Gad, Reuben</div> <div>120,000</div>	<div>Levi 4,600</div> <div>Aaronites 3,700</div> <div>Zadok 22</div> <div>8,322</div>
<div>Simeon 7,100</div> <div>Benjamin 3,000</div> <div>10,100</div>	<div>Ephraim 20,800</div> <div>½ Manasseh 18,000</div> <div>Issachar 200</div> <div>39,000</div>
<div>Judah 6,800</div> <div>Asher 40,000</div> <div>46,800</div>	<div>Zebulun</div> <div>50,000</div>
<div>Naphtali 38,000</div> <div>Dan 28,600</div> <div>66,600</div>	<div>TOTAL</div> <div>340,822</div>