

General Church Education



David Becomes King over all Israel

2 Samuel 5:1-12, 17-25

Lesson 24

Jacob's Ladder Religion Lessons

Level 5: The Lord Is Our King

For ages 10-11

David Becomes King Over all Israel

2 Samuel 5:1-12, 17-25

Teacher Background

Fifteen years after Samuel anointed David king, and seven and a half years after he became the king of Judah, Israel recognized David as king over the entire kingdom. David was anointed in Hebron. After ascending the throne he determined to drive out the remaining tribes that inhabited Canaan. He captured the walled fortress of Jebus, home of the Jebusites, by climbing up a water shaft into the city. He re-named Jebus Jerusalem, or the City of David. When the Philistines heard he was king they quickly rose against him, but David defeated them and captured their idols. The Philistines attacked a second time. This time the Lord told David to wait until he heard the sound of marching in the tops of the trees to attack. On hearing the signal, David attacked and drove the Philistines out of the land.

Hebron, the city where David was made king, represented the Lord's spiritual church in Canaan. Since Jebus was central to the entire land David made it his capital city. This city then began to represent the Lord's spiritual church.

Focus Points

- After Saul's death the elders of Israel approached David and made him king.
- David decided to remove the tribes from Israel and took Jebus through a water shaft.
- David defeated the Philistines by carefully following the Lord's instructions.

Readings from the Writings

"Hebron represented the Lord's spiritual church in the land of Canaan. And likewise on this account David was required by the command of Jehovah to go to Hebron, and was there anointed to be king over the house of Judah; and after he had reigned there seven years and six months, he went to Jerusalem and took possession of Zion; and then for the first time the spiritual church of the Lord began to be represented by Jerusalem, and the celestial church by Zion." *Arcana Coelestia* 2909.4

"What has joy, delight, and consequent happiness in common with idleness? By idleness the mind is not expanded but dissipated; that is, man is deadened by it, not vivified. Picture...a man sitting in utter idleness...would not a lethargy seize upon both his head and body, the vital expansion of his face give way, and with relaxed fibers would he not nod and nod, until he fell to the ground? What keeps the whole bodily system expanded and tense, but the tension of the mind? And whence comes the mind's tension but from administrative duties and works, when they are performed from delight?" *True Christian Religion* 694

Teacher Activity Overview

The lesson offers the following choices:

Recitation

Learn the Lord's Word by heart.

"You shall shepherd my people Israel,
And be ruler over Israel." (2 Samuel 5:2)

Projects and Activities (see back of lesson for answers)

David Becomes King over Israel True or False?

Read statements and decide if they are true or false.

Design a Home for a king

In this story David built himself a house. This was a sign that he was well established as Israel's king. Design a home for a king. It could be a home like David had, or a home for a king at a different period in history. Sketch a floor plan or draw a picture of what it would look like from the outside.

Additional Project and Activity Choices

Discussion: Inquiring of the Lord

Every time David made an important decision he consulted the Lord. Then he followed the Lord's instructions. The Lord tells us there are several ways in which we can do this too.

1. We can turn to the Lord in His Word.
2. We can ask the Lord to guide us in prayer.
3. We can ask, what would the Lord want me to do?
4. We can ask trusted adults for their help pointing us in a good direction.

David's Children Word Search

Eleven children were born to David while he was in Jerusalem. Find their names in a Word Search. Online at <https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/file/activity-david-becomes-king-over-all-israel-word-search-2samuel5.pdf>

David Becomes King Over All Israel

2 Samuel 5:1-12, 17-25

Vocabulary

unfit—not of the quality or standard needed to meet a particular purpose

assault—violent attack

tactics—battle strategies or maneuvers

King of all Israel at Last!

David became king over Judah almost fifteen years after Samuel anointed him. At first, he was king over the Judah in the south, but after seven and a half years he also became the king of Israel in the north. After Saul and his sons died the elders of the ten tribes that had followed Saul's son Ishbosheth recognized David as the Lord's chosen king. They went to Hebron, made a covenant with him and anointed him king over Israel. David reigned for thirty-three years.

The City of Jerusalem

When David became king the Jebusites lived in Jerusalem. At that time the city was called Jebus. The book of Joshua tells us that the Israelites had not driven out all the tribes that had once lived in the land of Canaan as the Lord had commanded. The Jebusites were one of the tribes that had survived. The Israelites had tried to drive them out but had failed. The city of Jebus was built on the crest of a ridge of mountains with valleys all around it. It was also walled, which made it difficult to attack. So the Jebusites stayed there next to the Israelites.



David Fights for Jerusalem

King Saul had not tried to conquer the Jebusites but David decided it was time to remove them. The kingdom was now united, and Jerusalem stood between David's own tribe of Judah and the tribes to the north. *He* would lead the Israelites to conquer this city that nobody had been able to defeat!

When the people of Jebus saw David's army, they

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were not afraid. They did not believe that David could win. From within the safety of its walls they made fun of David and his men, and boasted that even the lame and the blind could defend them. You might remember that Goliath had teased David and things had not turned out well for him! Now the Jebusites were saying mean things to David. How might it turn out for them?

A Clever Plan

Certainly, David's soldiers would have found it hard to climb the hills and scale the walls to take the city. But David was not going to risk a direct assault—he had a clever plan. The city had an underground water tunnel. The tunnel allowed people inside the city to fetch water from the valley below without leaving the safety of its walls. David ordered a surprise attack through the water tunnel. David promised that he would reward the leader of the dangerous mission by making him his captain. The plan succeeded. The Israelites captured the city and renamed it the City of David. It is now called Jerusalem.

A New Capital for a New King

While David was king of Judah he lived in Hebron. Now that he was the king of Israel as well he needed a capital city closer to the center of the land. So David moved his home to Jerusalem and made Jerusalem the new capital.



“So David went on and became great, and the Lord of hosts was with him.” (2 Samuel 5:10)

A Palace for David

Far to the north of Jerusalem king Hiram lived on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea. He ruled the magnificent city of Tyre. King Hiram showed David his friendship by building him a palace. He sent carpenters and stone workers to Jerusalem with beautiful cedar wood.

Hiram's men built David a palace, a house fit for a king. And David realized that the Lord had finally fulfilled his promise.

“So David knew that the Lord had established him as king over Israel.” (2 Samuel 5:12)

David and the Philistines

The Philistines were unhappy that David was now king. He had lived in their land. He knew the strength of their army and their military strategies. The longer they waited to attack, the longer David would have to build his military strength as the commander of two combined armies. Perhaps they were afraid that he would become a powerful enemy if they did not defeat him quickly.

The Philistines positioned their army in the Valley of Rephaim. David did what he always did when he made an important decision. He asked the Lord what he should do:

“Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will you deliver them into my hand?” (2 Samuel 5:19)



Because David put his trust in the Lord, and obeyed Him, he defeated the Philistines. After the battle the Philistines left their idols behind. David and his men took them away.

But the Philistines returned to the Valley of Rephaim to attack again. When David asked the Lord what he should do this time, the Lord told David not to attack until he heard the wind make a marching sound in the tops of the trees. Then he should attack quickly:

“You shall not go up; circle around behind them, and come upon them in front of the mulberry trees. For then the Lord will go out before you to strike the camp of the Philistines.” (2 Samuel 5:23, 24)

David obeyed the Lord. The marching in the trees must have sounded like a huge army and terrified the Philistines. And so David drove them back all the way to Gezer.

The Lord was able to help David enter Jebus because David always kept the Lord and the welfare of his country in mind. Whenever we work towards a useful goal the Lord gives us good feelings, or brings us into “Jerusalem”—His heaven. So, each time we make good choices, heaven comes into our lives.

Activity Overview

Recitation

Learn the recitation by heart.

“You shall shepherd my people Israel,
And be ruler over Israel.” (2 Samuel 5:2)

Projects and Activities (answers are at the back of this lesson)

Choose one or two.

David Becomes King over Israel True or False?

Read statements and decide if they are true or false.

Design a Home for a King

In this story David built a home for himself. This was a sign that he was well established as Israel’s king. Design a home for a king. It could be a home like David had, or a home for a king at a different period in history. Sketch a floor plan or draw a picture of what it would look like from the outside.

David Becomes King over Israel True or False?

2 Samuel 5

Decide if statements are true or false. Write T for true, or F for false next to each statement.

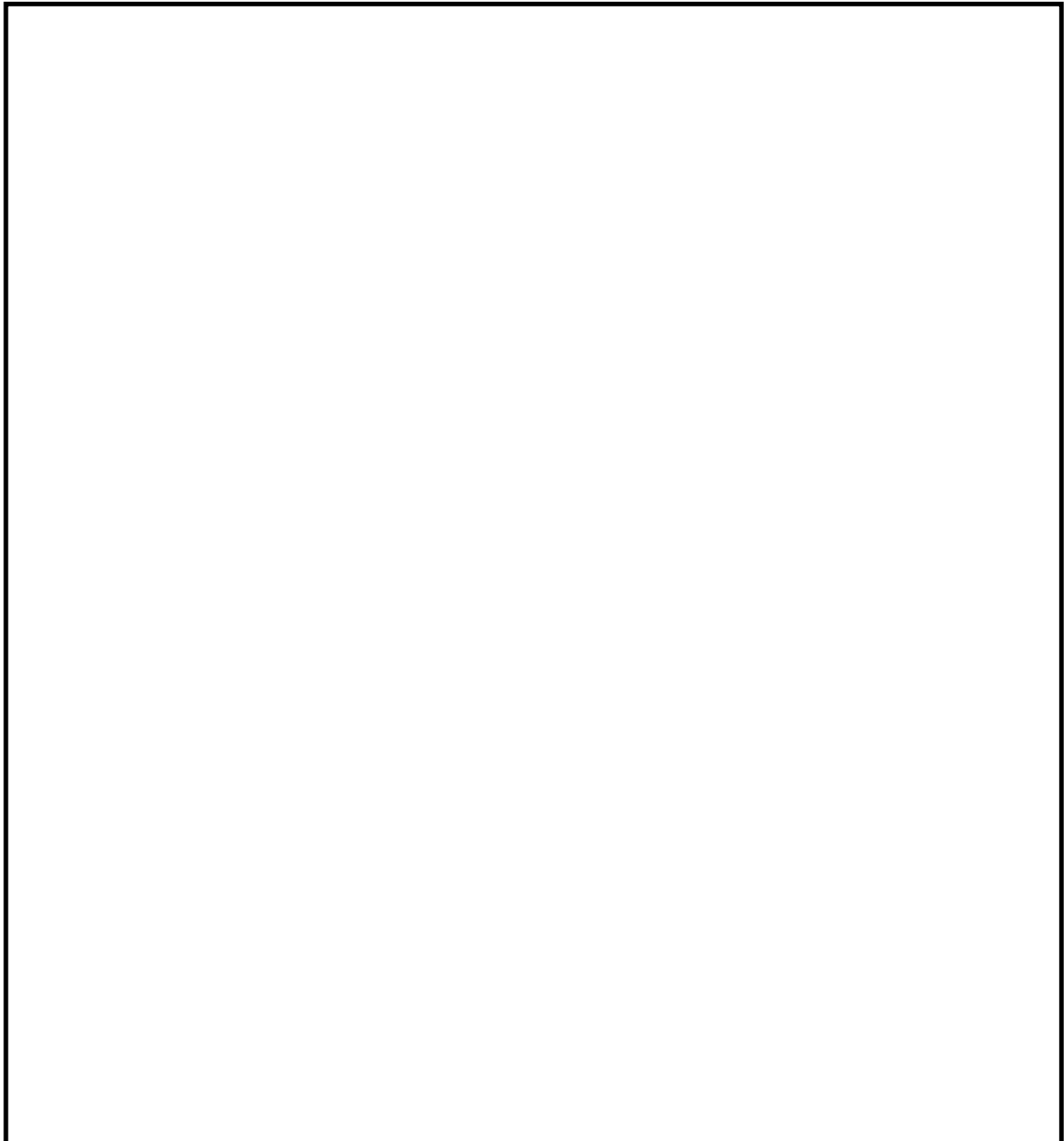
1. ____ The tribes of Israel wanted David to be king because he was stronger than Ishbosheth.
2. ____ David got into Jerusalem and defeated the Jebusites by climbing up behind the city.
3. ____ The Jesubites had a secret entrance to the city of Jebus or Jerusalem.
4. ____ The City of David is another name for Jerusalem.
5. ____ King David wanted to make Jerusalem his capital city because it was in middle of the land.
6. ____ David built a beautiful palace himself.
7. ____ King Hiram wanted to do something nice for David, the new king.
8. ____ When David attacked the Philistines in the Valley of Rephaim the Lord told him to wait until the rain began.
9. ____ David will be a different kind of king than Saul because he always asked the Lord what he should do.

Design a Home for a King

2 Samuel 5

In 2 Samuel 5 David built a home. It was a sign that he was a well established king. His home must have been very large to fit his big family.

In the space below sketch a home for a king. It can be a home like David might have had, or a king in a different time in history might have lived in. Choose whether to draw a floor plan, or to draw a picture of what it would look like from the outside.

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for a student to draw a sketch of a king's home. The box occupies the majority of the page below the instructions.

Answers

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David Becomes King over Israel True or False?

1. T, 2. F, 3. T, 4. T, 5. T, 6. F, 7. T, 8. F, 9. T.