

## WEEK 17 — MIDDLE OF DAVID'S REIGN

**Date:** from the period 1020-970 BC (the undatable psalms of David) • probably sometime between roughly 1003 and 975 BC (other texts)

**The Story:** God is Israel's true and highest King; in Israel's theology, the authority of its human king comes from God and depends on God's favor. David, praising God in psalms and ruling Israel with God's blessing, forgets this reality at one crucial moment: he sins against God by committing adultery and then having the husband of the woman he had taken killed. David's King, God, confronts him about his sin, and David (unlike Saul before him) repents—and God forgives him. But harm has still been done; David's sons Amnon and Absalom learn that kings may do whatever they wish, and with no reverence for God at all, they abuse their power, bringing one tragedy after another upon themselves, David, and the nation. David, though, continues to rely on God, though he is clearly wounded by the sin of himself and his sons.

\* Kids' readings may not align with the daily full readings. Parents, see the content ratings on the back page.

### APRIL 24                      PSALMS 109-110 • PSALM 122 • PSALM 124 • PSALM 131 • PSALM 133 • PSALMS 138-139

**Today's reading** brings us another selection of David's undatable psalms. Highlights in this group include a prayer for God's justice to come upon a betraying enemy, quoted by Peter concerning Judas Iscariot (Psalm 109; verse 8 is quoted in Acts 1:20); Psalm 110, one of the psalms quoted most often in the New Testament as a prophecy of Jesus (e.g., Acts 2:34-35, Hebrews 7:17-21); and Psalm 139's touching recognition of God's continual closeness to his people.

**Date:** from the period 1020-970 BC

**In a hurry? 10-minute reading:** Psalms 109-110 • Psalm 122 • Psalm 124 • Psalm 133 • Psalm 139

**Kids' Reading\*:** Psalms 109-110

### APRIL 25                      PSALMS 140-141 • PSALMS 143-145

**Today's reading** presents our final reading of the undatable psalms of David. Psalms 140 and 141 are typical Davidic cries for help, against enemies in 140 and against both wicked rulers and David's own temptation to sin in 141. Psalms 143-144 are similar—more prayers for God's help, expressions of trust in God. Psalm 145 goes with straight praise to God for his excellent virtues: majesty, compassion, love, faithfulness, righteousness, and so on.

**Date:** from the period 1020-970 BC

**In a hurry? 10-minute reading:** Psalms 140-141 • Psalms 144-145

**Kids' Reading\*:** Psalm 122 • Psalm 124 • Psalm 131 • Psalm 133 • Psalm 138

### APRIL 26                      2 SAMUEL 10 • 1 CHRONICLES 18-19 • PSALM 60

**Today's reading** reports various victories of David and Israel, most notably including the story of an offense against Israel that escalated into war against the Ammonites and Arameans. This story sets the backdrop for tomorrow's reading. David wrote Psalm 60, a prayer for God's help in battle, around this time.

**Date:** probably sometime between 1003 and 990 BC • 1 Chronicles 18:14-17 summarizes the situation during David's reign, about 1010-970 BC

**In a hurry? 10-minute reading:** 2 Samuel 10 • 1 Chronicles 18-19 • Psalm 60

**Kids' Reading\*:** Psalm 139 • Psalm 143

### APRIL 27                      2 SAMUEL 11-12 • PSALM 51

**Today's reading** tells of David's worst failure: though God has provided him with wives and concubines, David fails to control his lust, and he takes another man's wife and commits adultery with her. Notice that the text

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS — Summit View Church of Christ

places no blame on Bathsheba; whether she had any say in what the king required of her is entirely unknown. Though David tries to hide his sin, God knows it and reveals it. David repents—Psalm 51 records his prayer of repentance—and God forgives him. But great harm has been done.

**Date:** probably sometime between roughly 1002 and 992 BC (2 Samuel 11:1 to 12:23, Psalm 51) • probably sometime between roughly 1000 and 990 BC (2 Samuel 12:24-31)

**In a hurry? 10-minute reading:** 2 Samuel 11-12 • Psalm 51

**Kids' Reading\*:** Psalms 144-145

## APRIL 28 2 SAMUEL 13-14

**Today's reading** serves as an illustration of how sin often produces unanticipated harm. Amnon, like his father David, lets his lust control him—and he ruins the life of his own sister. Their brother Absalom avenges her and flees into exile. Tragedy has come to David's family, as God had foretold through Nathan. But can Absalom be reconciled to David, as David was reconciled to God?

**Date:** probably sometime between 995 and 979 BC

**In a hurry? 10-minute reading:** 2 Samuel 13-14

**Kids' Reading\*:** 1 Chronicles 18-19

## APRIL 29 2 SAMUEL 15:1 to 17:23 • PSALM 3

**Today's reading** brings the story of David's sin to a head as his son Absalom now seeks not a woman but his father's throne. He sparks a rebellion, and David has to flee Jerusalem. Will God forgive David, whose own sin started this whole mess? Or will he hand the kingdom over to Absalom? Psalm 3 is David's appeal to God during Absalom's rebellion.

**Date:** probably sometime between roughly 988 and 975 BC

**In a hurry? 10-minute reading:** 2 Samuel 15:1 to 16:14 • Psalm 3

**Kids' Reading\*:** Psalm 3 • Psalm 51 • Psalm 60

## APRIL 30 2 SAMUEL 17:24 to 19:43

**Today's reading** describes the tragic end of Absalom's rebellion. Throughout the story, David is both faithful to God in whom he trusts and broken, presumably haunted by the continuing aftereffects of his sin. He loves his son—but will he be able to save his son? And will Israel survive?

**Date:** probably sometime between roughly 984 and 975 BC

**In a hurry? 10-minute reading:** 2 Samuel 17:24 to 19:8

**Kids' Reading\*:** 2 Samuel 23:1-23

### Parents' Guide

#### PG preview for young children

2S 10:4 (N), 13-14 (V), 17-18 (V)

2S 11:1 (V), 11 (S), 13 (T), 14-26 (V)

2S 12:14-23 (T), 24 (S), 26-29 (V)

2S 14:6-11 (V), 30-32 (V)

2S 15:10-14 (T), 14 (V), 30 (T)

2S 17:1-16 (V)

2S 18:6-8 (V), 19-33 (T)

2S 19:1-8 (T)

1Chr 18:1-5 (V), 12 (V)

1Chr 19:4 (N), 14-18 (V)

Ps 3:7 (V)

Ps 51:intro (S)

Ps 60:intro (V), 1-3 (T), 12 (V)

Ps 109:1-20 (T)

Ps 110:5-6 (V)

Ps 139:20-22 (T)

Ps 140:1-11 (T)

Ps 143:3

(V), 12 (V)

Ps 144:6

(V), 14 (V)

C = Circumcision  
N = Nudity  
S = Sexuality  
T = Dark/Sensitive Themes  
V = Violence

#### PG-13 preview for under age 13

2S 11:2-4 (N, S)

2S 12:9-12 (S, V)

2S 16:5-13 (T, V), 21-22 (S)

2S 17:23 (V)

2S 18:14-17 (V)

Ps 141:6-10 (V)

#### R shocking, graphic, or disturbing

2S 13:1-22 (S, T, V), 28-33 (S,