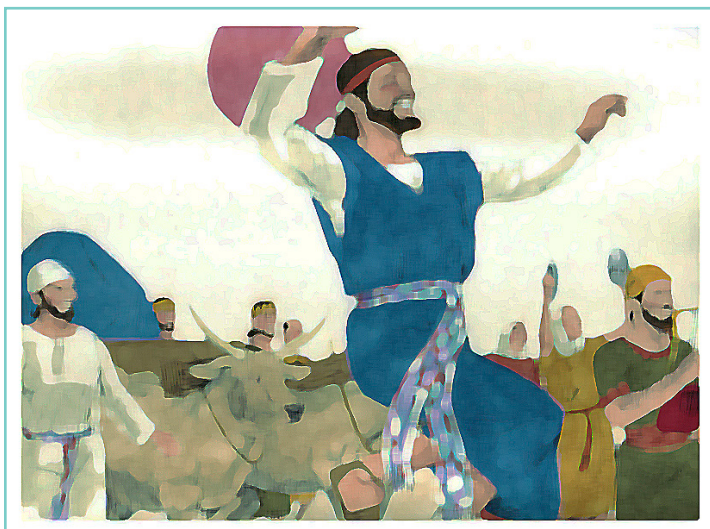


Lesson 2: Celebration



Old Testament

New Testament

Where in the Bible?

The book of 2 Samuel begins in the aftermath of King Saul's death.

The Old Testament - History

The books of 1 and 2 Samuel and the books of 1 and 2 Kings tell the story of Israel as a united nation and the subsequent division into north and south kingdoms. Part of the biblical books of History, some of this same content is repeated in 1 and 2 Chronicles in a more abbreviated form.

Introduction

David, son of Jesse, had already been chosen by God, anointed as a young man by the prophet Samuel. With the death of Saul, David was officially recognized as king. He set his throne in the great City of Jerusalem and brought up the Ark of the Covenant to Mount Zion, where the temple would later be built.

Read: 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 6:1-5

On reading these verses, what are some of your initial impressions and questions? What stands out to you?

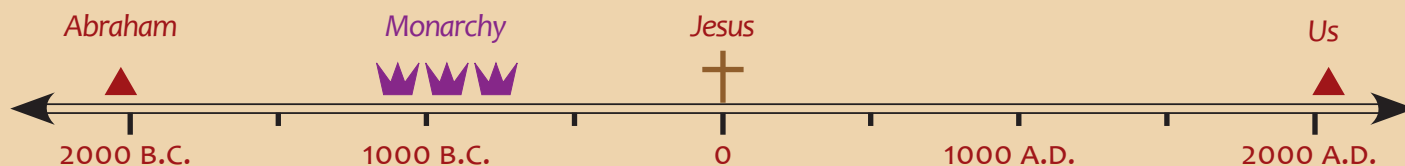
Biblical Time Period: Monarchy

The time of the Monarchy was a high point for the nation of Israel, where one king ruled over a united land. The first was King Saul, a troubled leader who later turned away from God. The Lord raised up King David to take Saul's place.

These two struggled against one another until the death of Saul, when David ascended to the throne (today's lesson). David ruled for many years, and was succeeded by his son, King Solomon, who built the temple in Jerusalem.

When in Time?

The best way to remember the timeline of Bible history, and where **we** fit into the picture, is to put Jesus at the center. We live about 2,000 years after Jesus; Abraham lived about 2,000 years before Jesus. The days of the united monarchy were halfway between Abraham and Jesus, about _____ B.C.



Who do the three crowns on the line above represent?

Answer: 1) _____, 2) _____, 3) _____

Discuss: 2 Samuel 5:1-5; 6:1-5

1. The story of the actual anointing of young David by the prophet Samuel is told in 1 Samuel 16:1-13. In verse 3 of our lesson today, it says that the “elders of Israel” anointed David. How does this public declaration of David as king confirm a decision that had been made by God years earlier?
2. In verse 5:2, God refers to David as the chosen shepherd of his people Israel. What is the role of a shepherd? Why is this an appropriate image with which to describe a faithful ruler?
3. After capturing the city of Jerusalem (2 Samuel 5:7), David made the city his capital. From what you know of Scripture, what significant events in biblical history later took place in this city?
4. Verses 6:1-5 say that David brought up the Ark of the Covenant with him into the city. What is the significance of the Ark of God? What did this ceremonial box contain?
5. Read: 2 Samuel 6:12b-22. What were David and the people doing when the Ark entered the city? Who disapproved of this? Why?
6. Read: Mark 11:8-10. This event happened at the same location, 1000 years later. Who was entering the city? What were the people doing?
7. How do David’s words in 2 Samuel 6:21-22 foreshadow what would happen to Jesus? How was Christ the fulfillment of the promise God made to David?

Where in the World?

The close-up map to the far right shows the extent of David’s Kingdom. It shows the coastal lands occupied by the “Sea Peoples” — the Philistines and the Phoenicians — with whom the Israelites continued to be in conflict throughout this period in history.

**A Time of Significant Change (c. 1000 B.C.)**

The invasion of the Sea Peoples from the western Mediterranean marked the era of transition from the old **Bronze Age** empires (Egyptians, Hittites, Assyrians) into the era of the **Iron Age** civilizations that would follow. Advances in metallurgy and weaponry shifted the balance of power in the region. The political instability of the period allowed Israel to become an independent nation.