

Name: WEEK 23

June 2

Ch. 25

David was protecting the people in his region, and Nabal was one of the wealthy people who received his protection. In return, David expected material support from Nabal but Nabal failed to provide any support. David, unlike his former self, decided to take revenge against foolish Nabal. However, a word from Nabal's wife, wise Abigail, made David put away his sword of revenge. When Nabal heard this news, he became so discouraged that his body became like a stone (v. 37). Ten days later, Nabal was killed by whom? (v. 38)

• God takes revenge. Chapters 24 and 26 record events where David could have taken revenge against Saul by taking his life, yet David spares Saul's life. Here, in chapter 25 (coming between chapters 24 and 26), why did David plan to take vengeance and kill Nabal? Perhaps David's heart was exhausted from the continuing flight for his life. Even those who live by faith sometimes lose patience and their faith in God's sovereignty wavers. Even if you are rejected or insulted, do not repay in kind, but remember that vengeance belongs to God.

Ch. 26

In this chapter, David has another opportunity to kill Saul, but he spares him out of respect for the Lord's anointing on him. David took the spear and the jug of water from near Saul's head; how was it that no one noticed?



Ch. 27

David, exhausted from his continued flight, decides that it would be better to go to the land of the Philistines. With King Achish's permission, where did David and his men live, and for how many years? (vv. 6–7)

• During his time with the Philistines, David and his men lived by raiding Geshur, Girz, and Amalekites in the south. But David lied to King Achish of Gath by telling him that he had raided Judah and the neighboring tribes. To keep his lies secret, he had to kill many people. Although he escaped Saul's hand, the year and four months he spent in the Philistines, where he had survived by lying, was a period of spiritual darkness for David. Leaving the Philistines and returning to the promised land would have been the only way for David to escape from his life of lies and return to God.

Ch. 28

Continuing the story recorded in chapter 27, chapters 28–31 record the war between Israel and the Philistines. (Saul is killed in this war and David returns to Judah.) When the Philistines gathered and camped at Shunem, Saul, who was at a dead end, inquired of the Lord out of fear. However, when God did not answer him, not by dreams, by Urim, or by prophets, what did he do? (This act was forbidden by God. Deuteronomy 18:9–14)



Ch. 29

This chapter records the situation in which David had no choice but to participate in the war against Israel as a member of the Philistine army. David had just settled down in Philistia and was beginning to live a stable life with his family. Now, he was in a dilemma where he could lose everything if he said he would not go to war, and he could not attack God's people and oppose God. David postponed his choice and went to Aphek, but God showed grace in a surprising way. King Achish liked David and wanted to take him to war, but who actively opposed him, and why?

• David on his way to Aphek may have prayed, "God, help me. I cannot give up my stable life in Philistia, nor can I attack God's people. God, please save me." Even in such a weak and cowardly heart, God showed grace.

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Ch. 30

In chapter 29, David and his men returns to Ziklag after participating in a war, and finds that the Amalekites had attacked Ziklag while David was away and had taken their wives and children captive. Here in chapter 30, David faces this shocking situation and pursues the Amalekites and recover their wives and children, and also took spoils from the Amalekites. Psalm 40:2 records David's prayer in this shocking situation. "He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a (_______), making my steps (_______)."

• There are moments of despair in our lives, yet let us remember David's situation and the prayer of the Psalms at such times.

Ch. 31

Finally, the battle between Israel and the Philistines begins around Mount Gilboa. In this war, Saul and his three sons are killed. In chapter 29, it seems fortunate that David did not participate in the war. David did not want to harm Saul with his own hands because God had appointed Saul. Who buried the bodies of Saul and his sons?

(These are the people who received help from Saul in the first war against Ammon after he was chosen as king in 1 Samuel 11, and they are repaying Saul for his kindness.)



2 Samuel Ch. 1

When David heard that Saul and Jonathan had died in the battle of Gilboa, he was deeply saddened and sang a song of praise. David's feelings toward Jonathan are expressed in this song.

"I am distressed for you, my brother (________); very pleasant have you been to me; your love to me was extraordinary, surpassing the love of women."

• How do we feel when someone who has opposed us or caused us pain fails or dies? David was a man who respected God's will more than his own self-centered thoughts and feelings. He sincerely mourned the death of Saul and Jonathan.

Ch. 2

Saul died, but David did not become king of the entire nation of Israel right away. It took a whole seven years for David to ascend to the throne of the entire nation of Israel. During those seven years, there were two kings in Israel, making it one of the darkest times of the division of the nation. David became king of the tribe of Judah in Hebron, and the other tribes made Ishbosheth, Saul's fourth son, king. A war broke out between the two kingdoms. What was the result of this long-running war according to verse 3:1.

June 7

Ch. 3

This chapter is full of political intrigue. Abner, who was angry at Ishbosheth's words that Abner had committed adultery with Saul's concubine Rizpah, decides to hand over Benjamin and Israel to David's rule. Abner went to Hebron to meet David. Leaving the meeting, Abner was killed by Joab, David's commander of the army. David buried Abner and wrote a lament. While Joab was obsessed with personal revenge and was not afraid of shedding blood, David wanted to stop shedding blood if possible and establish a peaceful nation. What David gained by avoiding revenge and bloodshed was the trust and love of the people.

"And all the people took (______) of it, and it pleased them, as everything that the king did (______) all the people."

Ch. 4

The news of Abner's death shocked Ishbosheth like a bolt of lightning. In addition to Abner, Ishbosheth had two generals Baanah and Rechab, sons of Rimmon of the tribe of Benjamin. These two generals eventually betrayed Ishbosheth and killed him, and surrendered his head to David. Finally, with the death of Ishbosheth, the dynasty of Saul fell. Who buried the dead Ishbosheth in Abner's tomb in Hebron?