
BOOK OVERVIEW

II Samuel

Author: probably Gad or Nathan

Date: about 1000–960 B.C.

Recipients: not indicated

Summary: the reign of King David

Key word: David (280 times)

Key verses: II Samuel 7:8–16

Notes:

The book covers about forty years of in the life of the nation of Israel, from the death of Saul to the reign of Solomon. It reflects the highest point in Israel's political power.

God speaks of David as “a man after mine own heart” (Acts 13:22); but David also had his problems: 1) he had an immoral relationship with Bathsheba (II Samuel 11:2-14), 2) he had a poor relationship with his son Absalom (II Samuel 15:1-14), and 3) contrary to God's instruction, he took a census to count his fighting men (II Samuel 24:1-4).

The book tells of David's desire to built a temple to honor God, but also tells us why God did not allow him to do so. David gather's the materials, but it is Solomon who builds the temple. (II Samuel 7:1-13)

Absalom cut his hair, when it became too heavy, and the clippings weighed about five pounds. (II Samuel 14:26)

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