

## Walking Through the Word

### Kings and Prophets (Week 12)

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Story: David's Sin (E: David's Sin, p 227-228)

Location: **2 Sam 11-12:25, Psalm 51**

#### Bios & definitions

**Joab:** commander of David's army; he was the son of Zeruah, David's half-sister; his name means "Yahweh is father;" with his brothers, Asahel and Abishai, he defeated Ish-Bosheth's attempt to be king (2 Sam 8:8-17); David made him commander of all his forces (1 Chr 11:6); he was a great commander but also took part in David's murder of Uriah the Hittite (2 Sam 11:6-18)

**Bathsheba:** one of David's wives; she bore Solomon as a result of David's adultery; David murdered her husband Uriah (2 Sam 11:1-12:24); the name means "daughter of an oath"; her father was Eliam (2 Sam 11:3; cf. 1 Chr 3:5); her first son died, after which she bore David four more sons (1 Chr 3:5); she secured the ascension of her son Solomon to the throne (1 Kings 1:1-2:19)

**Uriah:** a Hittite who served in David's army (2 Sam 11), David eventually had him killed in battle, his name means "light of Yahweh;" Bathsheba was his wife, he was a member of David's elite forces (2 Sam 23:39; 1 Chr 11:41); he proved himself to be an honorable man before David had him killed (Deut 23:10, 11; 2 Sam 11:11)

**Nathan:** prophet who charged David with adultery and murder (2 Sam 12:1-31), his name means "(God) has given;" God revealed the covenant with David through Nathan (2 Sam 7:4-16); Psalm 51 (title) notes his condemnation of David's adultery

**Psalms:** the present Hebrew name of the book is *Tehillim*, "Praises," and the Greeks entitled them *psalmoi* or "psalms," i.e., lyrical pieces to be sung to a musical instrument; the liturgical hymn-book which the Jewish Church had regularly used in the temple; 150 psalms divided into five books

Book I is, by the superscriptions, entirely Davidic nor do we find in it a trace of any but David's authorship. We may well believe that the compilation of the book was also David's work.

Book II appears by the date of its latest psalm, Psalm 46, to have been compiled in the reign of King Hezekiah. It would naturally comprise, first, several or most of the Levitical psalms anterior to that date; and second, the remainder of the psalms of David previously uncompiled. To these latter the collector after properly appending the single psalm of Solomon has affixed the notice that "the prayers of David the son of Jesse are ended." (Psalm 72:20)

Book III, the interest of which centers in the times of Hezekiah stretches out, by its last two psalms, to the reign of Manasseh: it was probably compiled in the reign of Josiah. It contains seventeen psalms, from Psalm 73-89 eleven by Asaph, four by the sons of Horah, one (86) by David, and one by Ethan.

Book IV contains the remainder of the psalms up to the date of the captivity. There are seventeen, from Psalm 90-106 — one by Moses, two by David, and the rest anonymous.

Book V, the psalms of the return, contains forty-four, from Psalm 107-150—fifteen by David, one by Solomon and the rest anonymous. There is nothing to distinguish these two books from each other in respect of outward decoration or arrangement and they may have been compiled together in the days of Nehemiah.<sup>1</sup>

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Story: **Corruption in the Kingdom** (E: Absalom Tries to Become King, Absalom Loses His Life, p 228-232)

Location: **2 Sam 15-19**

#### Bios & definitions

**Absalom:** son of David, beloved by the king and the people; Scripture says he was "no one as handsome as Absalom, so highly praised; from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head there was no defect in him" (2 Sam 14:25); he killed Amnon (brother) for raping his sister Tamar (2 Sam 13:20-38), exiled from Jerusalem for three years (2 Sam 13:37-38), and upon his return, he plotted to overthrow David, his father (2 Sam 15-18) but was eventually defeated and judged by God; Absalom's tragic story illustrated well the curse the Lord placed on David's house because of David's affair with Bathsheba and his murder of her husband Uriah (2 Sam 12:11-12)

**Hushai:** dedicated to helping and protecting King David (2 Sam 15:32-37); he successfully confounded Ahithophel, David's deceitful earlier counselor; he was termed the "king's friend" (1 Chr 27:33)

Story: **Solomon Ascends the Throne** (E: Solomon Becomes King, God Gives Solomon a Gift, p 234-237)

Location: **1 Kings 1-4**

#### Bios & definitions

**Adonijah:** The proper name of David's fourth son by Haggith, his name means "my Lord is Yahweh;" he tried unsuccessfully to take the throne upon David's imminent death (1 Kings 1:1-53; 2:13-25); a second unsuccessful attempt to get the better of Solomon resulted in Adonijah's execution (1 Kings 2:13-25)

**Solomon:** David's son through Bathsheba, the second most renowned king of all Israel; born in Jerusalem (2 Sam 5:14) and Nathan the prophet said the Lord wanted the child to be named Jedidiah, meaning "beloved by the Lord," indicating God's continued love for David's descendants (2 Sam 7); Solomon became king in 970 BC and ruled forty years; he was known for his wisdom

**Zadok:** one of the priests in David's day who served along with Abiathar (2 Sam 8:17); son of Ahitub who helped care for the ark; he supported Solomon, David's choice as king, before David's death (1 Kings 1:7-45; 2:35)

<sup>1</sup> Source: Smith's Bible Dictionary: Comprising Antiquities, Biography, Geography, Natural History, Archaeology & Literature