

Session 1: Introducing the Man After God's Heart

I. OUR APPROACH TO THE LIFE OF DAVID IN THIS CLASS

In this class we're going to study the life of David by using the narrative of 1 Samuel as the backdrop and the Psalms as a window into David's inner life. My goal is to familiarize you with the story of David's life and with the Psalms that correspond so that it would empower you to study it on your own and connect with the importance of this Biblical biography.

Many of David's Psalms can be connected to specific episodes in David's life. In each session we'll look at a chapter in 1 Samuel to understand what was happening in the natural and then we'll turn to a Psalm or two to understand what was happening inwardly.

As we pioneer day and night prayer in this city the theology of David's life is invaluable to us.

II. FOCAL POINTS FOR STUDYING THE LIFE OF DAVID

David had an illuminated view of life. He had a unique spirit of revelation resting upon his heart that enabled him to view all things through those enlightened eyes.

For with you is the fountain of life; in your light do we see light.(Psalm 36:9)

...light up my eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death... (Psalm 13:3)

Send out your light and your truth... (Psalm 43:3)

- A. What David saw about **God's heart**: David was a theologian of God's attributes and emotions
- B. What David saw about **himself** in God's sight: David's belovedness before God
- C. What David saw about **others** through God's eyes: David's enlightened view of people
- D. What David saw in **circumstances**: how David handled pressure and prosperity

III. DAVID: THE MAN AFTER GOD'S HEART

The LORD has sought for Himself a man after His own heart, and the LORD has commanded him to be commander (leader) over His people..." (1 Sam. 13:14)

- A. Having a heart after God – three practical applications
 - 1. Obedience to the Word of God
 - 2. Intimacy with the Heart of God
 - 3. Passion for the Purposes of God

IV. DAVID: THE LOVER, THE LEADER AND THE PSALMIST

A. The lover

(ESV) Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. (Isaiah 55:3)

(NASB) "Incline your ear and come to Me. Listen, that you may live; And I will make an everlasting covenant with you, According to the faithful mercies shown to David. (Isaiah 55:3)

I love you, O LORD, my strength. (Psalm 18:1)

I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy. (Psalm 116:1)

B. The Leader

He also chose David His servant, and took him from the sheepfolds; 71 from following the ewes...He brought him, to shepherd...Israel His inheritance. 72 So he shepherded them according to the integrity of his heart, and guided them by the skillfulness of his hands. (Ps. 78:70–72)

David knew that the LORD had established him as king over Israel, and that He had exalted His kingdom for the sake of His people Israel. (2 Sam. 5:12)

He raised up for them David as king, to whom also He gave testimony and said, 'I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My own heart, who will do all My will.' (Acts 13:22)

David after he had served his own generation BY THE WILL OF GOD, fell asleep...(Acts 13:36)

David after he had served the PURPOSE OF GOD in his own generation, fell asleep... (ESV/NAS)

I will give you shepherds according to My heart...will feed you with...understanding (Jer. 3:15)

C. The Sweet Psalmist/Pioneer of Day and Night Prayer

The LORD said to my father David, 'Whereas it was in your heart to build a temple for My name, you did well in that it was in your heart'. (2 Chr. 6:8)

...David the son of Jesse...the sweet psalmist of Israel: (2 Sam. 23:1)

V. 4 DIFFERENT SIDES TO THE DRAMA OF THE LIFE OF DAVID

A. **God's side of the story** – The Lord "sought" for David and is still seeking for this type of person (2 Chr. 16:9; Jn. 4:24) and found him (Ps. 89:20).

I have found My servant David; With My holy oil I have anointed him. (Ps. 89:20)

For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him. (2 Chr. 16:9)

The hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. (Jn. 4:23)

B. **Samuel's side of the story** –God told him to anoint another to replace Saul. Samuel feared that this would cause Saul to kill him (1 Sam. 16:2).

Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears it, he will kill me." (1 Sam. 16:2)

- C. **David's side of the story** – he was seeking to know God as the highest vision for his life.
- D. **Saul's side of the story** – he knew from two prophecies (1 Sam. 13:14; 15:28), that God had decided to replace him with someone close and who was better, thus no one from his circle who had his values. (David does not come into the narrative until 1 Sam. 16). God said to Saul, "Your replacement is your neighbor and he is a better person than you." Saul knew that David was God's choice and thus had no excuse for seeking to kill David. However, this incited Saul in his sin to attack David which was God's tool to train David to be king. When God desires to raise up "a David," He uses a demonized leader with many resources like king Saul. The time of the replacement was still not for nearly another 15 years (Saul died at 70 and David was 30), when God killed him. God knew the whole time that He would kill Saul, but waited until David was ready to rule.