

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS - Week of June 9, 2024

### THEME: "David and Bathsheba"

#### THE DIVINE CALLING

**Sunday** ..... **Read I Samuel 16:3-12**

*"And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. And the Lord said, Arise, anoint him: for this is he."* God instructed Samuel to find a person to serve as the king of Israel from the family of Jesse. Quite naturally, Samuel went to the oldest one, and he was a young man, strong in stature and handsome in appearance. But God rejected him and all the others until he got to David, the youngest, whom he found on the field tending sheep. God explained to Samuel the difference between God and man in recruiting help. We read of that difference in I Samuel 16:7: *"But the Lord said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart."* David was God's choice.

#### THE HARP

**Monday**..... **Read I Samuel 16:16-23**

*"And it came to pass, when the evil spirit from God was upon Saul, that David took an harp, and played with his hand: so Saul was refreshed, and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him."* God has different ways of preparing people for His ministry and arranging for them to serve. Samuel was instructed by God to go to Jesse's family and anoint one of his sons. When he got there, he explained to Jesse his purpose for coming. It is interesting to see that he settled on David, the youngest in the family. When David became king, he already had experience in the palace. He played the harp, and that had a soothing effect on the king in the midst of all his responsibilities in providing leadership in the country. Music is an important part of God's work on earth. Here it seemed to be vital in establishing a proper atmosphere to help those making vital national decisions.

#### THE WAR

**Tuesday**..... **Read I Samuel 17:1-3**

*"Now the Philistines gathered together their armies to battle, and were gathered together at Shochoh, which belongeth to Judah, and pitched between Shochoh and Azekah, in Ephesdammim. And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered together, and pitched by the valley of Elah, and set the battle in array against the Philistines."* Israel has been the target of many enemies over the years, even to our day. On this occasion it appeared to be a tough battle because of the strength of the enemy. The big picture of this ongoing battle against God's chosen nation, as per the covenant with Abraham. It was God and the forces of good against Satan and the forces of evil, as spiritual darkness. It

was a war in which David's older brothers were engaged. David got into it because his father sent him to check on his brothers' well being.

### **THE CHALLENGE**

**Wednesday..... Read I Samuel 17:4-10**

*"And the Philistine said, I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together."* David was at the battle site checking on his brothers, the Philistine giant Goliath issued a challenge. He suggested one man against one man to determine the winner. Being a giant, Goliath is assured that he could defeat any individual. All the Israeli soldiers hesitated, but young David volunteered. He did not volunteer because he thought he was able to defeat the giant by his own strength, but his faith in God was such that he had confidence that God would help him win. His faith was a great example of the teaching of Jeremiah 32:17: *"Ah Lord God! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee."*

### **JEALOUSY**

**Thursday ..... Read I Samuel 18:8-9**

*"And Saul was very wroth, and the saying displeased him; and he said, They have ascribed unto David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed but thousands: and what can he have more but the kingdom?"* When David, because of his heroism in the war against the Philistines, became more popular than the king, Saul became very jealous! He actually planned to kill David. He first tried by hurling a spear at David, but missed. David's friend Jonathan, the son of the king befriended David and helped him escape from his father. Realizing the danger, David fled. On one occasion, David had the opportunity to avenge the king's hatred and kill him. David, however, spared Saul and that brought him back into the king's good graces.

### **THE MARRIAGE**

**Friday..... Read II Samuel 11:24-27**

*"And when the mourning was past, David sent and fetched her to his house, and she became his wife."* When David became king, he fell in love with a soldier's wife by the name of Bathsheba. David had illicit sexual relations with the woman, and she became pregnant. David tried to cover up the sin by having her husband Uriah come home on furlough. Uriah, however saw above the charade, and did not make love to his wife explaining that his fellow soldiers were still at battle, and he returned to the battlefield. David then ordered Uriah be placed on the front lines, and he was killed. David then married Bathsheba.

### **BIRTH OF SOLOMON**

**Saturday..... Read II Samuel 12:20-24**

*"And David comforted Bathsheba his wife, and went in unto her, and lay with her: and she bare a son, and he called his name Solomon: and the Lord loved him."*

God, by Divine intervention, arranged for the line of Judah to be the Messianic line. He allowed Bathsheba to become pregnant and bring a future king into the world. Not only would Solomon serve as a wise king, but he was also used of God to author three books under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Regarded by many as one of the wisest men ever, Solomon's book of Proverbs gives us many practical bits of advice for living!