

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

2 SAMUEL 5

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Welcome to Second Samuel! The two books of Samuel, like the books of First and Second Kings and Chronicles are easily divided for easy reference. Let's look at the two books of Samuel. First Samuel is where you have the introduction of Samuel, the last of the Judges and serves as a link between the theocratic rule of God among His people by raising up various rulers to judge and lead His people, and then the monarchy, where you have an appointed and anointed King to lead the people in the way of the LORD. First Samuel is about Samuel and Saul. Second Samuel is where you will find most of the information on the greatest of all Israel's kings, King David, son of Jesse.

First Samuel ended with the tragic deaths of Saul and Jonathan on the mountains of Gilboa, which is cursed to this day because it received the blood of Saul and Jonathan. Jonathan was the true friend of King David, loyal to do what was right in the sight of the LORD, often incurring the wrath of his father Saul. Nevertheless, Jonathan was true to his father as a warrior until his death. The Book of Second Samuel opens as a seamless ribbon

from the last chapter of First Samuel and the recounting of the death of Saul and Jonathan, and the beautiful and heartfelt "Song of the Bow" composed by King David. **"The beauty of Israel is slain on your high places! How the mighty have fallen!"** Then comes the curse of Gilboa, **"O mountains of Gilboa, let there be no dew nor rain upon you..."** I have gazed upon Mount Gilboa now during every season of the year in traveling to Israel for more than 45 years. The slopes of Gilboa are green with trees and situated at the eastern end of the Jezreel Valley with the Harod Springs and River at its feet. Green and growth surround it, yet on the slopes is nothing but barrenness and desolation. Cursed by the great king of Israel for soaking in the blood of God's anointed Saul and the best friend a mighty king ever had, sweet Jonathan. Chapter five begins to showcase the God given brilliance of David in moving the capital from Hebron, His capital to the land inside the boundaries of Benjamin, the vanquished kingdom of Saul.

Prayer and Action Steps

Pray for our nation's rulers to turn to God!

Date _____ Scripture _____

- *Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.*
- *Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.*
- *Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.*

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing?

Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context?

Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act? _____

Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions? _____

Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible? _____

