

PREACHING THROUGH THE RECORDS OF DAVID'S REIGN (An alternative special month's study)

(II Samuel; I Chronicles; and Psalms)

FROM VARIOUS POINTS OF VIEW

The story of David's life and reign, covering approximately seventy years, approximately 1000 B.C., is told in these records from several points of view. Second Samuel is an unfalteringly truthful history, telling the dark as well as the bright side of David's story. First Chronicles, equally truthful, dwells especially on the religious significance of the history. It records the details of David's political and religious organization of the kingdom. The Psalms—songs from the heart of the "sweet singer of Israel"—are written from David's own point of view, and tell the response of his spirit to many of the events told in the history.

PRESENT-DAY VALUES OF THE RECORDS

They give God's promise of the eternal reign committed to David's descendants. This promise was fulfilled in Christ.

They show the hand of God at work in the history of His people, bringing blessings for faithfulness and unfailing judgment for sin.

They demonstrate that God is no respecter of persons, but has the same standards of righteousness and judgment for king and subject alike.

ANALYSIS OF THE BOOKS

Second Samuel

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| Chapters 1-4 | David, reigning in Hebron, deals with Saul's followers. |
| 5 | He is established as king over all Israel. |
| 6-7 | He establishes the central place of worship in Jerusalem. |
| 8-10 | He extends his kingdom through conquest, and honors the promise made to Jonathan concerning his son. |
| 11,12 | He sins in the matter of Bathsheba, and is brought to repentance. |

PREACHING THROUGH THE BIBLE

- 13-20 His later reign is troubled by family strife and revolts.
21-24 Various records, censuses, and songs complete the Book.

First Chronicles

- Chapters 1-9 Genealogies from Adam to approximately 400 B.C.
10-12 Stories of the men who helped establish the throne of David.
13-16 Records of David's establishment in Jerusalem.
17 Preparations for building the Temple are begun.
18-21 David's kingdom enlarged by defeat of his enemies.
22-30 Plans for the Temple and for the organization of those who were to serve in it.

Suggested Sermon Topics:

- "Search Me, O God" (Psalm 139)
"The Greatness of a Man" (II Sam. 8:13-15)
"The Lord Is My Shepherd" (Psalm 23)
"In Time of Trouble" (Psalm 56)
"Punished for a Good Deed" (II Sam. 6:1-11)
"Dark Pages in David's Record" (II Sam. 12:1-14)
"Thanks to God in Tent and Temple" (II Sam. 7:1-11)
"When the Prophet Was Wrong" (I Chron. 17:1-10)
"The Sin of the Census" (I Chron. 21:1-8)