

LESSONS FROM **THE KINGS**



ANCIENT WISDOM FOR MODERN TIMES

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STUDENT WORKBOOK

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Lessons from the Kings

Ancient Wisdom for Modern Times

Mike Mazzalongo

This series explores the lives of both good and bad Jewish rulers in order to find timeless lessons that can be applied to Christian life today.



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1. King Saul: On the Edge of Greatness - Part 1

Saul, the first King of Israel, provides a lesson on what not to do when given blessings and privileges by God.

I SAMUEL 9

Intro - Saul is a tragic example of a person who failed to live up to the greatness he could have had.

I. Background on Saul

II. Saul's Early Years

1. The choice of Saul as king.

I Samuel 9:1-5

I Samuel 9:17-21 _____

I Samuel 10:8 _____

2. Saul's finest hour.

I Samuel 11:1-14 _____

III. Lessons

1. The world usually _____

2. Be careful _____

3. Wait for _____

2. King Saul: On the Edge of Greatness - Part 2

This second lesson examines the various patterns of behavior that lead to King Saul's eventual downfall.

Intro - We left the story of King Saul's early reign at a high point after his defeat of the Ammonites.

I. Early Decline - I Samuel 13

Saul's actions demonstrate a number of dangerous patterns:

1. A pattern of _____ - I Samuel 13:1-4

2. A pattern of _____ - I Samuel 14

His bad decision created problems.

A. Weakness from _____

B. Lack of _____

C. Ignorance of the _____

There are several easy lessons that can be drawn from this:

- A. _____
- B. _____
- C. _____

3. A pattern of _____ - I Samuel 15

His responses reveal his rebellion:

- Vs. 20 - _____
- Vs. 24 - _____
- Vs. 30 - _____

Samuel reveals what Saul's sins really were:

- A. Rebellion _____
-
-

- B. Stubbornness _____
-
-

- C. Rejection _____
-
-

4. A pattern of _____ - I Samuel 16

II. Lessons

1. Success is no _____

2. Obedience is more _____

3. There is always _____

3. King Saul: On the Edge of Greatness - Part 3

This final lesson traces King Saul's sad decline into madness and ignoble death at the hands of the enemy he was originally sent to defeat.

Intro - Review

I. Saul and David - I Samuel 16-17

Samuel anoints a new king.

1. Alliance and Annihilation - Ch. 17-20

2. Saul's Madness - Ch. 21-24

3. Final Stages - Ch. 25-31

II. David's Eulogy - II Samuel 1

1. Saul was _____

2. Saul wasn't _____

3. David was _____

Lessons

1. Greatness can only _____

2. The wage _____

3. God wants _____

The same God who continually reached out _____

4. Giant-Killer: David and Goliath

This lesson describes the dramatic entrance of young David to the stage of Israel's history and recounts the model story from which all later 'underdog' narratives are taken.

I SAMUEL 17

Intro - What does it take to be a winner?

Today's lesson is about a "little guy" who became a winner and how he did it.

I. The Scene - I Samuel 1:1-7

Vs. 1-3

II. The Champion - I Samuel 1:4-11

Vs. 4 - Goliath (The Champion)

Vs. 8-11 - The Challenge

III. The Challenger – I Samuel 1:12-37

Vs. 12-24 – David (The Challenger) _____

Vs. 25-37 – The Transformation _____

1. Accepting the challenge – vs. 25-29 _____

2. Deciding to Act – vs. 30-32 _____

3. Confiding in God – vs. 33-37 _____

Transformation can occur when we make up our minds to do what is right and trust in God for the strength to accomplish it.

IV. The Victory – I Samuel 1:38-52

Summary

Why Did David Win?

1. He was a child of God _____

2. He was zealous for God _____

3. He had confidence in God _____

David knew that with the God of Salvation on his side, he could not lose!

Exhortation

Who is Your Goliath? _____

My personal response to God?

5. David and Abigail

The story of David's relationship with Abigail highlights a time when he nearly ruined his potential reign as king and reveals the character of one of the Bible's most remarkable women.

I SAMUEL 25:1-42

Intro - This is the second lesson that looks at the life of King David.

I. David and Abigail - I Samuel 25:1-42

Vs. 1-3: This passage situates the time of the story. _____

Vs. 4-8: David approaches a rich businessman, Nabal, for his rightful share of the profits.

Vs. 9-13: Not the insult in Nabal's request.

David prepares to avenge Nabal's offense.

Vs. 14-22: Abigail reacts to the news of David's insult by Nabal.

Vs. 23:

Vs. 24-25: Note her attitude towards David and what has happened.

Vs. 26-27: Abigail puts the issue into perspective.

Vs. 28-29: Unlike Nabal, Abigail recognizes David's anointing as King.

Vs. 30-31: She makes a second appeal.

Vs. 32-35: David dodges a "bullet."

Vs. 36-38: The Lord avenges David.

Vs. 39-42: David's reaction to Nabal's death.

II. Abigail's Qualities as a Woman

Aside from her beauty, Abigail was:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Some women focus too much attention on beauty.

III. Lessons from Abigail

1. God can save you _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

2. God's woman can _____

3. Abigail's beauty was _____

Summary

There is lots of talk today about "role models." _____

Instead of praying for nicer hair or a flatter stomach. _____

Be wise like Abigail. _____

Are you ready to bring Jesus something better than food and gifts?

6. A Model for Repentance

Mike looks at David's 39th psalm and how the author outlines the various steps leading to true and sincere repentance.

PSALMS 39:1-13

Intro - Acts 2:36-38

I. A Model for Repentance

Psalm 39 written by David.

This psalm describes several elements necessary to produce true repentance.

1. David tried

Vs. 1-2

David's part produced 2 results:

A. _____

B. _____

An effort to fix it himself reveals: _____

2. David recognized the effect of sin.

Vs. 3 _____

Vs. 4 _____

Vs. 5 _____

In the end, David realizes that _____

3. David asks _____

Vs. 6 _____

Vs. 7 _____

Vs. 8-10 _____

His troubles force him to take a long hard look at his life and moves him to _____

David demonstrates the fruit of _____

Vs. 11 _____

Vs. 12-13 - He has a clearer picture of life, its meaning and ultimate conclusion that:

A. All are strangers. _____

B. Only God. _____

C. Time is short. _____

Summary

Our job is not to judge the repentance of others, our responsibility is to:

Our repentance needs to:

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

7. David's Charge to Solomon

David's final charge to his son provides timeless wisdom for the changing of the guard in church leadership.

I KINGS 2:1-4

Intro - Defining moments in life are important.

I. David's Charge to Solomon - I Kings 2:1-4

David had many defining moments in his life and times.

David provides Solomon with a charge that gives the future king 3 things he must do to succeed:

1. _____ vs. 2

Solomon's time for "practice" was over, now he would be the king. _____

Today, future leaders need to begin stepping into their future role as leaders. _____

2. _____ vs. 3

There is no success in spiritual matters without cultivating the habit of obedience.

Ecclesiastes 12:13 _____

If you put God first, He will bless you. _____

Many times, how faithful you are at the end of your life is determined by how

3. _____ vs. 4

David addresses this issue in his son's life by reminding him how he was taught and how he should teach his own children.

Summary

Solomon failed to keep his father's charge.

Lessons from David's Charge to Solomon:

1. To the Leaders: _____

2. To Everyone: _____

3. To Young People: _____

8. King Hanun's Suspicious Mind

An obscure pagan king teaches every generation a lesson about the dangers of having an overly suspicious attitude.

I CHRONICLES 19:1-20:3

Intro - The story of Hanun tells of his suspicious mind and the trouble it caused him.

I. Suspicious vs. Caution

Hanun would have been greatly helped if he knew the difference between suspicion and caution:

Suspicion _____

Caution _____

II. Hanun's Suspicious Mind.

Lessons learned at Hanun's expense:

1. Suspicion leads to _____

2. Don't cover a mistake with _____

3. When you're wrong _____

Summary

Suspicious minds lead us to a vicious cycle. _____

When you make a mistake or hurt someone because of suspicion _____

If you're looking for a change in this area of your life: _____

God is not suspicious because He is all knowing and all accepting.

1. Are we suspicious of Christianity? _____

2. Do we want a new start or a second chance? _____

3. Are we coming forward today? _____

9. Solomon's Strategy for Success

Solomon lays out 7 easy to understand principles that promote success in any area of one's life here on earth.

ECCLESIASTES 11:1-10

Introduction - Solomon was very wise - I Kings 4:31

- His wisdom led to great success - II Chron. 9:22.

- He was well qualified to write about how one could achieve success.

I. Solomon's Strategy for Success

A. Background

Ecclesiastes _____

B. Strategy - Ecclesiastes 11:1-10

1. Got to give _____ -vs. 1

2. Diversify _____ - vs. 2

3. Don't _____ -vs. 3

4. Do it _____ - vs. 4

5. You never _____ - vs. 5-6

6. Remember _____ - vs. 7-9

7. Success is _____ - vs. 10

Summary

Solomon writes about worldly success.

Success here does not guarantee success in the next world.

Solomon also failed: _____

God has a strategy for guaranteed heavenly success:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Use this lesson if you need help to reach your own goals.

Make sure you use this lesson to reach your heavenly goals.

What part of God's strategy have I not used?

10. The Life and Times of Hezekiah – Part 1

Hezekiah has long been used as a model for revival and restoration. In this lesson, we look at the basic principles of revival that we learn from Hezekiah's life and times.

Intro - Review Background of Hezekiah's "Time"

I. Ahaz - 735 BC

Ahaz had two main problems:

1. Alliances _____

2. Idolatry _____

II. Hezekiah in the Old Testament

II Kings - Ch. 16-21; II Chronicles - Ch. 28-33; Isaiah - Ch. 36-39

There are three main events recorded concerning Hezekiah:

1. _____ of the nation
2. _____ to the Assyrian threat
3. _____ from terminal illness

III. Hezekiah's Restoration

Despite Juda's condition, Hezekiah's first effort as king is to _____

II Kings 18:1-8

Vs. 1-3 _____

Vs. 4 _____

1. High Places _____

2. Asherah Poles _____

3. Nehushtan _____

Vs. 5 _____

Vs. 6 _____

Vs. 7-8 _____

II Chronicles - Ch. 29-31

These passages focus on the reforms he affected in the areas of temple worship and national unity.

Ch. 29:1-36 _____

Ch. 30:1-27 _____

Ch. 31:1-19 _____

Summary - Principles of Revival

1. Revival is _____

Because Hezekiah sought after God in revival, God blessed him with

- Clear thinking
- Prosperity
- Mercy

... given in "Times" of _____

God doesn't change the "Times", He _____

2. Revival requires _____

3. Revival restores _____

11. The Life and Times of Hezekiah – Part 2

Mike continues the study on King Hezekiah with a look at this leader's greatest victory coming at his nation's worst moment.

Intro - Review

Hezekiah's name meant _____

Co-Regent in _____ became king in _____.

Important initiative:

1. Tore Down _____
2. Restored _____
3. Revived _____
4. Stopped _____

I. Assyrian Threat and Response

Main Passages: (II Kings Ch. 18-19; II Chronicles Ch. 32; Isaiah Ch. 36-37)

1. Hezekiah's Rebellion- II Kings 18:13-16

2. Sennacherib's Treachery – II Kings 18:17-25

3. The Enemy's Insult – II Kings 18:26-37 and II Chronicles 32:19

4. Hezekiah's Response – II Kings 19:1-19 and II Chronicles 32:23

Isaiah Tells Hezekiah 3 Things:

1. Don't _____

2. Assyria has attack _____

3. This is what will happen. _____

II Kings 19:8-18 _____

5. Isaiah's Prophecy – II Kings 19:20-28

A. Vs. 20-24 _____

B. Vs. 25-28 _____

C. Vs. 29-34 _____

6. God Destroys the Assyrians – II Kings 19:35-37 and II Chronicles 32:21-23

7. Two Important Lessons:

A. If it's not protected _____

B. God watches _____

Psalm 116:15

12. The Life and Times of Hezekiah – Part 3

Mike wraps up this series with a final lesson on Hezekiah by reviewing how God's grace was extended to this great man's physical and moral weakness.

Intro - Review

1. Reformation _____

2. Response to Assyria _____

Hezekiah succeeded because... _____

God answers us in a variety of ways:

A. _____ - I Timothy 3:16

B. _____ - Ephesians 4:11-12

C. _____ - Romans 8:14

I. Hezekiah's Illness (II Kings 20:1-21; II Chron. 32:24-33; Isa. 38:1 - 39:8)

II Kings 20:1 _____

II Kings 20:2-3 _____

II Kings 20:4-7 _____

God promises Hezekiah:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

II Kings 20:8-11 _____

Isaiah 38:9-20 – Hezekiah's Prayer

II Kings 20:12-15 Babylonian's Visit

II Kings 20:16-19 – Isaiah's Prophecy

II Kings 20:20-21

Summary and Lessons

1. God's person is very _____

2. God's person _____ on God.

3. God's Person _____ by faith.

We survive because God has _____

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