

2 Samuel 8–24. 1 Kings 1-11

These chapters detail King David's reign with many military victories, then to the moral failings, including the affair with Bathsheba.

King David built a great military, but he had many consequences. He put the strength of the army ahead of the strength of God and to trust in God's power. This was against God's law and angered Him. God gave David three choices: seven years of famine, three months of fleeing enemies, or three days of plague. He chose three days of plague, feeling it was better to fall into God's hands, whose mercy is great, than into the hands of men.

David's affair with Bathsheba did not end well. David arranged for Bathsheba's husband, Uriah, to be killed in battle. God sent severe judgment on his house, resulting in the death of his infant son with Bathsheba. David's children suffered also with the rape of Tamar and the murder of Amnon.

1 Kings starts the reign of King Solomon after King David's death. He had great wisdom and wealth, and began the start of building the Temple in Jerusalem.

Prayer... Lord, help us to put our faith and trust in You and not in humans. You are always there for us with the answer, if we only listen. Humans don't always know the right answers. We love you, Lord, and know You will not fail us. Amen.