

Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 63 – David Receives His Allies Through The Syrians Being Humbled – (I Chronicles 12-19)

1. As David was in exile, did he lose all of his allies?
 - No, (**I Chronicles 12:1-16**).
 - Allies came to his aid from Benjamin, Gad, and Judah.
 - From our previous studies we learned that Ahish in Gath gave Ziglag to David when David was fleeing Saul (**I Samuel 27:1-6**).
 - Now, Saul is dead and David has yet to leave the land of the Philistines to be crowned as the king. We are going to get details we had not previously been given.
2. What did David say to those who came unto him and what was the response he received back?
 - David said: *“And David went out to meet them, and answered and said unto them, If ye be come peaceably unto me to help me, mine heart shall be knit unto you: but if ye be come to betray me to mine enemies, seeing there is no wrong in mine hands, the God of our fathers look thereon, and rebuke it”* (**I Chronicles 12:17**).
 - The response: *“Then the spirit came upon Amasai, who was chief of the captains, and he said, Thine are we, David, and on thy side, thou son of Jesse: peace, peace be unto thee, and peace be to thine helpers; for thy God helpeth thee. Then David received them, and made them captains of the band”* (**I Chronicles 12:18**).
3. Why didn't David help the Philistines when they fought against Manasseh?
 - *“And there fell some of Manasseh to David, when he came with the Philistines against Saul to battle: but they helped them not: for the lords of the Philistines upon advisement sent him away, saying, He will fall to his master Saul to the jeopardy of our heads”* (**I Chronicles 12:19**).
4. Were there any parties interested in crowning David as the king?
 - Yes, many came to David's side to make him king. Many came until it was a great host, like the host of God. ****The hosts [many] of God is not just angels (Exodus 12:41), but most certainly includes angels (Luke 2:13). All of God's people / angels obviously make up the many of God (cf. Ephesians 3:15 and Hebrews 12:22-23).**
 - These events are new to us. Also, remember that there were already many with David (**I Chronicles 11:24-47; 12:1-16**), then more were added to a great number. In fact, the word of God says: *“(21) And they helped David against the band of the rovers: for they were all mighty men of valour, and were captains in the host. (22) For at that time day by day there came to David to help him, until it was a great host, like the host of God. (23) And these are the numbers of the bands that were ready armed to the war, and came to David to Hebron, to turn the kingdom of Saul to him, according to the word of the LORD. (24) The children of Judah that bare shield and spear were six thousand and eight hundred, ready armed to the war. (25) Of the children of Simeon, mighty men of valour for the war, seven thousand and one hundred. (26) Of the children of Levi four thousand and six hundred. (27) And Jehoiada was the leader of the Aaronites, and with him were three thousand and seven hundred; (28) And Zadok, a young man mighty of valour, and of his father's house twenty and two captains. (29) And of the children of Benjamin, the kindred of Saul, three thousand: for hitherto the greatest part of them had*

kept the ward of the house of Saul. (30) And of the children of Ephraim **twenty thousand and eight hundred**, mighty men of valour, famous throughout the house of their fathers. (31) And of the half tribe of Manasseh **eighteen thousand**, which were expressed by name, to come and make David king. (32) **And of the children of Issachar, which were men that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do**; the heads of them were **two hundred**; and all their brethren were at their commandment. (33) Of Zebulun, such as went forth to battle, expert in war, with all instruments of war, **fifty thousand, which could keep rank: they were not of double heart**. (34) And of Naphtali **a thousand captains**, and with them with shield and spear **thirty and seven thousand**. (35) And of the Danites expert in **war twenty and eight thousand and six hundred**. (36) And of Asher, such as went forth to battle, expert in war, **forty thousand**. (37) And on the other side of Jordan, of the Reubenites, and the Gadites, and of the half tribe of Manasseh, with all manner of instruments of war for the battle, **an hundred and twenty thousand**. (38) **All these men of war, that could keep rank, came with a perfect heart to Hebron, to make David king over all Israel: and all the rest also of Israel were of one heart to make David king**. (39) And there they were with David three days, eating and drinking: for their brethren had prepared for them. (40) Moreover they that were nigh them, even unto Issachar and Zebulun and Naphtali, brought bread on asses, and on camels, and on mules, and on oxen, and meat, meal, cakes of figs, and bunches of raisins, and wine, and oil, and oxen, and sheep abundantly: for there was joy in Israel” (I Chronicles 12:21-40).

5. Did David consider God’s will concerning the location of the ark of God?

- Yes: “(1) And David consulted with the captains of thousands and hundreds, and with every leader. (2) And David said unto all the congregation of Israel, **If it seem good unto you, and that it be of the LORD our God**, let us send abroad unto our brethren every where, that are left in all the land of Israel, and with them also to the priests and Levites which are in their cities and suburbs, that they may gather themselves unto us” (I Chronicles 13:1-2).

6. What was David’s reason for regaining the ark of God?

- “(3) And let us bring again the ark of our God to us: **for we enquired not at it in the days of Saul**” (I Chronicles 13:3).

7. How well did the transportation of the Ark go at first (through chapter thirteen)?

- Not well, as Uzza erred in touching it and caused fear which lead to a change in plans of the final destination of the ark (FOR NOW): “(7) And they carried the ark of God in a new cart out of the house of Abinadab: and Uzza and Ahio drave the cart. (8) And David and all Israel played before God with all their might, and with singing, and with harps, and with psalteries, and with timbrels, and with cymbals, and with trumpets. (9) And when they came unto the threshingfloor of Chidon, Uzza put forth his hand to hold the ark; for the oxen stumbled. (10) **And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Uzza, and he smote him, because he put his hand to the ark: and there he died before God**. (11) And **David was displeased, because the LORD had made a breach upon Uzza: wherefore that place is called Perez-uzza to this day**. (12) And **David was afraid of God that day, saying, How shall I bring the ark of God home to me?** (13) So David brought not the ark

home to himself to the city of David, but carried it aside into the house of Obed–edom the Gittite. (14) And the ark of God remained with the family of Obed–edom in his house three months. And the LORD blessed the house of Obed–edom, and all that he had” (I Chronicles 13:7-14).

8. Who built David’s house?

- “(1) Now **Hiram king of Tyre** sent messengers to David, and timber of cedars, with masons and carpenters, to build him an house” (I Chronicles 14:1).
- Hirman will also be kind to Solomon and help in building God’s house (I Kings 5).

9. What happened when the Philistines heard that David was anointed king over all Israel?

- “(8) And when the Philistines heard that David was anointed king over all Israel, **all the Philistines went up to seek David. And David heard of it, and went out against them.** (9) And the Philistines came and spread themselves in the valley of Rephaim. (10) And **David enquired of God, saying, Shall I go up against the Philistines? and wilt thou deliver them into mine hand?** And the LORD said unto him, Go up; for I will deliver them into thine hand. (11) So they came up to Baal–perazim; and **David smote them there.** Then David said, God hath broken in upon mine enemies by mine hand like the breaking forth of waters: therefore they called the name of that place Baal–perazim. (12) And **when they had left their gods there, David gave a commandment, and they were burned with fire.** (13) And the Philistines yet again spread themselves abroad in the valley. (14) **Therefore David enquired again of God;** and God said unto him, **Go not up after them; turn away from them, and come upon them over against the mulberry trees.** (15) And it shall be, when thou shalt hear a sound of going in the tops of the mulberry trees, that then thou shalt go out to battle: for God is gone forth before thee to smite the host of the Philistines. (16) **David therefore did as God commanded him:** and they smote the host of the Philistines from Gibeon even to Gazer” (I Chronicles 14:8-16).

10. Why did all the nations fear David?

- “(17) And the fame of David went out into all lands; and **the LORD brought the fear of him upon all nations**” (I Chronicles 14:17).

11. Did David ever seek to properly transport the ark of God?

- Yes: “(1) And David made him houses in the city of David, and prepared a place for the ark of God, and pitched for it a tent. (2) Then **David said, None ought to carry the ark of God but the Levites: for them hath the LORD chosen to carry the ark of God, and to minister unto him for ever...** (11) And David called for Zadok and Abiathar the priests, and for the Levites, for Uriel, Asaiah, and Joel, Shemaiah, and Eliel, and Amminadab,
- (12) And said unto them, Ye are the chief of the fathers of the Levites: sanctify yourselves, both ye and your brethren, that ye may bring up the ark of the LORD God of Israel unto the place that I have prepared for it. (13) For because ye did it not at the first, the LORD our God made a breach upon us, for that we sought him not after the due order. (14) So the priests and the Levites sanctified themselves to bring up the ark of the LORD God of Israel. (15) And the children of the Levites bare the ark of God upon their shoulders with the staves thereon, as Moses commanded according to the word of the LORD” (I Chronicles 15:1-2; 11-15).

12. How were the singers with instruments of music appointed?
 - “(16) And **David spake to the chief of the Levites to appoint their brethren** to be the singers with instruments of musick, psalteries and harps and cymbals, sounding, by lifting up the voice with joy” (**I Chronicles 15:16**).
13. Why was Chenaniah, chief of the Levites, appointed to songs?
 - “(22) And Chenaniah, chief of the Levites, was for song: he instructed about the song, because he was skilful” (**I Chronicles 15:22**; cf. **I Peter 4:11**).
14. Who helped the Levities in the bearing of the ark of God?
 - “(26) And it came to pass, when **God helped the Levites** that bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD, that they offered seven bullocks and seven rams” (**I Chronicles 15:26**).
15. Who despised David when he joyously brought the ark of God home?
 - “(29) And it came to pass, as the ark of the covenant of the LORD came to the city of David, that **Michal the daughter of Saul** looking out at a window saw king David dancing and playing: and **she despised him in her heart**” (**I Chronicles 15:29**).
 - This is a shame since Michal once loved (**I Samuel 18:20**) and protected David against her father Saul (**I Samuel 19:11-13**), now to despise him.
 - There is a confrontation over this and she will have no more children because of this (**II Samuel 6:20-23**).
16. Prior to David giving a Psalm, what did he do when they brought the ark of God into the tent?
 - “(1) So they brought the ark of God, and set it in the midst of the tent that David had pitched for it: and **they offered burnt sacrifices and peace offerings before God**. (2) And when David had made an end of offering the burnt offerings and the peace offerings, **he blessed the people in the name of the LORD**. (3) And **he dealt to every one of Israel, both man and woman, to every one a loaf of bread, and a good piece of flesh, and a flagon of wine** [NOTE: there is no reason at all to conclude this was more than fruit of the vine (**Proverbs 20:1**; **23:29-35**; cf. **Habakkuk 2:15**). “Wine” is used to describe unfermented as well (**Isaiah 65:8** and **Joel 1:10**). (4) And he appointed certain of the Levites to minister before the ark of the LORD, and to record, and to thank and praise the LORD God of Israel: (5) Asaph the chief, and next to him Zechariah, Jeiel, and Shemiramoth, and Jehiel, and Mattithiah, and Eliab, and Benaiah, and Obed—edom: and Jeiel with psalteries and with harps; but Asaph made a sound with cymbals; (6) Benaiah also and Jahaziel the priests with trumpets continually before the ark of the covenant of God” (**I Chronicles 16:1-6**).
17. What are some good lessons contained in David’s Psalm?
 - “(7) ¶ Then on that day David delivered first **this psalm to thank the LORD** into the hand of Asaph and his brethren. (8) **Give thanks unto the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the people**. (9) **Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him, talk ye of all his wondrous works**. (10) **Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD**. (11) **Seek the LORD and his strength, seek his face continually**. (12) **Remember his marvellous works that he hath done, his wonders, and the judgments of his**

mouth; (13) *O ye seed of Israel his servant, ye children of Jacob, his chosen ones.* (14) *He is the LORD our God; his judgments are in all the earth.* (15) *Be ye mindful always of his covenant; the word which he commanded to a thousand generations;* (16) *Even of the covenant which he made with Abraham, and of his oath unto Isaac;* (17) *And hath confirmed the same to Jacob for a law, and to Israel for an everlasting covenant,* (18) *Saying, Unto thee will I give the land of Canaan, the lot of your inheritance;* (19) *When ye were but few, even a few, and strangers in it.* (20) *And when they went from nation to nation, and from one kingdom to another people;* (21) *He suffered no man to do them wrong: yea, he reproveth kings for their sakes,* (22) *Saying, Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm.* (23) *Sing unto the LORD, all the earth; shew forth from day to day his salvation.* (24) *Declare his glory among the heathen; his marvellous works among all nations.* (25) *For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised: he also is to be feared above all gods.* (26) *For all the gods of the people are idols: but the LORD made the heavens.* (27) *Glory and honour are in his presence; strength and gladness are in his place.* (28) *Give unto the LORD, ye kindreds of the people, give unto the LORD glory and strength.* (29) *Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.* (30) *Fear before him, all the earth: the world also shall be stable, that it be not moved.* (31) *Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice: and let men say among the nations, The LORD reigneth.* (32) *Let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof: let the fields rejoice, and all that is therein.* (33) *Then shall the trees of the wood sing out at the presence of the LORD, because he cometh to judge the earth.* (34) *O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever.* (35) *And say ye, Save us, O God of our salvation, and gather us together, and deliver us from the heathen, that we may give thanks to thy holy name, and glory in thy praise.* (36) *Blessed be the LORD God of Israel for ever and ever. And all the people said, Amen, and praised the LORD” (I Chronicles 16:7-36).*

18. How often were Asaph and his brethren supposed to minister before the ark?

- Continually (**I Chronicles 16:37; 40**).
- Asaph was chief among the Levites (**Leviticus 16:4-5**). This was the work of a the Levites (**I Chronicles 9:33**).

19. What lesson relating to authority can we teach from David's desire to build God a house?

- We can teach that no matter how great our intentions are for doing something (**Proverbs 21:2**), we have to have God's authority to do it. God's plan was for Solomon to build the temple. David thought beyond what God had instructed: "(1) Now it came to pass, as David sat in his house, that David said to Nathan the prophet, Lo, I dwell in an house of cedars, but the ark of the covenant of the LORD remaineth under curtains. (2) Then Nathan said unto David, Do all that is in thine heart; for God is with thee. (3) And it came to pass the same night, that the word of God came to Nathan, saying, (4) *Go and tell David my servant, Thus saith the LORD, Thou shalt not build me an house to dwell in:* (5) *For I have not dwelt in an house since the day that I brought up Israel unto this day; but have gone from tent to tent, and from one tabernacle to another.* (6) *Wheresoever I have walked with all Israel, spake I a word to any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to feed my people, saying, Why have ye not built me an house of cedars?* (7) Now therefore thus shalt thou say unto my servant David, Thus saith the

LORD of hosts, I took thee from the sheepecote, even from following the sheep, that thou shouldest be ruler over my people Israel: (8) And I have been with thee whithersoever thou hast walked, and have cut off all thine enemies from before thee, and have made thee a name like the name of the great men that are in the earth. (9) Also I will ordain a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, and they shall dwell in their place, and shall be moved no more; neither shall the children of wickedness waste them any more, as at the beginning, (10) And since the time that I commanded judges to be over my people Israel. Moreover I will subdue all thine enemies. Furthermore I tell thee that the LORD will build thee an house. (11) And it shall come to pass, when thy days be expired that thou must go to be with thy fathers, that I will raise up thy seed after thee, which shall be of thy sons; and I will establish his kingdom. (12) He shall build me an house, and I will stablish his throne for ever. (13) I will be his father, and he shall be my son: and I will not take my mercy away from him, as I took it from him that was before thee: (14) But I will settle him in mine house and in my kingdom for ever: and his throne shall be established for evermore. (15) According to all these words, and according to all this vision, so did Nathan speak unto David” (I Chronicles 17:1-15).

20. After David is corrected, did he show that he realized the power of the Almighty?

- Yes, he sure did: “(19) O LORD, for thy servant's sake, and according to thine own heart, hast thou done all this greatness, in making known all these great things. (20) O LORD, there is none like thee, neither is there any God beside thee, according to all that we have heard with our ears. (21) And what one nation in the earth is like thy people Israel, whom God went to redeem to be his own people, to make thee a name of greatness and terribleness, by driving out nations from before thy people, whom thou hast redeemed out of Egypt? (22) For thy people Israel didst thou make thine own people for ever; and thou, LORD, becamest their God. (23) Therefore now, LORD, let the thing that thou hast spoken concerning thy servant and concerning his house be established for ever, and do as thou hast said. (24) Let it even be established, that thy name may be magnified for ever, saying, The LORD of hosts is the God of Israel, even a God to Israel: and let the house of David thy servant be established before thee. (25) For thou, O my God, hast told thy servant that thou wilt build him an house: therefore thy servant hath found in his heart to pray before thee. (26) And now, LORD, thou art God, and hast promised this goodness unto thy servant: (27) Now therefore let it please thee to bless the house of thy servant, that it may be before thee for ever: for thou blessest, O LORD, and it shall be blessed for ever” (I Chronicles 17:19-27).

21. Was David able to defeat the Philistines, Moabites, Zobahites, Syrians, and Edomites?

- Yes, they were all defeated (I Chronicles 18:1-13).

22. Were David’s sons involved at all in his reign?

- Yes, they were “chief [heads at the hand of] about the king” (I Chronicles 18:17).

23. What did David try to do concerning Hanun the son of Nahash?

- “(1) Now it came to pass after this, that Nahash the king of the children of Ammon died, and his son reigned in his stead. (2) And David said, I will shew kindness unto Hanun the son of Nahash, because his father shewed kindness to me. And David sent messengers

to comfort him concerning his father. *So the servants of David came into the land of the children of Ammon to Hanun, to comfort him*” (I Chronicles 19:1-2).

24. Who stood in the way of David’s goal concerning Hanun the son of Nahash?

- “(3) *But the princes of the children of Ammon said to Hanun, Thinkest thou that David doth honour thy father, that he hath sent comforters unto thee? are not his servants come unto thee for to search, and to overthrow, and to spy out the land*” (I Chronicles 19:3)?

25. What happened to the servants that David sent to Hanun?

- “(4) *Wherefore Hanun took David's servants, and shaved them, and cut off their garments in the midst hard by their buttocks, and sent them away.* (5) *Then there went certain, and told David how the men were served. And he sent to meet them: for the men were greatly ashamed. And the king said, Tarry at Jericho until your beards be grown, and then return*” (I Chronicles 19:4-5).

26. What did the children of Ammon do when they saw that they had made themselves odious [repulsive; offensive; abhorred] to David?

- “(6) *And when the children of Ammon saw that they had made themselves odious to David, Hanun and the children of Ammon sent a thousand talents of silver to hire them chariots and horsemen out of Mesopotamia, and out of Syria-maachah, and out of Zobah. (7) So they hired thirty and two thousand chariots, and the king of Maachah and his people; who came and pitched before Medeba. And the children of Ammon gathered themselves together from their cities, and came to battle*” (I Chronicles 19:6-7).

27. How well did the plan of the children of Ammon work out for them?

- David sent Joab and all the host of mighty men against the attackers. The defenders of Ammon (Syria) fled and so did they when they saw Syria take off: “(8) *And when David heard of it, he sent Joab, and all the host of the mighty men. (9) And the children of Ammon came out, and put the battle in array before the gate of the city: and the kings that were come were by themselves in the field. (10) Now when Joab saw that the battle was set against him before and behind, he chose out of all the choice of Israel, and put them in array against the Syrians. (11) And the rest of the people he delivered unto the hand of Abishai his brother, and they set themselves in array against the children of Ammon. (12) And he said, If the Syrians be too strong for me, then thou shalt help me: but if the children of Ammon be too strong for thee, then I will help thee. (13) **Be of good courage, and let us behave ourselves valiantly for our people, and for the cities of our God: and let the LORD do that which is good in his sight.** (14) *So Joab and the people that were with him drew nigh before the Syrians unto the battle; and they fled before him. (15) And when the children of Ammon saw that the Syrians were fled, they likewise fled before Abishai his brother, and entered into the city. Then Joab came to Jerusalem*” (I Chronicles 19:8-15).*

28. What happens after the Syrians saw that they were put to the worse before Israel?

- They attacked and got humbled: “(16) *And when the Syrians saw that they were put to the worse before Israel, they sent messengers, and drew forth the Syrians that were beyond the river: and Shophach the captain of the host of Hadarezer [Hadarezer was the*

king of Zobah – I Chronicles 18:5] *went before them.* (17) *And it was told David; and he gathered all Israel, and passed over Jordan, and came upon them, and set the battle in array against them. So when David had put the battle in array against the Syrians, they fought with him.* (18) *But the Syrians fled before Israel; and David slew of the Syrians seven thousand men which fought in chariots, and forty thousand footmen, and killed Shophach the captain of the host.* (19) *And when the servants of Hadarezer saw that they were put to the worse before Israel, they made peace with David, and became his servants; neither would the Syrians help the children of Ammon any more” (I Chronicles 19:16-19).*