**THE LIFE OF DAVID**

**1 Kings 1:28-53**

*Solomon Anointed King (17 May 2020)*

The once great king named David is the only one in all of Scripture to be called “a man after God’s own heart.” This single individual is mentioned more than any other Old Testament character in the pages of the New Testament. Poet, musician, courageous warrior, and national statesman, David distinguished himself as one of God’s greatest men. In battle, he modeled invincible confidence. In decisions, he judged with wisdom and equity. In loneliness, he wrote with transparent vulnerability and quiet trust. In friendship, he was loyal to the end. Whether a humble shepherd boy or an obscure musician before King Saul, he remained faithful and trustworthy. Even in his promotion to the highest position in the land, David modeled integrity and humility. What a man of God!

But, as we shall see, he (like us) was anything but perfect. Having earned the public’s trust and respect, he forfeits it all in a brief season of sensual pleasure. Then, as the consequences kick in, we discover another side of the man’s makeup – lustfulness as a husband, weakness as a father, and partiality as a leader. It’s all there, written for all to learn, preserved for all to remember. A great man, though far from perfect, nevertheless lived a life with strengths worth emulating. Since our world is desperately in need of models worth following, here is one deserving of our time and attention: David, a man of passion and destiny.

Last week we studied 1 Kings 1:1-27, which was entitled *David in His Old Age; Adonijah Sets Himself Up as King;* and *Nathan and Bathsheba before David.* We discovered how David had become senile and unaware of what was happening around him – while his son Adonijah takes advantage of the situation and claims the throne. Bathsheba and Nathan both approach David to urge David to change this situation.

In today’s lesson, we see how David takes control of the situation and anoints Solomon as the King of Israel.

***Let’s read 1 Kings 1:28-53***

Summary of 1 Kings 1: David becomes senile. Adonijah, a son of David, takes advantage of his father’s condition and makes a bid for the throne. David anoints Solomon under pressure from Nathan and Bathsheba. Evidently Absalom was the choice of David as his successor. After Absalom’s death and as David approached old age, he lost interest in choosing his successor. This led to confusion and the abortive attempt of Adonijah.

**QUESTIONS**

1. How did David respond after Nathan had told him about Adonijah? (1 Kings 1:28)

2. What did David tell Bathsheba? (1 Kings 1:29-30)

3. How did Bathsheba respond to David’s words? (1 Kings 1:31)

4. Who did David ask to come see him? Why these three? (1 Kings 1:32)

5. What is the significance of sitting on the King’s mule? (1 Kings 1:33; Zechariah 9:9; Matthew 21:1-11)

6. Who was to perform the anointing of Solomon? How public was this process? (1 Kings 1:34)

7. What other sign would show the anointing of Solomon? (1 Kings 1:35)

8. How did Benaiah respond to David’s instruction? (1 Kings 1:36-37)

9. What did Zadok, Nathan, and Benaiah do? (1 Kings 1:38-40)

10. How did Adonijah and his guests respond to all the commotion? (1 Kings 1:41)

11. What did Jonathan report had happened? (1 Kings 1:42-45)

12. What else did Jonathan report? (1 Kings 1:46)

13. What was the report about David’s reaction to this? (1 Kings 1:47-48)

14. How did Adonijah’s guest respond to this news? (1 Kings 1:49)

15. What did Adonijah do? Why did he do this? (1 Kings 1:50)

16. How was Adonijah’s actions relayed to Solomon? (1 Kings 1:51)

17. What was Solomon’s reaction? (1 Kings 1:52)

18. What happened to Adonijah? (1 Kings 1:53)

19. What are the lessons we can take from this lesson today?

***Next Lesson: 1 Kings 2:1-12***

*David’s Instructions to Solomon; the Death of David*