
Old Testament Israel: Law, Judges, **Kingdoms**

The Story of David Part I

Overview:

Samuel, The last judge, priest and prophet, anoints first kings

Saul, The first king

David, The king after God's own heart

Solomon, The golden age of Israel

Divided Kingdom, Solomon's son and Solomon's General

Chronological Notes: (All years and ages are best guess)

1. Saul begins to reign and David is born 1040 BC
2. Jonathan's success in battle (age 20)
3. God rejects Saul as king, David anointed (age 14-15) 1025 BC
4. David serves (on occasion) as a musician for Saul (age 55-65)
5. David slays Goliath (age 15-18), friendship with Jonathan (age 35-40)
6. David becomes Armor Bearer to Saul (or earlier, if honorary/comradary)
7. David marries Saul's daughter, Michal, commands 1,000 men (age 25)
8. Death of Samuel, and then Saul and Jonathan, David king of Judah
In 1000 BC, David is about age 40.
9. David king of Israel within 3 years, reigns until 961 BC, dies age 70-75

Scripture I Samuel 16

I Samuel 16:1-13	Anointing of David
I Samuel 16:14-23	David and Saul at first
I Samuel 17	David and Goliath
I Samuel 18:1-4	Heir acknowledges him, defers kingdom to him
I Samuel 18:5	David's new leadership accepted
I Samuel 18:6-9	People celebrate David as a great war hero
I Samuel 18:10-15	Given a unit of 1,000 soldiers
I Samuel 18:16	People still celebrate David as a great war hero
I Samuel 18:17-19	David becomes Saul's son-in-law
I Samuel 18:30	Continued victory against Philistines

Discussions:

Discuss Saul's "evil spirit" from the Lord – why I interpret this as non-demonic personality disorder:

1. God doesn't send demons to do His work
2. Demonic possession is never off and on, while mental disorders are.
3. While "spirit" is a literal term, it has usage reflecting mood – think of a "spirited" horse – one with lots of energy. Ambiguous usage allows for this to be a mood or disorder.
4. God does affect people's moods, compare "evil spirit" of Saul to God hardening Pharaoh's heart in the time of Moses.
5. Saul had the Spirit of the Lord, which I believe, designates him as an OT believer, which I believe disqualifies him from possession
6. Harp music does not cure demonic fits, but it does relax mood disorders

Discussion:

David and Jonathan's relationship has become a big gay-precedence passage due to the fact that they love one another and that Jonathan "strips off his robe", because they kiss one another, and because David laments Jonathan's death as loving Jonathan more than women.

1. Jonathan's love for David is Father-son-ish in age.
2. Jonathan probably knows of David's anointing by Samuel as the next king – by giving David his robe and armor, etc. he acknowledges in a public way that David is the heir of the kingdom instead of himself.
3. Kissing was a cultural thing, as is still done in the near-east and in parts of Europe – this is the Italian greeting thing, not the open-mouth make-out thing.
4. Military comrades often develop very close relationships – they face life and death together, hardship together, long periods away from home together. Also, Jonathan obviously trusted the Lord as well, which would be another major point of comradery (and explain his acceptance of David as next king). Conversely, David had a political wife, and many other wives – none of which could have shared an in-depth relationship to the same degree. The loss of Jonathan could easily leave a bigger hole in David than the loss of any of his wives – especially at that time of his life.
5. David was definitely not gay in that he had 6 wives (who bore children) at the time of Jonathan's death. He also had other wives and concubines which are not enumerated.