

Stones and Stories #6

David's City

Outline of Samuel II

- 1 Mourning for Saul and Jonathan
- 2 – 4 Battle with Saul's camp for control of Israel
- 5 – 6 Conquest of Jerusalem, bringing ark to Jerusalem
- 7 – 10 Fighting enemies
- 11 Adultery with Batsheva
- 12 Natan confronts David, David repents, his child with Batsheva dies
- 13 -14 Amnon's rape of Tamar, Avshalom's murder of Amnon, flight and return
- 15 – 19 Avshalom's rebellion, David's flight, Avshalom's defeat
- 20 Sheva ben Bichri's rebellion
- 21 Givonim and Rizpah bat Ayah
- 22 -23 Songs and lists
- 24 Purchase of the Temple Mount

Timeline of The City of David

- 3150 – 1200 BCE Canaanite Period
- Circa 1800 tunnel and spring house water system
- 1200 – 1000 Jebusite Period
- 1000 King David conquers Jerusalem and makes it his capital
- 960 King Solomon builds the First Temple
- 725 King Hezekiah digs Hezekiah's tunnel to prepare for the Assyrian attack
- 597 Babylonians exile King Jehoiachin and the elite of the land
- 586 Babylonians destroy the Temple and send a second group into exile
- 539 Cyrus the Great of Persia allows rebuilding of ancient temples, beginning of the return to Zion

Conquering the City

שמואל ב ה (ד) בן שלשים שנה דוד במלכו ארבעים שנה מלך: (ה) בחברון מלך על יהודה שבע שנים וששה חדשים ובירושלם מלך שלשים ושלש שנה על כל ישראל ויהודה: (ו) וילך המלך ואנשיו וירושלם אל היבסי וישב הארץ ויאמר לדוד לאמר לא תבוא הנה כי אם הסירך העורים והפסחים לאמר לא יבוא דוד הנה: (ז) וילכד דוד את מצדת ציון היא עיר דוד: (ח) ויאמר דוד ביום ההוא כל מכה יבסי ויגע בצנור ואת הפסחים ואת העורים <שנאו> שגאי נפש דוד על כן יאמרו עור ופסח לא יבוא אל הבית: (ט) וישב דוד במצדה ויקרא לה עיר דוד ויבן דוד סביב מן המלוא וביתה: (י) וילך דוד הלך וגדול וה' אלהי צבאות עמו: (יא) וישלח חירם מלך צר מלאכים אל דוד ועצי ארזים ועץ חרשי אבן קיר ויבנו בית לדוד:

Samuel II 5:4 David was thirty years old when he became king, and he reigned forty years.

In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months, and in Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years.

The king and his men set out for Jerusalem against the Jebusites who inhabited the region. David was told, "You will never get in here! Even the blind and the lame will turn you back." (They meant: David will never enter here.)

But David captured the stronghold of Zion; it is now the City of David.

On that occasion David said, "Those who attack the Jebusites shall reach the water channel and [strike down] the lame and the blind, who are hateful to David." That is why they say: "No one who is blind or lame may enter the House."

David occupied the stronghold and renamed it the City of David; David also fortified the surrounding area, from the Millo inward.

Building a Palace

וישמעו פלשתים כי-משח את-דוד למלך על-ישראל ויעלו כל-פלשתים לבקש את-דוד וישמע דוד ויירד אל-המצודה:

Samuel II 5: 17 When the Philistines heard that David had been anointed king over Israel, the Philistines marched up in search of David; but David heard of it, and he went down to the fastness.

The Shiloach Inscription

... the tunnel ... and this is the story of the tunnel while ...the axes were against each other and while three cubits were left to (cut?) ... the voice of a man ...called to his counterpart, (for) there was ZADA in the rock, on the right ... and on the day of the tunnel (being finished) the stonecutters struck each man towards his counterpart, ax against ax and flowed water from the source to the pool for 1,200 cubits. and (100?)cubits was the height over the head of the stonecutters ...