

## The Book of 2 Samuel

# 11

## Morning Devotions

Select a passage in God’s Word. Talk with the Lord as you read the passage, then go back and find one or two verses which the Lord has impressed on your heart and meditate on them.

## Morning Study

This morning we start reading the book of **2 Samuel**. This book is a continuation of the story of **1 Samuel**; in fact, in the original Jewish Scriptures, the two books were one book – the single book of **Samuel**.

**2 Samuel** picks up from the last event in **1 Samuel**, which is the death of Saul. Although there is a discrepancy between the two accounts, it is obvious that the narrative of **2 Samuel** has been distorted through the lens of the Amalekite’s half-truths, since he apparently twisted the truth in hope of receiving reward from David for the death of his supposed enemy, Saul.

The book of **2 Samuel** focuses on the reign of David, who in **Acts 13:22** is called “a man after [God’s] own heart.” The book is divided into seven main sections:

- David’s reign over Judah (**chapters 1-4**)
- David’s crowning as king over all Israel (**chapter 5**)
- The return of the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem (**chapter 6**)
- David’s early reign (**chapters 7-10**)
- David’s sin (**chapters 11-12**)
- The consequences of David’s sin in his family and kingdom (**chapters 13-20**)
- David’s latter reign (**chapters 21-24**)

Because of sin in David’s life, his reign experienced a number of ups and downs. Even though he was under the Covenant of Law (and therefore under the judgment of the Law), David also discovered the reality of God’s grace – and is provided by Paul as an example of the Gospel in action in the Old Testament.

### Read Romans 4:6-8

So let’s pull up a comfortable chair and read the first half of **2 Samuel** – **chapters 1-10** – in one sitting. Notice in particular the Messianic promises given to David, which are ultimately fulfilled in the Lord Jesus Christ.

# Memory Verse

Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring – not only to those who are of the law but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all.

Romans 4:16

Here are a few suggestions that may help you to memorize your memory verse:

- ➡ Ask the Lord to help you remember his Word (see [John 14:26](#)).
- ➡ Use the version of the Bible you are most familiar with. What you normally read in your Bible is what you need to be memorizing.
- ➡ Don't just memorize the contents of the verse; memorize its "address" (the verse reference) as well. You can do this by following this pattern: Step 1: **reference**; Step 2: **verse content**; Step 3: **reference**. Then repeat steps 1-3. Note that you are quoting the reference twice as many times as you quote the actual verse content. This gives the verse a clear "reference tag."
- ➡ After you have read your memory verse out aloud several times, try going through your memory verse *without* reading your computer screen.
- ➡ Look up your memory verse in your Bible. Look at its immediate context and read the verses that come before and after your memory verse.
- ➡ Print out your memory verse or jot it down on a piece of paper. Take this paper with you when you go to work or do other daily activities. Meditate on the meaning of the verse throughout the day.
- ➡ During your noon appointment with the Lord, take out your memory verse and go over it again. Talk to the Lord about what this verse means to you personally.
- ➡ In the evening (at either your evening study or your evening devotions), see if you can quote your memory verse from memory. Then, without looking at the memory verse itself, see if you can find it in your Bible.
- ➡ The next day, before you begin committing a new verse to memory, rehearse your previous day's memory verse and see if you can remember it (without cheating!).
- ➡ Finally, at the end of the week (possibly on the Sunday), collect all your week's memory verses, rehearse them and see if you can recall them without reading them. Spend a little extra time on any verses you have difficulty recalling.
- ➡ Remember: Don't just memorize a verse. Put it into practice ([James 1:22](#)). It is not being able to quote a verse from memory that counts. It is His Word *abiding* in your heart that counts ([John 15:7](#)). When you actually apply a verse consistently to your daily life, that is when you *truly* know that verse!