

David Becomes King

2 Samuel 5

1 Chronicles 11:1-9

1 Chronicles 12:23-40

1 Chronicles 14

by Don Falkos

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Huge numbers of warriors from all the tribes of Israel went to Hebron in full battle array. Their single purpose was to make David king. They told him, "Even when Saul was our king, you were our true military leader. The Lord has called you to be our ruler, the shepherd of the people of Israel." David made a covenant before the Lord with the leaders of Israel, and they anointed him king. He was thirty years old at the time. The celebration feast lasted three days, and there was great joy throughout the land.

The Philistines marched against David, but he defeated them. He gathered up their abandoned idols and burned them. After a while the Philistines came back. The Lord told David, "Do not engage them in a frontal attack. Instead, circle around behind and come at them through the balsam trees. As soon as you hear the sound of marching in the treetops, move quickly, for the Lord has gone out ahead of you to strike the Philistine army." David did as the Lord commanded, and he won a sprawling victory.

Then David led his troops to Jerusalem to fight the Jebusites for possession of the city. The Jebusites taunted David, "You'll never get in here! This place is a fortress." – The Fortress of Zion. But David captured the city. He took up residence there and renamed it the City of David. He extended the city, and became more and more powerful, because the Lord was with him. A palace was built for David; he married more women, and had many sons and daughters.

David's fame spread far and wide, and the Lord caused all the nations to fear him.