The Story of David the King

A very complex history of a complex individual
Not for the weak at heart
One has to read between the lines, too
David’s anointing—
the intimation of
greatness

- The final straw for Saul’s kingship—Agag and the Amalekites
- Samuel told to anoint a new king
- Gives appearance of a sacrifice appearance
- Jesse’s seven sons pass by, not one of them
- David is brought in from tending sheep
- Saul hosts an evil spirit
- David, a musician, is taken into the service of Saul both for his calming music and to be armor bearer
- Anytime Saul is overcome, David ministers to him
David and Goliah—the second introduction

- David going back and forth from Saul to sheep
- David comes with provisions for three brothers
- David asks what the reward for facing Goliath who has shamed the Israelites for 40 days—king’s favor
- Saul hears of David’s courage and talks with him
- David details his exploits in keeping sheep so he can fight Goliath
- Saul provides his armor but it is too large
- David goes out with his sling and five smooth stones
- Goliath makes fun of him but David says his God will lead him to triumph
- Did David’s stone or Goliath’s sword kill the giant?
David in Saul’s service, companion of Jonathan

- Jonathan is drawn to David, makes a covenant with him, and provides his armor to him
- David put over the men of war by Saul
- David praised by the women for slaying ten thousands to Saul’s thousands.
- Saul is angered and began to watch David closely
- Saul tries to spear David twice
- Saul removes David from his presence; Saul is in awe of David’s successes
- David has great presence before the people (the Lord is with him)
David’s marriage and escape from Saul

- David offered Merab, Saul’s daughter but she marries someone else
- Saul’s daughter Michel loves David
- Saul’s present for providing daughter is 100 Philistine foreskins (thinks he will die)
- David brings 200 foreskins
- David marries Michel (Saul sees the Lord is with him and fears him)
- Saul plots to kill David but Jonathan intercedes on his behalf so that Saul claims he will not kill David
David’s continuing success and Saul’s anger

- David defeats the Philistines once again and that angers Saul so that he tries (once again) to pin David against the wall with a spear
- David flees and escapes home
- Saul plots to kill him in his home
- Michel helps him escape by putting a “dummy” in his bed
- Saul asks her why she let his enemy go
- She claims he threatened her
- David goes to Samuel
- Saul sends messengers three times to Samuel and they all prophesy; so does Saul when he comes (naked)
David and Jonathan—the goodbye

- Jonathan and David devise a plan to see if David is at risk from Saul
- When Jonathan sticks up for David, Saul becomes so angry that he tries to spear him. Saul belittles his son because of his loyalty to David.
- Jonathan says goodbye to David; David is sorrowful
David as bandit

- David approaches Ahimelech, a priest for provisions.
- He then leaves and begins his exile travels.
- Saul accuses Ahimelech of aiding David and orders him to be killed.
- His soldiers will not do his bidding to kill priests so Doeg the Edomite, who reported David’s visit, does the deed—kills 85.
- David participates in several skirmishes with the Philistines yet fears the wrath of Saul.
- Jonathan finds him as assures him that Saul will not get him for he will be king over Israel.
- Saul pursues David but stops when the Philistines threaten his territory.
Saul spared the first time

- Saul pursues David to the wilderness of Engedi
- Saul enters cave to relieve himself
- David cuts a piece of his robe then feels sorry, does not allow his men to attack Saul
- Saul leaves cave and David calls to him, says he will not kill God’s anointed
- Saul claims David more righteous that he and proclaims that he knows David will be king
- David swears he will not cut off Saul’s descendents
- David’s request to share in Nabal’s celebration
- Nabal’s insulting reply
- David prepares to attack
- Abigail informed and acts quickly
- Abigail stops David (enemies in a sling), keeps him from besmirching his reputation
- David swears to kill all males (!) for this slight
- David receives her gifts, decides not to attack
- Abigail tells her husband of the threat; he dies (heart like stone).
- David takes Abigail as his wife
Saul informed where David is, encamps.

David sees the camp and where Saul is lying next to his commander Abner.

David goes to the camp and takes the spear and jar of water beside Saul; his companion encourages him to kill Saul.

David will not kill the Lord’s anointed.

David leaves the camp and later calls to Abner--not protect your king.

Saul hears him and after David speaks (why chase me?) Saul apologizes and swears off vengeance.

David flees and joins the enemies of Israel.
Saul’s demise

- The Philistines come after Saul
- He goes to a medium at Endor
- She calls up Samuel from the dead.
- Samuel informs Saul he will die
- Saul is utterly destroyed and weak
- He is fed and goes away
- David is saved from going out with the Philistines against Saul
- Saul and his sons are killed
- David accomplishes other feats, such as rescuing his two wives that had been taken
David becomes king

- David mourns the death of Saul
- Enters into war with Ishbosheth (Ishba’al) over the kingship (gets back Michal at this time)
- Ishbosheth abandoned by Abner, the commander of Saul’s army
- Abner meets with David in peace, but Joab, David’s commander, kills him over Abner’s murder of Joab’s brother
- Ishbosheth is killed but David has his murderers killed.
- David consolidates his holdings and becomes king.
- David conquers Jerusalem for his city where he will reign
David establishes his city

- David brings the ark of the covenant to Jerusalem from where it had been kept
- David dances before the Lord and his wife, Michal, later criticizes him and for that she is scorned so that she never has a child
- David wants to build a temple
- At first Nathan says “yes,” but later God instructs Nathan that He has always dwelled in a tent so David is not to build a temple but his son will
- David told his house will live on and God will make his name great
- David’s kingdom expands and he is successful in every endeavor
David finds Mephibosheth

- David inquires about anyone remaining from Saul’s family
- Jonathan’s son, Mephibosheth, is reported to David by Ziba, a servant of the house of Saul
- Mephibosheth is brought to David and is told that he may eat at the king’s table
- He is kept close
- This story is followed by a successful campaign against the Syrians and the Ammonites
In the spring of the year when kings go to war . . . .

David stays in Jerusalem and sends Joab

Sees Bathsheba and inquires about her, finds that she is married to Uriah the Hittite

He wines her, dines her, inclines her, and supines her

She becomes pregnant

David sends word to Joab to send Uriah the Hittite

David sends Uriah home to “wash his feet,” but Uriah does not go

David quizzes Uriah and Uriah shows attention to the customs of Israel

David invites him to a meal and gets him drunk
David writes a letter to Joab and sends it back with Uriah; the letter tells Joab to make sure Uriah is killed.

Uriah is indeed killed for he is placed in the most dangerous place.

Joab sends a message back to David after instructing the messenger how to handle David’s anger at the loss of men (tell him Uriah the Hittite also died).

The messenger does as he is told; David does not show anger, but tells the messenger to encourage Joab for casualties are the price of war.

Bathsheba mourns the death of her husband but after the period of mourning she becomes David’s wife and bears a son.
The aftermath of David’s adultery

- The Lord sends Nathan to David
- Nathan’s story about the rich man with many sheep and the poor man with one
- David’s anger and response—the man deserves to die; he will repay for he had not pity
- Nathan’s reply—You are the man! (two words in Hebrew)
- Punishment—sword never to depart from your house, your wives will be lain with in clear sight.
- David expresses his guilt and for this he is spared but his son will die
- David fasts until he knows his son is dead, then he gets up, dresses, goes to worship then eats
The aftermath of David’s adultery

- David explains to his servants why he acted as he did
- Perhaps God would allow the child to live if he fasted but when the child died, fasting was no longer warranted
- David comforts Bathsheba then lays with her (again) and she bore a son (Jedidiah-beloved of the Lord)
- Joab sends a message to David to come out and finish the conquest so that the victory will be to his credit
- David finishes the conquest of the Ammonites
Amnon desires his half-sister and Jonadab, his cousin, suggests plan—play sick and when your father comes, ask him to send in Tamar.

David comes and acts on the request of Amnon, that is, he sends Tamar.

When David hears of these things, he is very angry (but he takes no steps whereas Absalom waits for his chance which comes two years later).

Absalom asks David to come during sheep shearing but David begs off so Absalom asks that Amnon come in his stead.

David at first declines but later sends Amnon and other sons.

Amnon is murdered and Absalom flees.
Absalom’s return

- After three years, Joab sees David misses Absalom
- Joab secures a wise woman to tell David a story
- The story and the subsequent questioning of the woman brings out that Joab put her up to this, but the effect is David’s asking Joab to bring Absalom back
- Absalom is not to come into the presence of David; he is to live apart in his own house and he does
- After two years, Absalom wants to go to the king and summons Joab (takes two times and a fire) to be his messenger
- David receives Absalom who bows to David who then kisses him
Absalom’s coup

- Absalom courts the people, goes among them and judges the people rather than his father.
- Absalom asks leave to go to Hebron to worship, but really to set up his kingship there.
- David escapes from Jerusalem and sends Hushai back to cancel the advice of Ahitophel.
- Absalom, on the advice of Ahitophel, “goes into the concubines of David before all Israel.”
- Absalom accepts advice of Hushai and Ahitophel goes home and hangs himself.
- David’s forces go out against Absalom though David tells them to deal gently with his son.
- Absalom’s death by Joab.
Absalom’s coup

- The two messengers—Ahimaaz and the Cushite
- David’s response: "O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would that I had dies instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!
- Joab’s rebuke
- David returns to Jerusalem
David takes a census and that goes against the will of God

David admits sin

Three choices: 3 years of famine; 3 months on the run; 3 days of pestilence

Pestilence is severe and David builds altar to avert the full impact
David’s last days

- David is old and cannot heat himself, Abishag is brought in
- Adonijah plans to declare himself king
- Nathan’s plan
- Bathsheba’s entrance and account (and Joab)
- Nathan’s entrance and account (and Joab)
- David declares Solomon will be king; Nathan and Zadok the priest anoint him
- Adonijah hears the ruckus and finds that Solomon has been made king
David’s last days

- Adonijah panics, holds the horns of the altar until he is told he is safe as long as he is honorable
- David at his death advises Solomon to follow the law of Moses so he will prosper
- David gives a list of people to “take care of” after his death—Joab and Shimei in particular