

8.3 **David's Gives Psalm of Thanksgiving** (2 Samuel 22:1-51)

- **The Core** of David's example and legacy was his relationship with the LORD, expressed in his songs and poetry. David was a "man after God's Heart" and the LORD was continually faithful and merciful to David.
- This Psalm is almost identical to **Psalm 18**. The differences are accounted for by the different contexts of application.
- 22:1 - **the LORD's deliverance** - this was most likely composed later in David's reign when his enemies were defeated. *Saul is separated from David's enemies because David continually supported the house of Saul.*
- **Chiastic Structure:**
 - a Praise for the Lord (1-4)
 - b The Lord's deliverance of David (5-20)
 - c Reasons for David's deliverance (21-29)
 - b' The Lord's deliverance of David (30-46)
 - a' Praise for the Lord (47-50)
 - d Postscript: the Lord's faithfulness to the house of David (51)
- 22:47-50 - the images David uses here are similar to the end of the Song of Moses - see Deuteronomy 32:31-43 - making a link between some of the final words of **David** and the final words of **Moses**.
- 22:51 - **Hannah's song** had also mentioned the victorious reality of the LORD's King and Anointed (see 1 Sam 2:10) - here the theme is repeated but in specific reference to David and His Seed (Offspring).

8.4 **David Gives Last Words** (2 Sam 23:1-7)

- **Messianic Interpretations:**

"The Targum of Jonathan interpreted this section as a prophecy of the coming Messiah. Jesus also seems to have understood this passage as messianic; his comparison of himself to "light" (John 8:12; 9:5; cf. v. 4) and his prophetic parable comparing the wicked to weeds to be burned (Matt 13:30, 40; cf. v. 7) suggests that he was drawing upon images derived from this passage."

[Robert D. Bergen, 1, 2 Samuel, 464]
- 23:1-2 - **The Oracle, The Spirit Speaks...** - David's words are clearly presented in a Prophetic way. In the NT, Peter says specifically labels David a Prophet, foreseeing the resurrection of Jesus! (Acts 2:30)

- 23:5 - “**an everlasting covenant**” - this verse, along with 22:51, give the “center” of this summary section: the LORD has made everlasting promises and commitments to David and His Seed.

8.5 **David Protected by His Mighty men** (2 Sam 23:8–39)

- “What is the practical value of having this list in Scripture? It demonstrates David’s willingness to reward those under his command when they performed their tasks with excellence. Thus it reflects David’s great skill in relationships and suggests a model to be emulated by godly leaders of all generations.”

[Robert D. Bergen, 1, 2 Samuel, 472.]

8.6 **David Halts a Plague** (2 Sam 24)

- This section is parallel to 21:1-14 where David brings a halt to disasters brought upon the nation by the foolishness of the kings; *in this case it is David who acts foolishly!*
- 24:1 - “The LORD... **incited**...” - The parallel account in 1 Chronicles 21:1 states: “Then **Satan** stood against Israel and incited David to number Israel.” This is similar to Job 1 & 2 where Satan is the *efficient* cause [means] and the LORD, *the final, sovereign cause* [purpose].
- **The Census:** the LORD allowed a census to be taken and even commanded some (see Num 1:2; 4:2, 22; 26:2). But it had to be done in a prescribed way so that a plague would not break out (see Exodus 30:12-16)
- 24:13 - David knew that the **mercy** of the LORD was greater than that of his enemies.
- 24:16 - **The Angel (Messenger) of the LORD** - see also Exodus 12 (Passover) and 2 Kings 19:35 (the Assyrian army)
- 24:16 - **the threshing floor** of Araunah the Jebusite - According to 1 Chronicles 21:28-22:1 this would be the site for The Temple Solomon builds.
- 24:24 - the **purchase** of land:
 “The price David paid for the field was the established value of a large field dedicated to the Lord for one Jubilee cycle (cf. Lev 27:16)...
 In purchasing the land from Araunah and then utilizing it for sacrifice to the Lord, David was apparently following Torah guidelines regarding the dedication of land to the Lord (cf. Lev 27:20–21). When he did this, the land became permanently holy and was set aside in perpetuity for priestly use, a situation completely consistent with the site’s subsequent use for the temple of the Lord.
 [Robert D. Bergen, 1, 2 Samuel, 480]