

=MAJOR CHARACTERS OF THE BIBLE=

Lesson 9

David

I. DAVID'S YOUTH.

1. The word "David" means "beloved."
2. He was the son of Jesse and the second king of Israel.
3. He was reared in Bethlehem and was the youngest of eight brothers. See I Samuel 16:10-11 and I Samuel 17:12-14.
4. He had a godly mother. Read Psalm 86:16; 116:16.
5. He was ruddy and handsome. Notice I Samuel 16:12.
6. He was called "the sweet psalmist of Israel." See II Samuel 23:1.
7. He was courageous in the slaying of both a lion and a bear. Review I Samuel 17:34-36.
8. He possessed musical gifts; he was a harpist; and he composed psalms.

II. DAVID, THE KING.

1. Saul, who was David's predecessor, was advised by his attendants to employ a harpist to soothe him with music when he was in periods of melancholy and temporary insanity. David was employed for this purpose. See I Samuel 16:14-18.
2. Later, David was appointed by Saul to be one of his armourbearers. Notice I Samuel 16:19-23.
3. David won the battle with Goliath.
4. This victory won for him the friend of his lifetime, Jonathan. Consider I Samuel 18:1.
5. The attention which David received after this victory stirred the jealousy of Saul. Review I Samuel 18:6-9.
6. Saul endeavored to slay David with his spear. See I Samuel 18:10, 11.
7. Failing in this, Saul reduced David in military rank and power. Read I Samuel 18:13.
8. Then Saul gave his daughter to someone else as a wife, though he had promised her to David as a wife. Notice I Samuel 18:17-19.
9. After the death of Saul, David became a wise king of Israel.
10. David was a man after God's own heart. Review I Samuel 13:14.
11. He generally did that which was right in the eyes of the Lord. Study I Kings 15:5.
12. He "served his own generation by the will of God." See Acts 13:36.
13. He was an important link in the chain of the coming Messiah. Read Matthew 22:41-45.

III. DAVID'S SINS.

1. The sin of idleness.
2. The sin of adultery.
3. The sin of murder.
4. The sin of deceit.
5. David repented of his sins. Read his penitent words in Psalm 51.

IV. DAVID'S HEARTBREAKS. The child born to Bath-sheba died. David's son assaulted David's daughter. David's son, Absalom, set out to kill Amnon, the attacker, and Absalom fought a war of rebellion against his father's kingdom. Absalom died in this war. David's other son, Solomon, was miserable, having wasted most of his life in things that were vanity.

IV. DAVID'S DEATH.

1. He reigned for 40½ years.
2. He died at the age of 71.