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## **“The Lord Be Between Thee and Me For Ever”**

**1 Samuel 18–20; 23–24**

**23**

Study the following scriptures:

- a. 1 Samuel 18:1–16. Jonathan and David make a covenant of friendship (18:1–4). David is honored by the Israelites for his success in battle (18:5–7). Saul becomes jealous of David and tries to kill him (18:8–16; note that the Joseph Smith Translation of verse 10 indicates that the evil spirit that came upon Saul was *not* from God).
- b. 1 Samuel 18:17–30; 19:1–18. David fights the Philistines in exchange for the right to marry Saul’s daughter, unaware that Saul is hoping David will die in battle (18:17–25). David triumphs over the Philistines and marries Saul’s daughter Michal (18:26–28). Jonathan tells David to hide and tries to convince Saul not to kill him (19:1–7). Saul fails in another attempt to kill David (19:9–10). Michal saves David from another of Saul’s attempts on his life (19:11–18).
- c. 1 Samuel 20. Jonathan and David renew their covenant of friendship

and peace. When Saul again tries to kill David, Jonathan warns David.

- d. 1 Samuel 23–24. David continues to fight the Philistines and flee Saul. David finds Saul and spares his life.
- Why do you think Jonathan was not jealous of David or threatened by him? (1 Samuel 18:1, 3.)
- What prompted Saul to turn against David? (See 1 Samuel 18:6–9.) Why is it sometimes difficult to be happy about the success of others? How do jealousy and pride affect our spiritual well-being?
- How did faith in God influence the friendship of Jonathan and David? (See 1 Samuel 20:23.) How does our love of God affect our love of others?
- What does David’s example teach us about revenge? (See 1 Samuel 24:6–15.)

Additional reading: 1 Samuel 14:1–16; 2 Samuel 1.

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## **“Create in Me a Clean Heart”**

**2 Samuel 11–12; Psalm 51**

**24**

Study the following scriptures:

- a. 2 Samuel 11. David commits adultery with Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah (11:1–5). David fails in his attempt to hide his sin (11:6–13). He arranges the death of Uriah (11:14–17). David marries Bathsheba, and they have a son (11:26–27).
- b. 2 Samuel 12:1–23. The prophet Nathan teaches of the severity of

David’s sins by telling David a parable (12:1–6). David is told that he will be punished because of his sins (12:7–14; note that in the Joseph Smith Translation of verse 13, Nathan states, “The Lord hath not put away thy sin that thou shalt not die”). The first son of David and Bathsheba dies in infancy (12:15–23).

- c. Psalm 51. A repentant David seeks forgiveness.

David succeeded Saul as king and became one of the greatest kings in the history of Israel. He united the tribes into one nation, secured possession of the land that had been promised to his people, and set up a government based on God's law. However, the last 20 years of his personal life were marred by the consequences of his sinfulness.

- What did David do that led him to commit adultery? (See 2 Samuel 11:2–4.) What might lead people to be tempted to commit sexual sins? What can we do to avoid being tempted to commit sexual sins?
- What more serious sin did David commit in an attempt to hide his immorality? (See 2 Samuel 11:14–17.) From whom do you

think David thought he could hide his sin? How do people try to cover up sins today? What happens when we try to cover our sins?

In a psalm to the Lord, David expressed a desire to help others repent, saying, “I [will] teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee” (Psalm 51:13). Even though David forfeited his exaltation because he arranged the death of Uriah, we can learn from his repentant attitude as he sought forgiveness for the sin of adultery. His words in Psalm 51 teach many aspects of true repentance. As you study the psalm, look for ways that you can apply David's repentant example to your life.

Additional reading: 2 Samuel 2–10.

## “Let Every Thing That Hath Breath Praise the Lord”

### *Psalms*

Study the scriptures discussed here and as much of the book of Psalms as you can.

The book of Psalms is a collection of poems originally sung as praises or petitions to God. Many were written by David. This book is like a hymnal from ancient Israel.

Many psalms prophesy of Christ's mission as the Messiah. Note the fulfillment of the following prophecies about Christ that are written in the book of Psalms:

<u>Prophecy</u>	<u>Fulfillment</u>
Psalms 69:20	Mark 14:32–41
Psalms 22:7–8	Matthew 27:39–43
Psalms 22:16	Mark 15:25

<u>Prophecy</u>	<u>Fulfillment</u>
Psalms 22:18	Matthew 27:35
Psalms 22:1	Matthew 27:46
Psalms 16:10	Acts 2:31–32; 13:34–35

Read the following psalms that express gratitude to the Savior for his mercy, forgiveness, and love: Psalms 23; 51; 59:16; 78:38; 86:5, 13; 100:4–5; 103:2–4, 8–11, 17–18.

Read the following psalms that teach the importance of trusting in the Lord: Psalms 4:5; 5:11; 9:10; 18:2; 56:11; 62:8; 118:8–9.

Read the following psalms about the temple: Psalms 5:7; 15:1–3; 24; 27:4; 65:4; 84:1–2, 4, 10–12; 122; 134.