

SAMUEL

Epilogue: Part 1
2 Samuel 21-22

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- A. Yahweh's wrath against Israel (21:1-14)
 - B. David's heroes (21:15-22)
 - C. David's song of praise (22:1-51)
 - C'. David's last words (23:1-7)
 - B'. David's mighty men (23:8-39)
- A'. Yahweh's wrath against Israel (24:1-25)

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This literary structure (chiasm or ring composition) emphasizes God's deliverance of David.

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A. Yahweh's wrath against Israel

Famine

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Why a famine?

- After 3 years of famine, David prays to find out why
 - Joshua made a covenant with the Gibeonites (Josh 9)
 - The Gibeonites deceived Joshua, but the people abided by the covenant they made before God
 - Saul attacked and killed Gibeonites
 - This incident is not recorded anywhere else
- David reigned 40 years
- We do not know when this famine occurred

David delivers Saul's descendants

- Gibeonites request the sons of Saul
 - David delivers them as requested
 - David spared Mephibosheth (son of Jonathan)
 - The seven sons are hanged together
- Rizpah protects the bodies of her sons
 - David moves in compassion to give Rizpah's sons a proper burial in the family tomb
 - **“And after that God responded to the plea for the land.”**

B. David's Heroes
War Against Philistine Giants

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Giant slayers

1. **Abishai** struck down Ish-benob (15-17)
 - a. David's men swear to never let David go out to battle with them again
2. **Sibbecai** struck down Saph (18)
3. **Elhanan** struck down Goliath the Gittite (19)
4. **Jonathan** struck down a giant with 24 digits (20-21)

Giant slayers

- Two connecting themes
 - a. Victory by one of David's warriors against Philistia
 - b. Execution of a "descendant of Rapha"
 - Maybe a group of the Rephaim
 - Assumed to be giants like Goliath of Gath

C. David's Song of Praise
Hannah's Song started this book
David's song will end it

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Isn't this Psalm 18?

- The two are nearly identical
 - a. 2 Sam 22 and Psalm 18 may both come from an original poem
- “I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies”
 - a. Similar to Psalm 22:4 “In you our fathers trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them.”

Rock and Save/Deliver

- Rock
 - a. Four times in reference to God
 - b. God's stability, protection, deliverance
- Save/Deliver
 - a. God can be trusted to deliver
 - b. General Deliverance 22:4
 - c. Expanded 22:5-20
 - Theophany 22:8-20

Deliverance = Vindication

- Common O.T. view; David adopts that thinking

If I had cherished sin in my heart,
the Lord would not have listened;

but God has surely listened

and heard my voice in prayer (Ps 66:18–19)

Second half of the song

- Victory in the strength of Yahweh (22:31–46)
 - God provided David’s strength and skill
 - God made David swift in flight & strong in battle
- Praise (47–51)
 - Familiar themes: rock/salvation/victory
 - “Steadfast love <hesed> to his anointed”
 - Only the 2nd time in Samuel David is called “anointed”
 - *Hesed* to David & his offspring
 - Ultimately to the anointed Jesus (Matthew 1:6–16)