

# Our Promise Keeping King – 2 Samuel

2 Samuel 5:1-25

“God Leads us into Triumph” – October 14, 2018



## Introduction

We are well acquainted with the risks and dangers of hard times. We prepare for disaster, lose sleep over potential trials, and hear repeated warnings about pitfalls down the road. But when it comes to prosperity, success and ease...we assume there are no risks. Why wouldn't we? Isn't that what the world strives for? Success can be a good gift from God...but if we don't handle it well, it too comes with risks. That was Jesus' assessment of the man who had a bumper crop. In his success, he built bigger barns, and told himself, "relax, eat, drink, and be merry" (See [Luke 12:13-21](#)). In the end, God called him a 'fool'. He was so focused on worldly success he forgot about God...the One who really matters.

## Pray

Before you begin, take some time to ask God to help you understand His word, to reveal what needs to change in you, and for the grace to follow Him in response.

## Sermon Outline

- 1) God keeps His promises (5:1-10)
- 2) The risks of strength (5:11-16)
- 3) The benefits of weakness (5:17-25)

## Read & Discuss

- 1) Read [2 Samuel 5:1-10](#)

From the time he was anointed king in 1 Samuel 16, to the time he becomes king over all Israel, David will have waited almost 25 years. But that time was far from wasted. Some of our most cherished Psalms were written by David in the wilderness period of his life when he was either running from Saul or dealing with a divided kingdom – take some time to check out [Psalm 56](#) or [Psalm 57](#) as examples. The point is, God was shaping and preparing him to be a king who trusted and followed God as King. The more he learned to do so, the more David would experience God fighting for Israel. Are there things in your life that God has promised, but you're struggling to wait on God for? What can you learn from David's example? How does knowing that God is a promise-keeping God help in the waiting period?

Additional reading: Psalm 37, 2 Peter 3:8-9

- 2) Read [2 Samuel 5:11-16](#)

After years of waiting, David has finally become king. Right before Israel came into the Promised Land, Moses warned the people of God about the dangers of prosperity (see [Deuteronomy 8:11-14](#)). Will the success go to David's head, or will he remain a man after

God's own heart? At this point in David's life, his faith remains intact – he understands that God is the one who put him into office, and God is the one who exalted him. In fact, it's knowing *who* put him into office that helps him remember that his authority is not for his selfish benefit, but for the sake of the people of Israel, who he's leading (see v12). Pause to think about the positions of influence, authority or leadership God has you in (boss, parent, teacher, elder/deacon, politician, team captain, etc.). What does it look like practically, for you to use your position for the well-being of others, rather than to use it to make sure you look good in the eyes of others?

David is a man after God's own heart, but it's clear that he has his blind spots, taking even more wives and concubines (v13). God's instructions for the king were clear (see [Deuteronomy 17:14-20](#)) but the current of the world flowed so strong ("everybody's doing it!") that he seems to assume it's okay. Like David, we too have our blind spots. It's why we need to live in close/godly relationships, to not neglect gathering together as a church family on Sundays ([Hebrews 10:25](#)), and to live under the light of God's word. Are you? Ask a friend or loved one if they see any blind spots in your life? If so, thank God you see them *now*. It's why David prays in Psalm 19:12, "*Who perceives his unintentional sins? Cleanse me from my hidden faults.*"

Additional reading: Matthew 19:16-30

### 3) Read [2 Samuel 5:17-25](#)

No one *likes* feeling weak or facing hard times. But as painful as they are, circumstances that leave us feeling desperate remind us of our weakness and push us to rely on God for His help ([2 Corinthians 1:8-9](#)). Facing a fierce enemy from the west (Philistia) who was coming in to destroy him, David turns to God, listens to His word, and obeys. Are you facing a trial right now? Can you see how God might be using it as an instrument of His mercy and love to shape you into the likeness of Jesus, His Son? How does knowing God's good intentions in hard times help us to trust Him in the midst of difficulty?

Additional reading: Hebrews 12:3-11

### **Prayer of Response**

Spend time praying together in response to God's word for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come.

If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at <https://fbcum.org/sermons-new>

