

APRIL 4

Read 2 Samuel 8-11

CHAPTER 8

AND after this it came to pass, that David smote the Philistines, and subdued them: and David took Methegammah out of the hand of the Philistines.

2 And he smote Moab, and measured them with a line, casting them down to the ground; even with two lines measured he to put to death, and with one full line to keep alive. And so the Moabites became David's servants, *and* brought gifts.

3 ¶ David smote also Hadadezer, the son of Rehob, king of Zobah, as he went to recover his border at the river Euphrates.

4 And David took from him a thousand *chariots*, and seven hundred horsemen, and twenty thousand footmen: and David houghed all the chariot *horses*, but reserved of them *for* an hundred chariots.

5 And when the Syrians of Damascus came to succour Hadadezer king of Zobah, David slew of the Syrians two and twenty thousand men.

6 Then David put garrisons in Syria of Damascus: and the Syrians became servants to David, *and* brought gifts. And the LORD preserved David whithersoever he went.

7 And David took the shields of gold that were on the servants of Hadadezer, and brought them to Jerusalem.

8 And from Betah, and from Berothai, cities of Hadadezer, king David took exceeding much brass.

9 ¶ When Toi king of Hamath heard that David had smitten all the host of Hadadezer,

10 Then Toi sent Joram his son unto king David, to salute him, and to bless him, because he had fought against Hadadezer, and smitten him: for Hadadezer had wars with Toi. And *Joram* brought with him vessels of silver, and vessels of gold, and vessels of brass:

11 Which also king David did dedicate unto the LORD, with the silver and gold that he had dedicated of all nations which he subdued;

12 Of Syria, and of Moab, and of

the children of Ammon, and of the Philistines, and of Amalek, and of the spoil of Hadadezer, son of Rehob, king of Zobah.

13 And David gat *him* a name when he returned from smiting of the Syrians in the valley of salt, *being* eighteen thousand *men*.

14 ¶ And he put garrisons in Edom; throughout all Edom put he garrisons, and all they of Edom became David's servants. And the LORD preserved David whithersoever he went.

15. And David reigned over all Israel; and David executed judgment and justice unto all his people.

16 And Joab the son of Zeruah *was* over the host; and Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud *was* recorder;

17 And Zadok the son of Ahitub, and Ahimelech the son of Abiathar, *were* the priests; and Seraiah *was* the scribe;

18 And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada *was* over both the Cherethites and the Pelethites; and David's sons were chief rulers.

CHAPTER 9

AND David said, Is there yet any that is left of the house of Saul, that I may shew him kindness for Jonathan's sake?

2 And *there was* of the house of Saul a servant whose name *was* Ziba. And when they had called him unto David, the king said unto him, *Art* thou Ziba? And he said, Thy servant *is* *he*.

3 And the king said, *Is* there not yet any of the house of Saul, that I may shew the kindness of God unto him? And Ziba said unto the king, Jonathan hath yet a son, *which is* lame on *his* feet.

4 And the king said unto him, Where *is* he? And Ziba said unto the king, Behold, he *is* in the house of Machir, the son of Ammiel, in Lodebar.

5 ¶ Then king David sent, and fetched him out of the house of Machir, the son of Ammiel, from Lodebar.

6 Now when Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, was come unto David, he fell on his face, and did reverence. And David said, Mephibosheth. And he answered, Behold thy servant!

7 ¶ And David said unto him, Fear not: for I will surely shew thee kindness for Jonathan thy father's sake, and will restore thee all the land of Saul thy father; and thou shalt eat bread at my table continually.

8 And he bowed himself, and said, What *is* thy servant, that thou shouldest look upon such a dead dog as I *am*?

9 ¶ Then the king called to Ziba, Saul's servant, and said unto him, I have given unto thy master's son all that pertained to Saul and to all his house.

10 Thou therefore, and thy sons, and thy servants, shall till the land for him, and thou shalt bring in *the fruits*, that thy master's son may have food to eat: but Mephibosheth thy master's son shall eat bread alway at my table. Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.

11 Then said Ziba unto the king, According to all that my lord the king hath commanded his servant, so shall thy servant do. As for Mephibosheth, *said the king*, he shall eat at my table, as one of the king's sons.

12 And Mephibosheth had a young son, whose name *was* Micha. And all that dwelt in the house of Ziba *were* servants unto Mephibosheth.

13 So Mephibosheth dwelt in Jerusalem: for he did eat continually at the king's table; and was lame on both his feet.

CHAPTER 10

AND it came to pass after this, that the king of the children of Ammon died, and Hanun his son reigned in his stead.

2 Then said David, I will shew kindness unto Hanun the son of Nahash, as his father shewed kindness unto me. And David sent to comfort him by the hand of his servants for his father. And David's servants came into the land of the children of Ammon.

3 And the princes of the children of Ammon said unto Hanun their lord, Thinkest thou that David doth honour thy father, that he hath sent comforters unto thee? hath not David *rather* sent his servants unto thee, to search the city, and to spy it out, and to overthrow it?

4 Wherefore Hanun took David's servants, and shaved off the one half of their beards, and cut off their garments in the middle, *even* to their buttocks, and sent them away.

5 When they told *it* unto David, he sent to meet them, because the men were greatly ashamed: and the king said, Tarry at Jericho until your beards be grown, and *then* return.

6 ¶ And when the children of

Ammon saw that they stank before David, the children of Ammon sent and hired the Syrians of Bethrehob, and the Syrians of Zoba, twenty thousand footmen, and of king Maacah a thousand men, and of Ishtob twelve thousand men.

7 And when David heard of *it*, he sent Joab, and all the host of the mighty men.

8 And the children of Ammon came out, and put the battle in array at the entering in of the gate: and the Syrians of Zoba, and of Rehob, and Ishtob, and Maacah, *were* by themselves in the field.

9 When Joab saw that the front of the battle was against him before and behind, he chose of all the choice *men* of Israel, and put *them* in array against the Syrians:

10 And the rest of the people he delivered into the hand of Abishai his brother, that he might put *them* in array against the children of Ammon.

11 And he said, If the Syrians be too strong for me, then thou shalt help me: but if the children of Ammon be too strong for thee, then I will come and help thee.

12 Be of good courage, and let us play the men for our people, and for the cities of our God: and the LORD

do that which seemeth him good.

13 And Joab drew nigh, and the people that *were* with him, unto the battle against the Syrians: and they fled before him.

14 And when the children of Ammon saw that the Syrians were fled, then fled they also before Abishai, and entered into the city. So Joab returned from the children of Ammon, and came to Jerusalem.

15 ¶ And when the Syrians saw that they were smitten before Israel, they gathered themselves together.

16 And Hadarezer sent, and brought out the Syrians that *were* beyond the river: and they came to Helam; and Shobach the captain of the host of Hadarezer *went* before them.

17 And when it was told David, he gathered all Israel together, and passed over Jordan, and came to Helam. And the Syrians set themselves in array against David, and fought with him.

18 And the Syrians fled before Israel; and David slew *the men* of seven hundred chariots of the Syrians, and forty thousand horsemen, and smote Shobach the captain of their host, who died there.

19 And when all the kings *that*

were servants to Hadarezer saw that they were smitten before Israel, they made peace with Israel, and served them. So the Syrians feared to help the children of Ammon any more.

CHAPTER 11

AND it came to pass, after the year was expired, at the time when kings go forth *to battle*, that David sent Joab, and his servants with him, and all Israel; and they destroyed the children of Ammon, and besieged Rabbah. But David tarried still at Jerusalem.

2 ¶ And it came to pass in an eveningtide, that David arose from off his bed, and walked upon the roof of the king's house: and from the roof he saw a woman washing herself; and the woman *was* very beautiful to look upon.

3 And David sent and enquired after the woman. And *one* said, *Is* not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?

4 And David sent messengers, and took her; and she came in unto him, and he lay with her; for she was purified from her uncleanness: and she returned unto her house.

5 And the woman conceived, and sent and told David, and said, *I am*

with child.

6 ¶ And David sent to Joab, *saying*, Send me Uriah the Hittite. And Joab sent Uriah to David.

7 And when Uriah was come unto him, David demanded *of him* how Joab did, and how the people did, and how the war prospered.

8 And David said to Uriah, Go down to thy house, and wash thy feet. And Uriah departed out of the king's house, and there followed him a mess *of meat* from the king.

9 But Uriah slept at the door of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and went not down to his house.

10 And when they had told David, saying, Uriah went not down unto his house, David said unto Uriah, *Camest* thou not from *thy* journey? why *then* didst thou not go down unto thine house?

11 And Uriah said unto David, The ark, and Israel, and Judah, abide in tents; and my lord Joab, and the servants of my lord, are encamped in the open fields; shall I then go into mine house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? *as* thou livest, and *as* thy soul liveth, I will not do this thing.

12 And David said to Uriah,

Tarry here to day also, and to morrow I will let thee depart. So Uriah abode in Jerusalem that day, and the morrow.

13 And when David had called him, he did eat and drink before him; and he made him drunk: and at even he went out to lie on his bed with the servants of his lord, but went not down to his house.

14 ¶ And it came to pass in the morning, that David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent *it* by the hand of Uriah.

15 And he wrote in the letter, saying, Set ye Uriah in the forefront of the hottest battle, and retire ye from him, that he may be smitten, and die.

16 And it came to pass, when Joab observed the city, that he assigned Uriah unto a place where he knew that valiant men *were*.

17 And the men of the city went out, and fought with Joab: and there fell *some* of the people of the servants of David; and Uriah the Hittite died also.

18 ¶ Then Joab sent and told David all the things concerning the war;

19 And charged the messenger, saying, When thou hast made an end of telling the matters of the

war unto the king,

20 And if so be that the king's wrath arise, and he say unto thee, Wherefore approached ye so nigh unto the city when ye did fight? knew ye not that they would shoot from the wall?

21 Who smote Abimelech the son of Jerubbesheth? did not a woman cast a piece of a millstone upon him from the wall, that he died in Thebez? why went ye nigh the wall? then say thou, Thy servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also.

22 ¶ So the messenger went, and came and shewed David all that Joab had sent him for.

23 And the messenger said unto David, Surely the men prevailed against us, and came out unto us into the field, and we were upon them even unto the entering of the gate.

24 And the shooters shot from off the wall upon thy servants; and *some* of the king's servants be dead, and thy servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also.

25 Then David said unto the messenger, Thus shalt thou say unto Joab, Let not this thing displease thee, for the sword devoureth one as well as another: make thy battle more strong

against the city, and overthrow it: and encourage thou him.

26 ¶ And when the wife of Uriah heard that Uriah her husband was dead, she mourned for her husband.

27 And when the mourning was

past, David sent and fetched her to his house, and she became his wife, and bare him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD.

DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

David had loved Jonathan with a supernatural love. Jonathan was dead, but David had not forgotten his many kindnesses. Now that he is established as king over all Israel, he wants to show kindness to Jonathan's son, Mephibosheth.

The story of David and Mephibosheth reveals the Gospel in a beautiful way. Mephibosheth is a type of the sinner and the condition in which he is in. He was helpless, being lame on both feet. He could not come to David by his own strength, but had to be carried into the king's presence. The sinner cannot help himself; he cannot save himself. And just as David wanted to help Mephibosheth "for Jonathan's sake," God has manifested His love and grace toward us "for Jesus' sake." We are nothing except for the grace of God. Every one of us deserves hell. But "for Christ's sake" God has provided salvation for all who believe. Romans 10:13 tells us, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Chapter 11 proves beyond any shadow of a doubt that the Bible is the Word of God. If man had written the Bible, he would never have recorded this dark and terrible part of David's life.

David was not a passionate youth who deliberately walked into this sin. Rather, he was a man of God who had now reached middle-age. If you will read these verses carefully, you will see how David got involved with Bathsheba. First, he was self-confident, after enjoying victories and prosperity. Second, he was disobedient, staying at home when he should have been on the battlefield. Third, he was idle, lying in bed in the evening. Fourth, he was self-indulgent, giving freedom to his desires when he should have been disciplining himself. Fifth, he was careless, allowing his eyes to wander and yielding to the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes. James 1:13-15 perfectly describes David's case. His desires were activated by the sight, and he failed to curb them. The desire conceived the sin in his mind; his will surrendered, and this led to sin. The sin later led to death. David did not watch and pray as Matthew 26:41

commands; nor did he deal decisively with his wandering eyes (Matthew 5:29 and 18:9).

PROVERB FOR TODAY

"Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding" (Proverbs 4:1).

TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

Spend this month reviewing the previous 13 lessons. For today, review Memory Verse Assignment 2 (found on page 10).

HYMN FOR TODAY

WOUNDED FOR ME

by W.G. Owens, 1870-1945 (verse 1)
and Gladys W. Roberts, 1888-? (verses 2-5)

Death by crucifixion was one of the worst forms of dying. No Roman citizen was ever crucified; this horrible death was reserved only for Rome's enemies. The Roman scourge was a most dreadful instrument of torture and suffering. It was made of sinews of oxen, and sharp bones were inter-twisted among the sinews so that every time the lash came down upon a body, these pieces of bone inflicted fearful lacerations and literally tore off chunks of flesh from the person's bones. This is what Christ endured in accomplishing our redemption. But the physical suffering was not the worst. Rather, the weight of human sin and the separation from God the Father because of His wrath against sin were the real causes of the Saviour's death.

But simply knowing about Christ's suffering and death is not enough. We must personally appropriate this to our own lives. We must say, "It was for me!" We must allow the Holy Spirit to do in us subjectively all that Christ has done for us objectively. Then, after we have experienced this redemptive work in our own lives, we must humbly, lovingly, and thoughtfully "follow in His steps" and seek to restore others.

The five stanzas of this thoughtful hymn cover the

whole story of redemption, from the Saviour's suffering to His second coming. When this hymn is sung, then, all of the verses must be used; none can be deleted. Start softly and slowly and gradually build to a thrilling climax—"O how I praise Him—He's coming for me!"

*Wounded for me, wounded for me,
there on the cross He was wounded for me;
gone my transgressions, and now I am free,
all because Jesus was wounded for me.*

*Dying for me, dying for me,
there on the cross He was dying for me;
now in His death my redemption I see,
all because Jesus was dying for me.*

*Risen for me, risen for me,
up from the grave He has risen for me;
now evermore from death's sting I am free,
all because Jesus has risen for me.*

*Living for me, living for me,
up in the skies He is living for me;
daily He's pleading and praying for me,
all because Jesus is living for me.*

*Coming for me, coming for me,
one day to earth He is coming for me;
then with what joy His dear face I shall see;
O how I praise Him—He's coming for me!*

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

THE DAYS OF THE DEDICATION OF THE TABERNACLE WERE STILL IN PROGRESS.

Although the tabernacle was a sanctuary, a dwelling place for God among His people, and the church building of today is not this, but as Spurgeon said, "a meeting house," this does call to our attention that we should thank God for our church buildings. The physical plant is what we have in mind today. Thank God for a place to preach, a place to worship, a place to teach, a place to fellowship, and a place to serve the Lord.

1704 THE FIRST UNITED STATES PAPER WAS PRINTED.

It was printed in Boston, Massachusetts. Thank God for the newspaper today. It is probably the best bargain of our generation.

1818 THE UNITED STATES FLAG WAS ADOPTED BY CONGRESS.

We have been shocked recently by the burning of flags by unpatriotic citizens. Personally, I thank God for "Old Glory," and I'll pause now to pray a prayer of thanksgiving for my country.

1841 WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON DIED.

He had been in office thirty-two days upon his death. This is the briefest term of any President in history. Pray for our President today.

1949 THE STARTING OF N.A.T.O.

1968 MARTIN LUTHER KING WAS ASSASSINATED.

ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1865
FIFTH MASSACHUSETTS COLORED CAVALRY and units of the Twenty-fifth Corps were in the vanguard of Union troops entering Richmond. Second Division of Twenty-fifth Corps helped chase Robert E. Lee's army from Petersburg to Appomattox Court House, April 3-10. The black division and white Union soldiers were advancing on General Lee's trapped army with fixed bayonets when the Confederate troops surrendered.

1899
MUSICIAN EDWARD KENNEDY ("DUKE") ELLINGTON BORN in Washington, D.C.

1968
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. ASSASSINATED BY WHITE SNIPER in Memphis, Tennessee. Assassination precipitated a national crisis and rioting in more than one hundred cities. Forty-six persons were killed in major rebellions in Washington, Chicago and other cities. Twenty thousand federal troops and thirty-four thousand National Guardsmen were mobilized to quell disturbances. Memorial marches and rallies were held throughout the country. Many public school systems closed and the opening of the baseball season was postponed. President Lyndon B. Johnson declared Sunday, April 6, a national day of mourning and ordered all U.S. flags on government buildings in

all U.S. territories and possessions to fly at half-mast.

INDEPENDENCE DAY IN THE REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL.

1972

DEATH OF ADAM CLAYTON POWELL JR. (63), former congressman and civil rights leader, in Miami.

A Christian Life:

CHARLES EDWARD FULLER

1887-1968

Charles E. Fuller was born on April 25, 1887, the fourth son of a furniture merchant who later became prosperous as a fruit grower in Southern California. After graduating magna cum laude from Pomona College, he married Grace Payton and ventured into the fruit-packing business.

In 1917 Fuller went to the Church of the Open Door in Los Angeles to hear Paul Rader preach. The sermon from Ephesians 1:18 reached his heart, and he was converted to Christ. The next year found him and his wife traveling as itinerant missionaries to the remote villages of the western states. They shared a burden to reach people in out-of-the-way places. Soon after, Fuller left the fruit-packing business and entered the Bible Institute of Los Angeles. He became a renown Bible teacher in his community and formed a church from a small Bible class which he served for ten years.

From the sanctuary of that church, Calvary Church of Placentia, California, he launched his radio ministry in 1925 over a single local radio station in Santa Ana, California, and later became the director of a program he called The Old-Fashioned Revival Hour. His purpose was the dissemination of the Gospel by radio to reach vast numbers of people right in their own homes. The broadcast's format gained immediate acceptance, and interest gave it rapid expansion to other stations. In the early 1940s, it was being carried each Sunday by a major transcontinental network, and was occupying a thousand hours of radio time each week in the United States, Canada, Europe, Africa, Asia, South America, and on many islands of the sea.

During the 1940s Fuller also directed a large contingent of evangelists in many parts of North America through the Fuller Evangelistic Foundation. Meanwhile, the Gospel Broadcasting Association continued to expand The Old-Fashioned Revival Hour's coverage from North America to almost every spot on the globe. For 15 years, beginning with World War II, the program was broadcast each Sunday afternoon from the Municipal Auditorium in Long Beach, California, where it drew huge audiences. In that enormous hall, many G.I.s found the Lord before being shipped to Pacific and European war theatres, many to die in battle.

At the time of Dr. Fuller's death, the broadcast was heard on more than 500 stations around the world. He died in March, 1968.



MEMORY VERSE ASSIGNMENT 2 (for review):

Please spend time reviewing these memory verses. If you have been completing the assignments in the TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING, then you already have spent a week memorizing the Scriptures below. Now it's time to review!

BASIC TEXT TO AROUSE AN INTEREST IN SPIRITUAL MATTERS

Life is brief.

() James 4:14

Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

Life is uncertain.

() Proverbs 27:1

Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth.

Death is sure.

() Hebrews 9:27

And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the Judgment:

Christ may appear any moment.

() Matthew 24:44

Therefore be ye also ready: For in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.

No escape for procrastinators.

() Hebrews 2:3

How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him;