



## Lesson 86

# David's Military Victories

### Story Elements

- **Text:** 2 Samuel 8:1-14; 10:1-19
- **Setting:** approx. 1000 B.C.
- **Main Characters:** God, David, and Joab
- **Plot:** David's kingdom grows as he systematically defeats Israel's enemies.
- **Key word(s):** “the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ David whithersoever he went.” (8:6, 14)
- **Climax:** *“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.”* (10:12)

### Expanding the Kingdom (2 Sam. 8:1-14)

1. Having attained kingship over all Israel, and having returned the ark to Jerusalem, David begins to focus on vanquishing the numerous enemies surrounding Israel:
  - a. David first subdued the \_\_\_\_\_ and took Metheg-ammah (Gath) a chief city of the Philistia.
  - b. David conquered Moab and “measured them with a \_\_\_\_\_” which was either a way to separate children from adults, or it was a means of choosing two thirds of the soldiers to be executed while allowing the remaining to go free.
  - c. He then conquered Hadadezer the king of \_\_\_\_\_, a kingdom north of Damascus.
  - d. When the Syrians came to assist Hadadezer, the Hebrews defeated them and placed the Syrians under \_\_\_\_\_.
  - e. David's defeat of Hadadezer made him friends with \_\_\_\_\_, king of Hamath.
  - f. All in all, David subdued the Syrians, Moabites, Ammonites, Philistines, and Amalekites. Verses 6 and 14 make an excellent summary of the passage:

*“And the LORD \_\_\_\_\_ David whithersoever he went.”*

### From Friend to Foe (2 Sam. 10:1-19)

2. When Nahash, king of the \_\_\_\_\_ died, his son, Hanun reigned in his stead. David and Nahash had had a friendship, but Hanun was unwisely advised to throw off any political ties to David.
  - a. When David's messengers arrived at the Ammonite palace, they were humiliated by Hanun – \_\_\_\_\_ of their beards were shaved off and their robes were cut off in an embarrassing manner.

- b. When the shamed ambassadors returned, they were told to stay in \_\_\_\_\_ until their beards were grown. (v 5)
- 3. Both sides prepared for war. The Ammonites enlisted the help of the \_\_\_\_\_ from Beth-rehob and Zobah, and also from Maacah and Tob.
- 4. David sent his entire army, under the command of \_\_\_\_\_ to battle the Ammonites and their Syrian confederates.
  - a. The battle ensued near \_\_\_\_\_, a stronghold of Ammon. (cf. 11:1)
  - b. The Hebrews fought a battle on two fronts; after Joab crushed the Syrians on the one front, the Ammonites lost courage and fled from \_\_\_\_\_ (Joab's brother and second-in-command).
- 5. Seeking revenge from previous defeats, the Syrians regrouped with fresh reinforcement near Helam. Once again, Hadadezer was defeated. The Syrians would no longer join battle with the \_\_\_\_\_ against David.

## Application

- 6. David's reign points towards Christ's:
  - a. **Victory** – David was unbeatable. No army could defeat him. But the Bible is clear to give God the glory. Twice it is said that “the Lord preserved David whithersoever he went.” David's triumphs were pictures of the coming Messiah, who would vanquish all the LORD's enemies. “For he must reign, till he hath put all \_\_\_\_\_ under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.” (1 Cor. 15:25-26)
  - b. **Virtue** – David's reign was characterized by “judgment and \_\_\_\_\_” (cf. 8:15). Notice how Christ's kingdom is described by Isaiah the prophet:

**Isaiah 9:7** *Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, Upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, To order it, and to establish it **with judgment and with justice** From henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.*

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### Answer Key

Key word(s): preserved • 1. a) Philistines; b) line; c) Zobah; d) tribute; e) Toi; f) preserved • 2. Ammonites; a) half; b) Jericho • 3. Syrians • 4. ) Rabbah; b) Abishai • 5. Ammonites • 6. a) enemies; b) justice