


SAMUEL

Epilogue: Part 2
2 Samuel 23-24

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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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C'. David's Last Words

23:1-7

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Looking Ahead

- David's song of thanksgiving looked to the past
- His "last words" look forward and show his trust in the promises of God
 - 22:51 "...shows steadfast love to his anointed."
 - 23:1 "...the anointed of the God of Jacob"

An Everlasting Covenant

- *bərit 'ôlām*
 - The same technical term used for each of the major O.T. covenants with God
 - Similar to ancient Near East legal term for contracts with no terminus point
- Comes from 2 Sam 7:4-17 (esp. 12-16)
 - Also iterated in Ps 89:28-37
 - Echoed in prophetic expectations in Is, Jer, & Ezek.

The Three Poems of Samuel

Combined & Summarized:

1. **The messiah (anointed) is God's appointed ruler**
 - a. 1 Sam 2:10; 2 Sam 22:51; 23:1
2. **David trusts in God and is rescued/upheld by Him**
 - a. 2 Sam 22:2, 38-43, 49
3. **Empowered by God, David leads God's people in battle**
 - a. 2 Sam 22:28, 45-46, 48
4. **The king is to rule God's people justly**
 - a. 2 Sam 23:3-4

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B'. David's Mighty Men

23:8-39

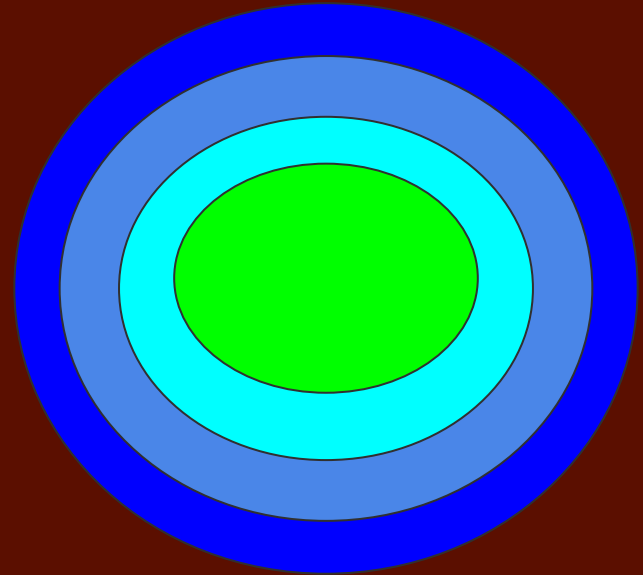
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Three & Thirty

- Presumably ranks of honor
 - Membership in each changed over time
 - there were 37 in the Thirty
- Why share this?
 - Perhaps to show David's organization & administration
 - Perhaps to show his kingship over the “city of David”

The structure of David's military

- His foreign mercenaries (loyal to him only)
- The Three
- The Thirty
- The standing military



Misc. Notes

- The water
 - Retrieved by three unnamed men
 - David pours it out on the ground
 - This is a symbolic sacrifice to Yahweh God, honoring the men who retrieved it at great risk
- Joab isn't mentioned
- Uriah is mentioned

A'. Yahweh's wrath against Israel

Chapter 24

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David's Census

- Joab advised against a census
- What's the big deal?
 - Not for redrawing Congressional districts
 - David is assessing his military might
- Why is that considered sinful?
 - It shows lack of trust in Yahweh
- 1 Chronicles 21:1
 - Echoes of Job

Israel's Plague & David's Reaction

- Israel suffers a plague
- David buys land, builds an altar, offers a sacrifice
- What characteristic of David is again displayed?
 - His repentant leadership
 - “I have sinned greatly”
 - Gad the prophet comes the day after David's repentance
 - David has learned confession and repentance

Famine

Military Defeat

Pestilence



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David Chooses to Trust God Again

- David chooses pestilence as his punishment
 - “Let us fall into the hand of the LORD, for his mercy is great.”
- David proves himself to be the ideal anointed one
 - Repentant & Forgiven
 - Recognizes Yahweh is the true king
 - Banks on the mercy of God

Jesus becomes the fulfillment of
this longing for another
David—not because David is
perfect, but because he is
submissive to God’s rulership and
is used by God to establish the
kingdom.

-Bill Arnold

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