THE LIFE OF

DAVID

A MAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART



THE VERDICT TEACHING SERIES



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CALVARY CHURCH

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We hope you find this study guide helpful as you follow along with Pastor John Munro in his current teaching series and continue your own study in God's Word.

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A Man After God's Own Heart

avid is one of the outstanding characters of the Bible and one who is worthy of our study. He is Israel's greatest king, the sweet psalmist of Israel. From shepherding sheep to shepherding Israel, he is also the only person Scripture calls "a man after God's own heart." What a description!

Although David is a great man with many successes, we will learn that he was also a man with great flaws and failures. But isn't that encouraging for all of us?

Join me in this exciting study of David as we learn from the events in his life and from the psalms he wrote, which give us unique insight into the faithfulness of God and the truth of God's Word.

Discover how you, like David, can be a person after God's own heart.

Warmly in Christ,

John

David: A Man After God's Own Heart

VARIOUS PEOPLE IN SCRIPTURE ARE DESCRIBED as men and women of God, servants of God, or loved by God. But only David is described as a man after God's own heart (1 Samuel 13:14).

David lived a full life that can be divided into three stages

- The Shepherd: Spiritual Preparation
- The Outlaw: Serving God in the Midst of Persecution
- The King: A Mighty and Just King

David was a man after God's own heart

- While he was not the people's choice, David was God's choice (1 Samuel 16:1–13).
- David is a strong man of courage, but his trust in God produced humility (1 Samuel 18:18).
- David is not a perfect man, but he was a man of consistent integrity (1 Samuel 16:7; Psalm 78:70–72).
- David demonstrates instant obedience (Acts 13:22).

How does Scripture describe David? What makes him unique?	
Why is it encouraging to consider the different stages of David's life?	
Why was David chosen by God?	
How does David's life demonstrate courageous humility?	
PERSONAL RESPONSE	
The verdict is yours.	
In what ways would you aspire to be like David?	
What traits are essential to being a person after God's own heart?	

David the Giant Killer

1 Samuel 17

THE STORY OF DAVID AND GOLIATH is one of the most famous stories in the Bible, and when people discuss it, they make many different applications. But what does the original text teach us — and why is this chapter in our Bibles?

David's leadership as the future king of Israel is demonstrated

- The contrast between Saul and David (1 Samuel 16:13–14)
- David's preparation
- David's concern for the glory of God

David is a "type" of Jesus Christ

• Our Lord Jesus is the son of David (Matthew 1:1)

Why do Saul and David view the battle with Goliath so differently?
What do you find most striking about David's faith as he prepares for the battle?
What does it mean for Jesus to be called "David's greater son"? How does David, in the story of David and Goliath, prefigure Jesus?
e verdict is yours.
Has there been a difficult situation in your life where you trusted God to do the impossible? Have you trusted in the Lord Jesus as your personal Savior?
What particular gifts or skills has God given you? How are you using these for the glory of God?

David and Jonathan

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DAVID AND JONATHAN is an inspiring example of brotherly love between two people who loved the Lord and each other.

The covenant between David and Jonathan

- *The background:* Jonathan is not resentful and jealous of David. Instead, Jonathan recognizes that David is the Lord's choice (1 Samuel 18:1–5).
- Their friendship lasted through Saul's persecution of David into the next generation (1 Samuel 20:14–17).

The contrast with Saul

The death of Saul and Jonathan

- The defeat on Mt. Gilboa (1 Samuel 31)
- The response of David (2 Samuel 1:17–27)

How was Jonathan's view of David different from Saul's?	
From David's reaction to Jonathan's death, what do we learn about David's relationshi with Jonathan?	р
How does the love between David and Jonathan remind us of the love of Jesus Christ each of us?	for
PERSONAL RESPONSE	
The verdict is yours.	
Are you more like Jonathan or Saul? Are you resentful of the success of others, or do y rejoice in what God is doing in the lives of others?	ЭU
Have you experienced a friendship such as the one David and Jonathan shared? Are y displaying the love of Christ in your relationships with others?	эu

David Pursued by Saul

1 Samuel 18-21

WHEN THINGS ARE GOING WELL in our lives, it is easy to praise the Lord. But how we respond to difficulties and opposition is a good barometer of our spiritual maturity. We can learn much from David's response to his persecution by Saul.

David seeks godly counsel

- When Saul is seeking to kill David, David goes to Samuel.
- David is encouraged by the friendship of Jonathan (1 Samuel 20:1–3).
- David goes to see Abimelech, the priest (1 Samuel 21:1–9).

David's trust was in God (Psalm 59)

- David submits to the will of God (v 1–2).
- God is his fortress (v 9, 16, 17).
- David is the object of God's steadfast love (v 10, 17).
- David praises God (v 16-17).
- David trusts in God's timing.

How do David's actions during this period show that he was a man of G	od a	nd an
imperfect human?		

Why doesn't David kill Saul when he has the opportunity?

PERSONAL RESPONSE

The verdict is yours.

How do you react in times of difficulty and persecution? Do you turn to God? Do you praise Him? Do you trust His timing?

David Encounters a Fool

1 Samuel 25

ISN'T IT THE CASE THAT WE CAN BE ON A SPIRITUAL MOUNTAINTOP and

then allow our sinful desires to get the better of us? Let's learn from a particularly interesting incident in the life of David as recorded in Holy Scripture.

David's request (v 1–13)

- The background
- David's request
- The refusal
- David's response

Abigail's provision (v 14-35)

- A wise woman
- Her supplication
- David's response

Nabal's death (*v 36-43*)

• Nabal is a fool.

	Who is Nabal? Who is Abigail?
	What is interesting about David's initial response to Nabal's refusal?
	How do we see that Abigail is courageous and wise, particularly in her reproof of David?
PE	RSONAL RESPONSE
The	e verdict is yours.
	Are you more apt to be like David or Nabal in your relationships?
	Do you trust God with the matters of your life? Have you committed your life to Jesus Christ as your Savior?

David and God's Word

Psalms 18 & 19

IN RECOUNTING THE HISTORY OF ISRAEL, the apostle Paul describes David as one who "will do all [God's] will." But how did he know the will of God? David wrote many psalms where we can learn from his love and regard for God's Word.

God's Word is a light

• Psalm 18:28; Psalm 119:105

The Word of God is perfect

- Psalm 18:30; Psalm 19:7
- The Word of God is inerrant.
- The Word of God has supernatural power.

David's description of the Word of God

- Psalm 19:7–11
- The power of the Word of God and the sufficiency of the Word of God

In what ways does the Word of God function as a light in our lives?
Why is our belief in the Word of God as absolute truth important regarding the source of our authority?
What are some examples of the power of God's Word?
PERSONAL RESPONSE
The verdict is yours.
How have you experienced the Word of God as light in your life?
Do you believe the Word of God is absolute truth?
Are you growing in your love and understanding of the Word of God and the Gospel of Jesus Christ?

David Displays Grace

2 Samuel 9

KING DAVID DISPLAYS ABOUNDING GRACE to a surprising person, in what some may consider an obscure passage of Scripture.

The traumatic fall from grace

- Mephibosheth's fall (2 Samuel 4:4)
- Our fall

The dramatic summons to grace

- David's covenant with Jonathan
- The dramatic summons to grace for each one of us

The amazing surprise of grace

- David surprises Mephibosheth with his grace.
- God surprises us with His amazing grace.

Who is Mephibosheth?
How does the story of Mephibosheth and David mirror God's amazing grace toward us?
PERSONAL RESPONSE
The verdict is yours.
How does Mephibosheth's disability illustrate the impact of our sin?
Have you been surprised by the grace of God in your life?
What is your response to God's offer of salvation through Jesus Christ? Are you enjoying
your new position in the family of God?

David's Mighty Men

2 Samuel 23:8-39

DAVID WAS SURROUNDED BY A GROUP OF SOLDIERS described as "David's mighty men" throughout his life. We want to be mighty men and mighty women of God. How blessed we are if we are surrounded by mighty followers of the Lord Jesus.

King David in exile

• There was a long period before David was crowned king; and a later time when he was again in exile.

The three chiefs of the mighty men (2 Samuel 23)

- Josheb-basshebeth (v 8)
- Eliazar (v 9–10)
- Shammah (v 11–12)

An act of worship

2 Samuel 23:13–17

Other mighty men

- Abishai (v 18–19)
- Benaiah (v 20–23)
- Others mentioned (v 24–39)
- Joab

Who were David's mighty men? Why were they important throughout his life?	
What are some of the deeds of the mighty men?	
Why did David pour out the water from Bethlehem as a drink offering to God?	
PERSONAL RESPONSE The verdict is yours.	
Would you consider yourself a mighty soldier of God and our Lord Jesus Christ?	
The verdict is yours.	

The Davidic Covenant

2 Samuel 7:1-17

THE GREAT COVENANTS OF SCRIPTURE help us to understand the unfolding purposes of God in redemption. We read of the Noahic Covenant, the Abrahamic Covenant, and the Mosaic Covenant, in which God gave key promises. Today's lesson focuses on the Davidic Covenant described in 2 Samuel 7.

David desires to build a house for God

- The context
- David's request to Nathan (v 1–3)

God's covenantal promises to David

- A name and land
- David's son will succeed him and establish his kingdom.
- There will be a kingdom that will not end.

Is David permitted to build a temple for God?
Explain God's promises to David. Does David have to do anything to see these promises fulfilled?
Specifically, how will David's kingdom last forever?
PERSONAL RESPONSE
The verdict is yours.
How has God been faithful to His promises in your life?
Do you understand that Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of the Davidic Covenant? Do you understand that you are offered a personal relationship with this Savior and King?

David's Greater Son

2 Samuel 7:1–17

IN THE DAVIDIC COVENANT, God makes a wonderful promise to David. Not only will there be a succession of kings after him, but his kingdom also will never end. The ultimate fulfillment of the Davidic Covenant is found in Jesus Christ, David's greater son.

The Messiah is David's son and David's Lord

- The Messiah is David's son (Mark 12:35).
- The Messiah is David's Lord (Mark 12:36-37).

Peter and Paul testify to Jesus fulfilling the Davidic Covenant

- Acts 2:25–35
- Acts 15:11–17
- Romans 1:3–4; 15:12

John testifies to Jesus fulfilling the Davidic Covenant

• Revelation 5:5–7; 22:16

How is Jesus both the son of David and the Son of God?
What part of the fulfillment of the Davidic Covenant is still to come?
Are the promises of the Davidic Covenant only for the Jewish people?
PERSONAL RESPONSE
The verdict is yours. Do you understand that you have the opportunity to be a part of this everlasting Kingdom of God now and forever?
Have you accepted Jesus Christ as your personal Savior, Lord, and King?

David's Fall

2 Samuel 11–12

DAVID IS ISRAEL'S GREATEST KING and a man after God's own heart, but David is still a sinful human being. He falls prey to temptation and commits a series of very serious sins — a sober warning to us all.

You will be tempted to sin

- Temptation to sin is not a sin (1 Corinthians 10:11–13).
- Yielding to temptation is sin, and has serious consequences (James 1:13–16).

In your temptation, God is always faithful

- God is faithful.
- God provides "the way of escape."

You can endure temptation

- Keep looking to the Savior.
- Know the Word of God.
- Pray!
- Claim the promises of God.

How did David sin? How did one sin lead to another?
How is God faithful to you even in your temptation?
How can we trust God and turn to God as we endure temptation?
PERSONAL RESPONSE
The verdict is yours.
What is your reaction to a man like David falling into sin?
Think of a sin you have committed in the past. Do you see how you fell prey to temptation?
Are you currently experiencing temptation? How are you responding to it?
Have you experienced God's forgiveness of all your sins through Jesus Christ?

David's Restoration

Psalm 51

DESPITE BEING A MAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART, David sinned and experienced a serious fall. But in God's mercy and grace, David was restored. In the account of his restoration, we can learn much about the depth of sin and the forgiveness of God.

When we confess our sins, God graciously forgives and restores us (v 1–7)

- David confesses his sin.
- David knows that his problem is sin, and sin is multifaceted.
- God is gracious and compassionate (v 1).
- David finds complete forgiveness.

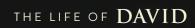
Spiritual restoration leads to spiritual renewal and service (v 8–19)

- Forgiveness leads to spiritual renewal (v 8–12).
- Forgiveness leads to spiritual service (v 13–19).

The omnipresence of God challenges us

- God's omnipresence challenges us to live holy lives.
- When you are tempted to sin, God is there.

Describe David's response to his sin.	
Why are God's mercy and grace necessary for forgiveness?	
What does complete forgiveness mean?	
PERSONAL RESPONSE	
The verdict is yours.	
How do you regard those who have sinned badly?	
How have you reacted after you have sinned? Have you experienced true biblical confession and repentance?	
Have you accepted God's forgiveness and mercy offered in Jesus Christ?	



David the King

2 Samuel 5

WE HAVE SEEN DAVID IN MANY ROLES — shepherd boy, national hero, fugitive, and psalmist. Now we see the "man after God's own heart" in his most famous role, as Israel's greatest king.

The background of David, the king

- The provision for a king in the Mosaic Law (Deuteronomy 17:14–20)
- The people's choice of king (1 Samuel 8)

The appointment of David as king

- David seems an unlikely choice to be king
- David the king, in rejection

REVIEW QUESTIONS

How did Saul become Israel's first king?

How is David anointed?
Why is Jerusalem called the City of David?
PERSONAL RESPONSE
The verdict is yours.
How did David fulfill the Lord's qualifications for godliness? Do you demonstrate these qualities?
What events from the reign and life of David do you find most helpful and meaningful in your spiritual journey?
Like David, do you trust God to guide you in the affairs of life and to give you victory in impossible situations?

David the Worshiper

1 Chronicles 29

GOD THE FATHER IS SEEKING AUTHENTIC WORSHIPERS who worship Him in spirit and truth. David is an outstanding worshiper: a musician, poet, and writer of many psalms. So today, we learn from David, the worshiper.

Worship God: Give generously and joyfully

- The example of David
- New Testament worship in giving

Worship God: Give thanks with humility

- The example of David
- In our worship, we give thanks.

Worship God: Bless the Lord wholeheartedly

• The example of David

How did David approach the preparation for the building of the temple?
Why is giving generously an act of worship?
Why does true worship involve giving thanks?
PERSONAL RESPONSE
The verdict is yours.
How does David's worship encourage you to deepen your worship of God?
Do you love to worship God? What is your approach to worship and praise?

David Looks Back

Psalm 23

AS KING DAVID LOOKS BACK OVER HIS LIFE, he rehearses the goodness of God, who has guided, protected, and cared for him. In Psalm 23, the best known and best-loved of all psalms, David presents spiritual truths that have sustained him and the people of Israel. These same truths will sustain you and me.

The Shepherd's provision

- David describes the Lord as "my Shepherd."
- Because the Lord is our Shepherd, we shall not want.

The Shepherd's restoration (v 3)

Sheep love to stray and wander.

The Shepherd's presence, now and forever

- The Shepherd's eternal presence is a reassuring comfort (v 4).
- Not only is the Shepherd with us, but His blessings also pursue us.

How did David experience the provision of the Lord throughout his life?
What do we learn about spiritual restoration through the experience of David?
PERSONAL RESPONSE
The verdict is yours.
What have you learned from the events of David's life and the psalms of David that share his thoughts and struggles?
How are you encouraged by David's picture of the Lord as our Shepherd?
How have you experienced the Lord's provision, protection, and restoration in your life?

THE VERDICT

"Where the Gospel is preached, the lives of men and women and boys and girls are transformed. Through His death and resurrection, Christ gives us peace with God, present power for living, and future hope for eternal life." — John H. Munro

The Verdict is a radio and podcast program featuring the expository Bible teaching of Pastor John Munro.



Born and raised in Scotland, John graduated from the University of Edinburgh and practiced law in Scotland before God called him to full-time ministry. He and his wife, Gudny, moved to Texas, where he attended Dallas Theological Seminary.

For more than 30 years, John has dedicated his life to pastoral ministry, preaching and teaching the Word of God. He presently serves as Senior Pastor of Calvary Church in Charlotte, North Carolina.

On The Verdict, listeners are challenged to turn to the Bible and render a "verdict" as they consider their personal response to the truth of God's Word. John presents a clear examination of Scripture, offering insight and application for all backgrounds, from those unfamiliar with the Gospel to mature believers following Christ.

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