

2 Samuel Chapter 8

Background: David is set to fully establish the Kingdom. There are areas of the promise and lands that he doesn't yet control and historical and real threats to the fulfillment and security of the Kingdom. It is now time for God to fully complete the plan through David.

Note: While looking at the historical account in the following scriptures, look to see what the application would be for us today. You may have made progress in your Christian walk, but have you really received God's best? Using the idea and outline of the Feasts (Lev 23), David is probably operating at level 6 (Day of Atonement) where a victory is required before there can be the full establishment of peace in the Kingdom (Feast of Tabernacles, level 7) and spiritual perfection/completion.

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.

Verse 1 – After this, David rather than wait, goes on the offensive and attacks the enemy. Methegammah = mother city; is Gath. What was previously used by the enemy to keep them in check, was now used by David to keep the enemy in check....there is an application here....think about it. This long time enemy is finally dealt with.

- Notice, not until after he has established the kingdom, Ark is back in the right place, and he has rest that he then goes on the offensive.
- Just because you have a measure of success and God is evident in your life, it doesn't mean the battles are over. The journey is not over, your Christian walk is really just getting started.

See also 1 Chr 18.

Verse 2 – Took out (some say 2/3 of Moab; or he measured them and took out the tall ones). What David spared or left now served him and brought him gifts.

Dr. Lightfoot says, "He did it in justice, because they had been dangerous enemies to the Israel of God; and in policy, because, if left in their strength, they still would have been so. But observe, though it was necessary that two-thirds should be cut off, yet the line that was to keep alive, though it was but one, is ordered to be a full line. Be sure to give that length enough; let the line of mercy be stretched to the utmost. Now Balaam's prophecy was fulfilled, *A sceptre shall arise out of Israel, and shall smite the corners of Moab*, to the utmost of which the fatal line extended, [Num. 24:17](#). The Moabites continued tributaries to Israel till after the death of Ahab, [2 Ki. 3:4](#), 5. Then they rebelled and were never reduced.

Verse 3 – He spans Hadadezer = help. David is recovering borders...establishing and securing the kingdom.

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:

Verse 4 – Didn't take all of the horses. See Deut 17:16.

Verse 5 – when Syria came to try and help Zobah, David jumped on them.

Verse 6 – He put troops in Syria and caused them to serve him too. They also brought gifts. The Lord kept him wherever he went. Every battle resulting in victory. He put a force over them to watch and control them.

Verse 7 – Took the gold shields and brought them to the city.

Verse 8 – Took a bunch of brass from the other locations. Toi heard about what David did to the others, he took action.

Verse 10 – Toi was thankful that David took care of an old enemy so he brought him silver, gold, brass and blessed him.

In the natural:

- David attacks the former enemies in the area.
- He doesn't wait for them to attack him, he goes on the offensive.
- What used to bother them, doesn't bother them anymore. They are now under control. Those old problems now under control.
- Sets up forts to watch them, these old problems now serve them. They are over and in control over what used to control them.
- He receives security, victory and material which will be dedicated and used to build the temple. The gains from these victories used to benefit the kingdom.
- The fight he chooses are against those enemies and forces that benefit the Kingdom.

Reason for these attacks – getting and claiming all that was originally promised. Control a problem or past problem so it wouldn't bother them again and collect spoils for the future building of the temple. Victory leads to peace and praise.

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.

Verse 11 – David took this and dedicated it to God. He didn't take the glory for himself.

Verse 12 – All the spoil he got from the enemy contributed to this. He got the increase from the enemy. Victory over his problems caused him to have increase.

Verse 13 – David got a name for himself after taking out the Syrians (exalted) who had 18K men. David writes Psalm 60 about this.

Verse 14 – David put troops in Edom and they served him as well. God still preserving him wherever he went. Just a little reminder that it was still God.

- Application – the areas that previously gave them trouble, that used to put guards on them, David has now flipped the script, and those areas that used to bother and control them, they now control and he places a guard to watch them and make sure they don't rise up again.
- NOTE: In our personal Christian journey we have to let God produce the same kinds of victories and guards in our life. What are areas of your life that used to control you that you now need to overcome, defeat, and watch over so that these areas never gain dominion over you again?
- His success against the Edomites. They all became David's servants, v. 14. Now, and not till now, Isaac's blessing was accomplished, by which Jacob was made Esau's Lord ([Gen. 27:37-40](#)) and the Edomites continued long tributary to the kings of Judah, as the Moabites were to the kings of Israel, till, in Joram's time, they revolted ([2 Chr. 21:8](#)) as Isaac had there foretold that Esau should, in process of time, break the yoke from off his neck.

15 And David reigned over all Israel; and David executed judgment and justice unto all his people. 16 And Joab the son of Zeruiah 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.

Verse 15 – David is the king...ruling, executing judgment and justice for the people.

Verse 16 – Joab leader over the army. David had a recorder to help him to remember what business needed to be done. David is establishing the government. This fulfills a promise from God Gen 15:18 and Num 24:17.



Verse 17 – Had priests and a scribe to draw up public orders and recorded judgments.

Verse 18 – Sons were sub-rulers. Benaiah was over the Cherethites = executioners and mercenary bodyguards and the Pelethites = couriers or guardsmen.

Application:

There must be a certain stage in our journey where we need to go on the offensive. Where we get victory over areas that used to control us.

Other areas of my life that I need to clean up or claim victory over. Purity.

What I gain from this will benefit the Kingdom and be used to improve the house where He dwells.

A better House. Remember, they already had a place where God would show up. It was a tent. Not like they didn't have a place to worship or pray or that His presence wasn't there. Just that now h is preparing for something better.

Many Christians live beneath their privilege. There was some stuff promised that belonged to them but wasn't in their possession yet. God didn't just put it in their lap....David had to go after and pursue it. If God promised it to you, it is worth fighting for. If it benefits the Kingdom...then it is worth fighting for.

What is it that you don't have now, that God said should belong to you through His promises that you don't have yet? If you don't have it....why not? What do you think you need to do to get it? Make sure it is a promise from God.

God may say no to something....but will give you the power to do and be successful in that thing that He says you can do. I couldn't do what I wanted to do, but what He is allowing me to do...I'm real good at that.