**2 Samuel 21** (https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+21/)

Peter B. Luh, 7/21, 29, 30/2018

**David Avenges the Gibeonites**

21 Now

there was a famine in the days of David for three years,

year after year.

And

David sought the face of the Lord.

And

the Lord said,

“There is bloodguilt on Saul

and

on his house,

because he put the Gibeonites to death.” (Not recorded elsewhere in the Bible)

2 So the king called the Gibeonites

and

spoke to them.

Now

the Gibeonites were not of the people of Israel

but

of the remnant of the Amorites.

Although the people of Israel had sworn to spare them (Joshua 9),

Saul had sought to strike them down in his zeal for the people of Israel

and

Judah.   
3 And

David said to the Gibeonites,

“What shall I do for you?

And

how shall I make atonement,

that you may bless the heritage of the Lord?”

4 The Gibeonites said to him,

“It is not a matter of silver

or

gold between us

and

Saul

or

his house;

neither

is it for us to put any man to death in Israel.”

And

he said,

“What do you say

that I shall do for you?”

5 They said to the king,

“ The man

who consumed us

and

planned to destroy us,

so that we should have no place in all the territory of Israel,

6 let seven of his sons be given to us,

so that we may hang them before the Lord at Gibeah of Saul,

the chosen of the Lord.”

And

the king said,

“I will give them.”

7 But

the king spared Mephibosheth,

the son of Saul's son Jonathan,

because of the oath of the Lord

that was between them,

between David

and

Jonathan the son of Saul.

8 The king took the two sons of Rizpah the daughter of Aiah,

whom she bore to Saul,

Armoni

and

Mephibosheth;

and

the five sons of Merab the daughter of Saul,

whom she bore to Adriel

the son of Barzillai

the Meholathite;

9 and

he gave them into the hands of the Gibeonites,

and

they hanged them on the mountain before the Lord,

and

the seven of them perished together.

They were put to death in the first days of harvest,

at the beginning of barley harvest.

10 Then Rizpah

the daughter of Aiah

took sackcloth

and

spread it for herself on the rock,

from the beginning of harvest

until rain fell upon them from the heavens.

And

she did not allow the birds of the air

to come upon them by day,

or

the beasts of the field by night.

11 When David was told

what Rizpah the daughter of Aiah,

the concubine of Saul,

had done,

12 David went

and

took the bones of Saul

and

the bones of his son Jonathan from the men of Jabesh-gilead,

who had stolen them from the public square of Beth-shan,

where the Philistines had hanged them,

on the day the Philistines killed Saul on Gilboa.

13 And

he brought up from there the bones of Saul

and

the bones of his son Jonathan;

and

they gathered the bones of those

who were hanged.

14 And

they buried the bones of Saul

and

his son Jonathan in the land of Benjamin in Zela,

in the tomb of Kish his father.

And

they did all

that the king commanded.

And after that

God responded to the plea for the land.

**War with the Philistines**

15 There was war again between the Philistines

and

Israel,

and

David went down together with his servants,

and

they fought against the Philistines.

And

David grew weary.

16 And

Ishbi-benob,

one of the descendants of the giants,

whose spear weighed three hundred shekels of bronze,

and

who was armed with a new sword,

thought to kill David.

17 But

Abishai the son of Zeruiah

came to his aid

and

attacked the Philistine

and

killed him.

Then David's men swore to him,

“You shall no longer go out with us to battle,

lest you quench the lamp of Israel.”

18 After this

there was again war with the Philistines at Gob.

Then Sibbecait the Hushathite struck down Saph,

who was one of the descendants of the giants.

19 And

there was again war with the Philistines at Gob,

and

Elhanan

the son of Jaare-oregim, the Bethlehemite,

struck down Goliath the Gittite,

the shaft of whose spear was like a weaver's beam.

20 And

there was again war at Gath,

where there was a man of great stature,

who had six fingers on each hand,

and

six toes on each foot,

twenty-four in number,

and

he also was descended from the giants.

21 And

when he taunted Israel,

Jonathan the son of Shimei,

David's brother,

struck him down.

22 These four were descended from the giants in Gath,

and

they fell by the hand of David

and

by the hand of his servants.