

1 Chronicles 11 - David is Anointed King; David Captures Jerusalem; David's Mighty Men

II. David prepares to build the temple (1 Chr 10:1—29:30)

(2) David's Ascension (1 Chr 11:1—12:40)

(A) David coronated at Hebron (11:1-3)

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(a) Exploits (11:10-25)

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1 Chronicles 11

(2) David's Ascension (1 Chr 11:1—12:40)

(A) David coronated at Hebron (11:1-3) (Cf. 2 Sam 5:1-5)

1 Then all Israel gathered to David at Hebron and said, "Behold, we are your bone and your flesh.

1 Then all Israel gathered to David at Hebron and said, "Behold, we are your bone and your flesh.

1 Later on, all of Israel gathered together at Hebron in order to tell David, "Look, we're your own flesh and blood!

1 Then all Israel gathered themselves to David unto Hebron, saying, Behold, we are thy bone and thy flesh.

- David's eventual coronation was inevitable because God had chosen him as king long before Saul died

- The Chronicler began his history of David with his coronation over all Israel (all 12 tribes, Cf. 2 Sam 5:1-5)

2 In times past, even when Saul was king, you *were* the one who led out and brought in Israel; and the LORD your God said to you, 'You shall shepherd My people Israel, and you shall be leader over My people Israel.'

2 In times past, even when Saul was king, you *were* the one who led out and brought in Israel; and the LORD your God said to you, 'You shall shepherd My people Israel, and you shall be prince over My people Israel.'

2 Even back when Saul was ruling as king, you kept on leading the army of Israel out to battle and bringing them in again. The LORD your God told you, 'You yourself will shepherd my people Israel and will be Commander-in-Chief over my people Israel.'"

2 And moreover in time past, even when Saul was king, thou wast he that leddest out and broughtest in Israel: and the LORD thy God said unto thee, Thou shalt feed my people Israel, and thou shalt be ruler over my people Israel.

- In 2 Sam 5:5 we were told that for seven-and-a-half years David reigned over the two tribes in the south, Judah and Benjamin, and his capital was Hebron

— That is all passed over in Chronicles because God looks at Israel as one nation of 12 tribes. From God's perspective, David really became king when he became the king over all of Israel and all 12 of the tribes of Israel accepted him, and said, "We are thy bone and thy flesh."

— The Chronicler also did not refer to any factors (such as Abner's machinations, 2 Sam 2:8-32) that might tend to over-emphasize the human element, giving Saul's family a hand in David's success.

— The narration opens, then, with an appeal to David by the men of Israel that he be their ruler. They recognized that his kingship was a matter of divine appointment.

3 So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and David made a covenant with them in Hebron before the LORD; and they anointed David king over Israel, in accordance with the word of the LORD through Samuel.

3 So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and David made a covenant with them in Hebron before the LORD; and they anointed David king over Israel, according to the word of the LORD through Samuel.

3 So all the elders of Israel approached the king at Hebron, where David entered into a covenant in the presence of the LORD. Then they anointed David to be king over Israel, just as the LORD had sent word through Samuel.

3 Therefore came all the elders of Israel to the king to Hebron; and David made a covenant with them in Hebron before the LORD; and they anointed David king over Israel, according to the word of the LORD by Samuel.

- David responded by making a covenant in which he pledged his loyalty to the requirements of the Law of Moses for human kingship (Cf. Deut 17:14-20)

(B) David conquers Jerusalem (11:4-9) (Cf. 2 Sam 5:6-10)

4 Then David and all Israel went to Jerusalem (that is, Jebus); and the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land, were there.

4 Then David and all Israel went to Jerusalem (that is, Jebus); and the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land, were there.

4 Later, David and all of Israel marched to Jerusalem (then known as Jebus, where the Jebusites lived when they inhabited the land).

4 And David and all Israel went to Jerusalem, which is Jebus; where the Jebusites were, the inhabitants of the land.

5 The inhabitants of Jebus said to David, "You shall not enter here." Nevertheless David took the mountain stronghold of Zion (that is, the city of David).

5 The inhabitants of Jebus said to David, "You shall not enter here." Nevertheless David captured the stronghold of Zion (that is, the city of David).

5 The inhabitants of Jebus told David, "You're not coming in here!" Nevertheless, David captured the fortress of Zion, now known as the City of David.

5 And the inhabitants of Jebus said to David, Thou shalt not come hither. Nevertheless David took the castle of Zion, which is the city of David.

6 Now David had said, "Whoever is first to kill a Jebusite shall be chief and commander." Joab the son of Zeruiah went up first, so he became chief.

6 Now David had said, "Whoever strikes down a Jebusite first shall be chief and commander." Joab the son of Zeruiah went up first, so he became chief.

6 David had announced, "Whoever first attacks the Jebusites will be appointed chief and commander." When Zeruiah's son Joab went up first, he became chief.

6 And David said, Whosoever smiteth the Jebusites first shall be chief and captain. So Joab the son of Zeruiah went first up, and was chief.

- Joab breached the walls of the Jebusite fortress, possibly by locating the water tunnel and gaining entrance thereby (Cf. 2 Sam 5:8)

— Joab is singled out as the hero, a point not made in 2 Samuel. This assured Joab the position of commander-in-chief

7 Then David lived in the stronghold; therefore it was called the city of David.

7 Then David dwelt in the stronghold; therefore it was called the city of David.

7 David occupied the fortress, so it was named the City of David after him.

7 And David dwelt in the castle; therefore they called it the city of David.

- David next marched to Jerusalem (Jebus; Cf. Joshua 18:16,28; Judges 19:10-11), centrally and neutrally located between Israel and Judah, which he proceeded to conquer and occupy

- The fortress of Zion was evidently a hill overlooking the Jebusite city which David added to the original settlement

— He himself took up residence on Zion and extended the whole city north to the terraces, encompassing the entirety with walls

— This was called the City of David (Cf. 2 Sam 5:7,9; 6:12; 1 Kings 2:10). The supporting terraces (v8) is literally "the Millo." This Hebrew word means "landfill" so this may have been the area between the two hills (Jebus and Zion) which was filled in to level the whole city.

8 He built the city all around, from the Millo to the surrounding area; and Joab repaired the rest of the city.

8 He built the city all around, from the Millo even to the surrounding area; and Joab repaired the rest of the city.

8 He built up the walls surrounding the city in a complete circle from the terrace ramparts, and Joab repaired the rest of the city.

8 And he built the city round about, even from Millo round about: and Joab repaired the rest of the city.

9 And David became greater and greater, for the LORD of armies *was* with him.

9 David became greater and greater, for the LORD of hosts *was* with him.

9 David became more and more prestigious because the LORD of the Heavenly Armies *was* with him.

9 So David waxed greater and greater: for the LORD of hosts *was* with him.

(C) Exploits of David's mighty men (11:10-47) (Cf. 2 Sam 23:8-17)

(a) Exploits (11:10-25)

10 Now these are the heads of the mighty men whom David had, who remained faithful to him in his kingdom, together with all Israel, to make him king, in accordance with the word of the LORD concerning Israel.

10 Now these are the heads of the mighty men whom David had, who gave him strong support in his kingdom, together with all Israel, to make him king, according to the word of the LORD concerning Israel.

10 These are the leaders of the elite warriors who were strong supporters of David in his kingdom, along with all of Israel, in keeping with the message from the LORD concerning Israel.

10 These also are the chief of the mighty men whom David had, who strengthened themselves with him in his kingdom, and with all Israel, to make him king, according to the word of the LORD concerning Israel.

- The rest of David's mighty men: Joab and three others—Jashobeam, Eleazar (v11-12), and Shammah (2 Sam 23:11)—comprised the David's "inner circle"

11 These *constitute* the list of David's mighty men: Jashobeam, the son of a Hachmonite, the chief of the thirty; he wielded his spear against **three hundred** whom he killed at one time.

11 These *constitute* the list of the mighty men whom David had: Jashobeam, the son of a Hachmonite, the chief of the thirty; he lifted up his spear against three hundred whom he killed at one time.

11 This record of the warriors who were for David included Hachmoni's son Jashobeam, leader of the platoons, who killed 300 with his spear in a single encounter.

11 And this is the number of the mighty men whom David had; Jashobeam, an Hachmonite, the chief of the captains: he lifted up his spear against three hundred slain by him at one time.

- "...three hundred" - 2 Sam 23:8 states 800; the number in 2 Sam is apparently correct, and 300 is a scribal error

12 After him was Eleazar the son of Dodo, the Ahohite, who *was* one of the three mighty men.

12 After him was Eleazar the son of Dodo, the Ahohite, who *was* one of the three mighty men.

12 Next to him among the Three Warriors was Dodo the Ahohite's son Eleazar.

12 And after him was Eleazar the son of Dodo, the Ahohite, who was one of the three mighties.

13 He was with David at Pas-dammim when the Philistines were gathered together there to battle, and there was a plot of land full of barley; and the people fled from the Philistines.

13 He was with David at Pasdammim when the Philistines were gathered together there to battle, and there was a plot of ground full of barley; and the people fled before the Philistines.

13 He was with David at Pas-dammim when the Philistines were there to engage them in battle. There was a field planted with barley, and the army had run away from the Philistines,

13 He was with David at Pas-dammim, and there the Philistines were gathered together to battle, where was a parcel of ground full of barley; and the people fled from before the Philistines.

14 But they took their stand in the midst of the plot and defended it, and defeated the Philistines; and the LORD saved them with a great victory.

14 They took their stand in the midst of the plot and defended it, and struck down the Philistines; and the LORD saved them by a great victory.

14 but they took a defensive stand in the middle of the field and killed the Philistines while the LORD saved them by means of a great victory.

14 And they set themselves in the midst of that parcel, and delivered it, and slew the Philistines; and the LORD saved them by a great deliverance.

15 Now three of the thirty chief men went down to the rock to David, into the cave of Adullam, while the army of the Philistines was camping in the Valley of Rephaim.

15 Now three of the thirty chief men went down to the rock to David, into the cave of Adullam, while the army of the Philistines was camping in the valley of Rephaim.

15 Later, the Three Warriors went down to David's hideout at the cave of Adullam when the Philistine army was camping in the valley of giants.

15 Now three of the thirty captains went down to the rock to David, into the cave of Adullam; and the host of the Philistines encamped in the valley of Rephaim.

- This is not the "1st three"...

16 David was then in the stronghold, while the garrison of the Philistines was then in Bethlehem.

16 David was then in the stronghold, while the garrison of the Philistines was then in Bethlehem.

16 David was living in that stronghold at the time, while a Philistine garrison was then at Bethlehem.

16 And David was then in the hold, and the Philistines' garrison was then at Bethlehem.

17 And David had a craving and said, "Oh that someone would give me water to drink from the well of Bethlehem, which is by the gate!"

17 David had a craving and said, "Oh that someone would give me water to drink from the well of Bethlehem, which is by the gate!"

17 David expressed a longing, "Oh, how I wish someone would get me a drink of water from the Bethlehem well that's by the city gate!"

17 And David longed, and said, Oh that one would give me drink of the water of the well of Bethlehem, that is at the gate!

18 So the three broke through the camp of the Philistines and drew water from the well of Bethlehem which was by the gate, and took *it* and brought *it* to David; however, David would not drink it, but poured it out to the LORD;

18 So the three broke through the camp of the Philistines and drew water from the well of Bethlehem which was by the gate, and took *it* and brought *it* to David; nevertheless David would not drink it, but poured it out to the LORD;

18 So the Three Warriors broke through the Philistine ranks, drew some water from the Bethlehem well that was next to the city gate, and brought it back to David. But David refused to drink it, poured it out in the LORD's presence, and

18 And the three brake through the host of the Philistines, and drew water out of the well of Bethlehem, that was by the gate, and took it, and brought it to David: but David would not drink of it, but poured it out to the LORD,

- This event, paralleled in 2 Sam 23:13-17, may have occurred at the time of David's first encounter with the Philistines (2 Sam 5:17-21), after his capture of Jerusalem

19 and he said, "Far be it from me before my God that I would do this. Shall I drink the blood of these men *who went* at the risk of their lives? For they brought it at the risk of their lives." Therefore he would not drink it. The three mighty men did these things.

19 and he said, "Be it far from me before my God that I should do this. Shall I drink the blood of these men *who went* at the risk of their lives? For at the risk of their lives they brought it." Therefore he would not drink it. These things the three mighty men did.

19 said in response, "May God forbid me to do this! I won't drink the blood of these men, will I? After all, they risked their lives to bring it to me." That's why he wouldn't drink it. The Three Warriors did these things.

19 And said, My God forbid it me, that I should do this thing: shall I drink the blood of these men that have put their lives in jeopardy? for with the jeopardy of their lives they brought it. Therefore he would not drink it. These things did these three mightiest.

David was a leader who had won the confidence and support of the strongest men in Israel as well as Judah. The episode in v15-19 shows why men such as these pledged their loyalty to David: he showed unusual sensitivity to the dangers his men faced.

David's Other Valiant Soldiers (Cf. 2 Sam 23:18-39)

20 As for Abshai the brother of Joab, he was chief of the thirty, and he wielded his spear against three hundred and killed them; and he had a name as well as the thirty.

20 As for Abshai the brother of Joab, he was chief of the thirty, and he swung his spear against three hundred and killed them; and he had a name as well as the thirty.

20 Joab's brother Abishai was the lieutenant in charge of the platoons. He used his spear to fight and kill 300 men, gaining a reputation distinct from the Three.

20 And Abishai the brother of Joab, he was chief of the three: for lifting up his spear against three hundred, he slew them, and had a name among the three.

21 Of the three in the second *rank* he was the most honored, and he became their commander; however, he did not attain *the reputation* of the *first* three.

21 Of the three in the second *rank* he was the most honored and became their commander; however, he did not attain to the *first* three.

21 He was more well-known than the Three, but he never attained the stature of the Three.

21 Of the three, he was more honourable than the two; for he was their captain: howbeit he attained not to the first three.

- Because of his courage in slaying 300 of the enemy, Abishai was counted as head of this second group of three. Yet he was not promoted to the level of the first three.

22 Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, the son of a warrior of Kabzeel, mighty in deeds, struck and killed the two *sons of Ariel* of Moab. He also went down and struck and killed a lion inside a pit on a snowy day.

22 Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, the son of a valiant man of Kabzeel, mighty in deeds, struck down the two *sons of Ariel* of Moab. He also went down and killed a lion inside a pit on a snowy day.

22 Jehoiada's son Benaiah, who was a valiant man, accomplished great things. He was from Kabzeel. He killed two men named Ariel from Moab and then he also went down into a pit and struck down a lion during a snow storm one day.

22 Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, the son of a valiant man of Kabzeel, who had done many acts; he slew two lionlike men of Moab: also he went down and slew a lion in a pit in a snowy day.

- Benaiah became known because of his slaughter of the two mighty Moabites, a lion in a pit, and an Egyptian who was seven-and-a-half feet tall (v23)

— For his bravery, Benaiah was put in charge of David's bodyguard. Later, Solomon advanced him to Joab's place as commander-in-chief (Cf. 1 Kings 2:35).

23 And he killed an Egyptian, a man of *great* stature five cubits tall. Now in the Egyptian's hand *was* a spear like a weaver's beam, but he went down to him with a club and snatched the spear from the Egyptian's hand and killed him with his own spear.

23 He killed an Egyptian, a man of *great* stature five cubits tall. Now in the Egyptian's hand *was* a spear like a weaver's beam, but he went down to him with a club and snatched the spear from the Egyptian's hand and killed him with his own spear.

23 He also killed a soldier from Egypt of enormous height—five cubits tall. The Egyptian carried a spear comparable in size to a weaver's beam, but Benaiah attacked him with a staff, snatched the spear out of the Egyptian's hand and killed him with his own spear.

23 And he slew an Egyptian, a man of great stature, five cubits high; and in the Egyptian's hand *was* a spear like a weaver's beam; and he went down to him with a staff, and plucked the spear out of the Egyptian's hand, and slew him with his own spear.

24 Benaiah the son of Jehoiada did these things, and had a name as well as the three mighty men.

24 These *things* Benaiah the son of Jehoiada did, and had a name as well as the three mighty men.

24 Benaiah did things like this and gained a reputation comparable to the Three Warriors.

24 These things did Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and had the name among the three mighties.

25 Behold, he was honored among the thirty, but he did not attain *the reputation* of the *first* three; and David appointed him over his bodyguard.

25 Behold, he was honored among the thirty, but he did not attain to the three; and David appointed him over his guard.

25 He was well known among the platoons, but he didn't measure up to the Three Warriors. David placed him in charge of his security detail.

25 Behold, he was honourable among the thirty, but attained not to the first three: and David set him over his guard.

(b) Names (11:26-47)

26 Now the mighty men of the armies *were* Asahel the brother of Joab, Elhanan the son of Dodo of Bethlehem,

26 Now the mighty men of the armies *were* Asahel the brother of Joab, Elhanan the son of Dodo of Bethlehem,

26 The elite forces included Asahel (Joab's brother), Dodo's son Elhanan from Bethlehem,

26 Also the valiant men of the armies *were*, Asahel the brother of Joab, Elhanan the son of Dodo of Bethlehem,

27 Shammoth the Harorite, Helez the Pelonite,

27 Shammoth the Harorite, Helez the Pelonite,

27 Shammoth from Haror, Helez the Pelonite,

27 Shammoth the Harorite, Helez the Pelonite,

28 Ira the son of Ikkesh the Tekoite, Abiezer the Anathothite,

28 Ira the son of Ikkesh the Tekoite, Abiezer the Anathothite,

28 Ikkesh's son Ira from Tekoa, Abiezer from Anathoth,

28 Ira the son of Ikkesh the Tekoite, Abiezer the Antothite,

- The list of remaining heroes is nearly identical to the list in 2 Sam 23:24-39 except for spelling variations and other minor differences

29 Sibbecai the Hushathite, Ilai the Ahohite,
29 Sibbecai the Hushathite, Ilai the Ahohite,
29 Sibbecai the Hushathite, Ilai the Ahohite,
29 Sibbecai the Hushathite, Ilai the Ahohite,

30 Maharai the Netophathite, Heled the son of Baanah the Netophathite,
30 Maharai the Netophathite, Heled the son of Baanah the Netophathite,
30 Maharai from Netophah, Baanah's son Heled from Netophah,
30 Maharai the Netophathite, Heled the son of Baanah the Netophathite,

31 Ithai the son of Ribai of Gibeah of the sons of Benjamin, Benaiah the Pirathonite,
31 Ithai the son of Ribai of Gibeah of the sons of Benjamin, Benaiah the Pirathonite,
31 Ribai's son Ithai from Gibeah, controlled by the descendants of Benjamin, Benaiah of
Pirathon,
31 Ithai the son of Ribai of Gibeah, that pertained to the children of Benjamin, Benaiah the
Pirathonite,

32 Hurai of the brooks of Gaash, Abiel the Arbathite,
32 Hurai of the brooks of Gaash, Abiel the Arbathite,
32 Hurai from the wadis of Gaash, Abiel the Arbathite,
32 Hurai of the brooks of Gaash, Abiel the Arbathite,

33 Azmaveth the Baharumite, Eliahba the Shaalbonite,
33 Azmaveth the Baharumite, Eliahba the Shaalbonite,
33 Azmaveth from Baharum, Eliahba from Shaalbon,
33 Azmaveth the Baharumite, Eliahba the Shaalbonite,

34 the sons of Hashem the Gizonite, Jonathan the son of Shagee the Hararite,
34 the sons of Hashem the Gizonite, Jonathan the son of Shagee the Hararite,
34 Hashem the Gizonite, Shagee the Hararite's son Jonathan,
34 The sons of Hashem the Gizonite, Jonathan the son of Shagee the Hararite,

35 Ahiam the son of Sacar the Hararite, Eliphai the son of Ur,
35 Ahiam the son of Sacar the Hararite, Eliphai the son of Ur,
35 Sachar the Hararite's son Ahiam, Ur's son Eliphai,
35 Ahiam the son of Sacar the Hararite, Eliphai the son of Ur,

36 Hopher the Mecherathite, Ahijah the Pelonite,

36 Hephher the Mecherathite, Ahijah the Pelonite,
36 Hephher the Mecherathite, Ahijah the Pelonite,
36 Hephher the Mecherathite, Ahijah the Pelonite,

37 Hezro the Carmelite, Naarai the son of Ezbai,
37 Hezro the Carmelite, Naarai the son of Ezbai,
37 Hezro from Carmel, Ezbai's son Naarai,
37 Hezro the Carmelite, Naarai the son of Ezbai,

38 Joel the brother of Nathan, Mibhar the son of Hagri,
38 Joel the brother of Nathan, Mibhar the son of Hagri,
38 Joel (Nathan's brother), Hagri's son Mibhar,
38 Joel the brother of Nathan, Mibhar the son of Haggeri,

39 Zelek the Ammonite, Naharai the Berothite, the armor bearer of Joab the son of Zeruiah,
39 Zelek the Ammonite, Naharai the Berothite, the armor bearer of Joab the son of Zeruiah,
39 Zelek the Ammonite, Naharai from Beeroth, who was the armor-bearer for Zeruiah's son Joab,
39 Zelek the Ammonite, Naharai the Berothite, the armourbearer of Joab the son of Zeruiah,

40 Ira the Ithrite, Gareb the Ithrite,
40 Ira the Ithrite, Gareb the Ithrite,
40 Ira the Ithrite, Gareb the Ithrite,
40 Ira the Ithrite, Gareb the Ithrite,

41 Uriah the Hittite, Zabad the son of Ahlai,
41 Uriah the Hittite, Zabad the son of Ahlai,
41 Uriah the Hittite, Ahlai's son Zabad,
41 Uriah the Hittite, Zabad the son of Ahlai,

42 Adina the son of Shiza the Reubenite, a chief of the Reubenites, and thirty with him,
42 Adina the son of Shiza the Reubenite, a chief of the Reubenites, and thirty with him,
42 Shiza the Reubenite's son Adina, a leader of the descendants of Reuben, along with thirty others with him,
42 Adina the son of Shiza the Reubenite, a captain of the Reubenites, and thirty with him,

43 Hanan the son of Maacah and Joshaphat the Mithnite,
43 Hanan the son of Maacah and Joshaphat the Mithnite,
43 Maacah's son Hanan, Joshaphat the Mithnite,
43 Hanan the son of Maachah, and Joshaphat the Mithnite,

44 Uzzia the Ashterathite, Shama and Jeiel the sons of Hotham the Aroerite,
44 Uzzia the Ashterathite, Shama and Jeiel the sons of Hotham the Aroerite,
44 Uzzia the Ashterathite, Hotham the Aroerite's sons Shama and Jeiel,
44 Uzzia the Ashterathite, Shama and Jehiel the sons of Hothan the Aroerite,
- The Chronicles list includes 16 names after Uriah the Hittite which are not mentioned in 2 Samuel:
— If the five named members of the two groups of three (1 Chr 11:10-14 and v15-25) are not counted, the Chronicles list (1 Chr 11:26-41a) has 30 heroes from Asahel (v26) through Uriah the Hittite (v41a), not counting the sons of Hashem (v34)
— The extra 16 after Uriah, then, are an addendum to the original list

45 Jediael the son of Shimri and his brother Joha the Tizite,
45 Jediael the son of Shimri and Joha his brother, the Tizite,
45 Shimri's son Jediael and his brother Joha the Tizite,
45 Jediael the son of Shimri, and Joha his brother, the Tizite,

46 Eliel the Mahavite, and Jeribai and Joshaviah, the sons of Elnaam, Ithmah the Moabite,
46 Eliel the Mahavite and Jeribai and Joshaviah, the sons of Elnaam, and Ithmah the Moabite,
46 Eliel the Mahavite, Elnaam's sons Jeribai and Joshaviah, Ithmah the Moabite,
46 Eliel the Mahavite, and Jeribai, and Joshaviah, the sons of Elnaam, and Ithmah the Moabite,

47 Eliel, Obed, and Jaasiel the Mezobaite.
47 Eliel and Obed and Jaasiel the Mezobaite.
47 Eliel, Obed, and Jaasiel the Mezobaite.
47 Eliel, and Obed, and Jasiel the Mesobaite.