“Therefore all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the Lord. And they anointed David king over Israel. David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years.” (2 Samuel 5:3–4)
Outline Of Second Samuel

Part One: The Triumphs of David (1:1–10:19)

I. The Political Triumphs of David ................................................................. 1:1–5:25
   A. The Reign of David in Hebron over Judah ........................................... 1:1–4:12
   B. The Reign of David in Jerusalem .......................................................... 5:1–25

II. The Spiritual Triumphs of David ................................................................. 6:1–7:29
   A. The Transportation of the Ark ............................................................... 6:1–23
   B. The Institution of the Davidic Covenant ................................................. 7:1–29

III. The Military Triumphs of David .............................................................. 8:1–10:19
   A. The Triumphs of David over His Enemies .......................................... 8:1–12
   B. The Righteous Rule of David ................................................................. 8:13–9:13
   C. The Triumphs of David over Ammon and Syria .................................. 10:1–19

Part Two: The Transgressions of David (11:1–27)

I. The Sin of Adultery ...................................................................................... 11:1–5

II. The Sin of Murder ...................................................................................... 11:6–27
   A. Uriah Does Not Sleep with Bathsheba ............................................... 11:6–13
   B. David Commands Uriah’s Murder ....................................................... 11:14–25
   C. David and Bathsheba Marry ................................................................. 11:26, 27


I. The Troubles in David’s House ................................................................. 12:1–13:36
   A. Prophecy by Nathan ............................................................................ 12:1–14
   B. David’s Son Dies .................................................................................. 12:15–25
   C. Joab’s Loyalty to David ....................................................................... 12:26–31
   D. Incest in David’s House ....................................................................... 13:1–20
   E. Amnon Is Murdered .............................................................................. 13:21–36

II. The Troubles in David’s Kingdom ............................................................ 13:37–24:25
   A. Rebellion of Absalom ........................................................................... 13:37–17:29
   B. Absalom’s Murder ................................................................................ 18:1–33
   C. David Is Restored as King ................................................................... 19:1–20:26

(The above outline is from Nelson’s Complete Book of Bible Maps & Charts, 105)
Part One: The Triumphs of David (1:1–10:19)

I. The Political Triumphs of David (1:1–5:25)

A. The Reign of David in Hebron over Judah (1:1–4:12)

1. What did the man from Saul’s camp tell David?

2. What had king Saul requested of this man?

3. Why did king David kill this messenger?

4. Summarize the key elements of *The Song of the Bow*.

5. Why did David go to the city of Hebron?

6. What did Abner do to Ishbosheth, the son of Saul?

7. What happened at the Field of Sharp Swords in Gibeon?

8. What did Abner want Joab to do?
9. What happened to David’s family while in Hebron?

10. What covenant did Abner make with David?

11. Why did Joab murder Abner?

12. Why did David mourn for Abner?

13. Why was Ishbosheth murdered? Was David pleased?


1. How was David anointed king over all Israel?

2. How did David take the city of Jerusalem?

3. What did Hiram, king of Tyre, send to David?

4. How did the Philistines react to the news that David was now the king of Israel?
II. The Spiritual Triumphs of David (6:1–7:29)

A. The Transportation of the Ark (6:1–23)

1. Why did David go to Baale Judah (Kirjath Jearim)?

2. What happened at Nachon’s threshing floor?

3. Why was Michal so upset with David?

B. The Institution of the Davidic Covenant (7:1–29)

1. What did Nathan give David permission to do?

2. What did the Lord tell Nathan?

3. What covenant did God make with David?

4. How did David respond to this covenant?
III. The Military Triumphs of David (8:1–10:19)

A. The Triumphs of David over His Enemies (8:1–12)

1. Describe David’s conquest of Moab.

2. What did David do to the Syrians?

3. What did David do with the gold and silver he acquired?

B. The Righteous Rule of David (8:13–9:13)

1. Who were the main people in David’s administration?

2. What kindness did David show to Mephibosheth?

C. The Triumphs of David over Ammon and Syria (10:1–19)

1. Why did David want to show kindness to Hanun, the son of Nahash?

2. What bad advice did the princes of Ammon give to Hanun?

3. What happened to the Syrians?
Part Two: Transgressions of David (11:1–27)

I. The Sin of Adultery (11:1–5)

1. What led up to the sin that David committed with Bathsheba?

2. What lessons can you learn from David’s sin?

II. The Sin of Murder (11:6–27)

A. Uriah Does Not Sleep with Bathsheba (11:6–13)

1. In what ways did David try to deceive Uriah the Hittite?

2. What can we learn about the character of Uriah?

B. David Commands Uriah’s Murder (11:14–25)

1. How did Uriah die?

2. How many of the Ten Commandments did David break?
C. David and Bathsheba Marry (11:26, 27)

1. What happened when Bathsheba finished mourning for her husband?

2. Does it appear that David and Bathsheba will get away with their sin?


I. The Troubles in David’s House (12:1–13:36)

A. Prophecy by Nathan (12:1–14)

1. What story did Nathan the prophet tell David?

2. How did David react to the story?

B. David’s Son Dies (12:15–25)

1. How was David punished for his sin?

2. What can we learn from the death of David’s son?
C. Joab’s Loyalty to David (12:26–31)

1. What did Joab do to the people of Ammon?

2. What great gift was given to David from the spoils of the city?

D. Incest in David’s House (13:1–20)

1. What terrible sin did Amnon commit against Tamar?

2. Why did Amnon then hate Tamar?

3. What advice did Absalom give Tamar?

E. Amnon Is Murdered (13:21–36)

1. How did David react to this event?

2. How did Absalom settle the matter with Amnon?
II. The Troubles in David’s Kingdom (13:37–24:25)

A. Rebellion of Absalom (13:37–17:29)

1. Why did David mourn every day?

2. What story did the woman from Tekoa tell David?

3. What was the moral of this story? How did it apply to David?

4. Describe the appearance of Absalom.

5. How did Absalom convince Joab to visit him?

6. Describe the beginning of Absalom’s treason against David.

7. Why did David have to flee from Jerusalem?

8. What instructions did David give to Zadok?

9. What did Ziba, the servant of Mephibosheth, give David?
10. What did Shimei have to say about David?

11. What advice did Ahithophel give to Absalom?

12. What advice did Hushai the Archite give to Absalom?

13. Where did Jonathan and Ahimaaz have to hide?

B. Absalom's Murder (18:1–33)

1. What did the people prevent David from doing?

2. How did Absalom die?

3. How did David react to the news of Absalom’s death?

C. David Is Restored as King (19:1–20:26)

1. What good advice did Joab give to David?

2. Describe the return of David to Jerusalem.
3. How did David show mercy to Shimei?

4. Describe the meeting between David and Mephibosheth.

5. How did David bless Barzillai the Gileadite?

6. Describe the rebellion of Sheba.

7. Describe the death of Amasa.

8. Describe the events that led up to the death of Sheba.


1. What was the cause of the famine in Israel?

2. What did the Gibeonites request of David?

3. What happened to the bones of Saul and Jonathan?
4. What happened to the Philistine giants?

5. Summarize the song that David sang on the day when the Lord had “delivered him from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul.”

6. Summarize the last words of David.

7. Why are the names of David’s mighty men listed?

8. Why did David pour out the water that was given to him?

9. Why was God angry with David?

10. How long did it take to gather the census?

11. How was David judged for his sin?

12. Describe the generosity of Araunah the Jebusite.
The Life of David

1. David, youngest son of Jesse, was born in Bethlehem and tended his father's sheep there. (1 Sam. 17:12, 15).

2. David was a harpist in King Saul's court at the capital city of Gibeah. (1 Sam. 16:23).

3. David, who served as a soldier in Saul's army, killed Goliath in the Valley of Elah (1 Sam. 17:19, 45–50).

4. Saul became angry at David, even though he was a friend of Saul's son Jonathan. David hid in Nob, Gath, Keilah, and other places (1 Sam. 19–23).

5. David became king of Judah, with his capital at Hebron (2 Sam. 2:1–4).

6. Among David's conquests were Edom, Moab, the Ammonites, the Amalekites, and the Philistines (2 Sam. 8:11, 12).

7. As king of all Israel, David reigned at Jerusalem (2 Sam. 5:1–5).
