

The Early Prophets - One Book, One Theme - class # 25

What makes King David better than Shaul - & what makes his Kingdom 'eternal'!

Source sheet for TIM shiur by Menachem Leibtag/

I. Introduction to the next set of the units

How & Why they focus on David

Chapters 17->31 – The rise of David & the fall of Shaul

written by the Prophet Gad, seeing the Hand of God behind the events

II Shmuel chapters 1 thru 4 – The King of Yehuda, & the fall of "beit Shaul"

A continuation of the previous section, also by the Prophet Gad

II Shmuel chapters 5 thru 8 – David's Kingdom over all of Israel

Focus on David's efforts to unify the country and build the Temple

This section appears to be composed by the Prophet Natan!

II. The transition in Shmuel bet chapter 5

Conclusion of Chapter 4

ח וַיָּבִיאוּ אֶת-רֹאשׁ אִישׁ-בְּשֵׁת אֶל-דָּוִד, חֶבְרוֹן,
וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, הִנֵּה-רֹאשׁ אִישׁ-בְּשֵׁת בֶּן-
שָׁאוּל אֲיָבֵד אֲשֶׁר בִּקֵּשׁ אֶת-נַפְשִׁי; וַיִּתֵּן יְהוָה
לְאֲדֹנָי הַמֶּלֶךְ נַקְמוֹת, הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה, מִשָּׁאוּל,
וּמִזְרַעוֹ.

8 And they brought the head of Ish-bosheth unto David to Hebron, and said to the king: 'Behold the head of Ish-bosheth the son of Saul thine enemy, who sought thy life; and the LORD hath avenged my lord the king this day of Saul, and of his seed.'

ט וַיַּעַן דָּוִד אֶת-רֶכָב וְאֶת-בַּעְנָה אָחִיו, בְּנֵי רִמּוֹן
הַבְּאֵרְתִּי--וַיֹּאמֶר לָהֶם: חַי-יְהוָה, אֲשֶׁר-פָּדָה
אֶת-נַפְשִׁי מִכָּל-צָרָה.

9 And David answered Rechab and Baanah his brother, the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, and said unto them: 'As the LORD liveth, who hath redeemed my soul out of all adversity,

י כִּי הַמְּגִיד לִי לֵאמֹר הִנֵּה-מֵת שָׁאוּל, וְהוּא-הָיָה
כְּמַבְשֵׁר בְּעֵינָיו, וְאַחֲזָה בּוֹ, וְאַהֲרִגְהוּ בְּצִקְלָג--
אֲשֶׁר לְתַתִּי-לוֹ, בְּשָׂרָה.

10 when one told me, saying: Behold, Saul is dead, and he was in his own eyes as though he brought good tidings, I took hold of him, and slew him in Ziklag, instead of giving a reward for his tidings.

יא אַף כִּי-אֲנָשִׁים רָשָׁעִים, הָרְגוּ אֶת-אִישׁ-צַדִּיק
בְּבֵיתוֹ--עַל-מִשְׁכָּבוֹ; וְעַתָּה, הֲלוֹא אֲבַקֵּשׁ אֶת-דָּמוֹ
מִיַּדְכֶם, וּבְעֵרְתִּי אֶתְכֶם, מִן-הָאָרֶץ.

11 How much more, when wicked men have slain a righteous person in his own house upon his bed, shall I not now require his blood of your hand, and take you away from the earth?'

יב וַיִּצַו דָּוִד אֶת-הַנְּעָרִים וַיְהַרְגוּם, וַיִּקְצְצוּ אֶת-
יְדֵיהֶם וְאֶת-רַגְלֵיהֶם, וַיִּתְּלוּ עַל-הַבְּרֶכָה, בְּחֶבְרוֹן;
וְאֶת רֹאשׁ אִישׁ-בְּשֵׁת לָקְחוּ, וַיִּקְבְּרוּ בְּקֶבֶר-אַבְנֵר
בְּחֶבְרוֹן. {פ}

12 And David commanded his young men, and they slew them, and cut off their hands and their feet, and hanged them up beside the pool in Hebron. But they took the head of Ish-bosheth, and buried it in the grave of Abner in Hebron.

Chapter 5:

א וַיָּבֹאוּ כָּל-שִׁבְטֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, אֶל-דָּוִד--חֶבְרוֹנָה; וַיֹּאמְרוּ לְאֹמֶר, הֲנִנוּ עֲצָמְךָ וּבְשָׂרְךָ אֲנַחְנוּ.

1 Then came all the tribes of Israel to David unto Hebron, and spoke, saying: 'Behold, we are thy bone and thy flesh.'

ב גַּם-אֶתְמוֹל גַּם-שְׁלֹשׁוֹם, בְּהִיּוֹת שָׂאוּל מֶלֶךְ עָלֵינוּ, אֶתְּהָ הִיִּיתָ מוֹצִיא (הַמוֹצִיא) וְהַמְּבִי, אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל; וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה לְךָ, אֶתְּהָ תִרְעָה אֶת-עַמִּי אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאַתָּה תִּהְיֶה לְנָגִיד, עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל.

2 In times past, when Saul was king over us, it was thou that didst lead out and bring in Israel; and the LORD said to thee: Thou shalt feed My people Israel, and thou shalt be prince over Israel.'

ג וַיָּבֹאוּ כָּל-זִקְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, חֶבְרוֹנָה, וַיַּכְרֹת לְהֵם הַמֶּלֶךְ דָּוִד בְּרִית בְּחֶבְרוֹן, לִפְנֵי יְהוָה; וַיִּמְשְׁחוּ אֶת-דָּוִד לְמֶלֶךְ, עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל. {ס}

3 So all the elders of Israel came to the king to Hebron; and king David made a covenant with them in Hebron before the LORD; and they anointed David king over Israel. {S}

Note parshia break

ד בֶּן-שְׁלֹשִׁים שָׁנָה דָּוִד בָּמָלְכוֹ; אַרְבָּעִים שָׁנָה מֶלֶךְ.

4 David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years.

ה בְּחֶבְרוֹן מֶלֶךְ עַל-יְהוּדָה, שִׁבְעַת שָׁנִים וְשֵׁשָׁה חֳדָשִׁים; וּבִירוּשָׁלַם מֶלֶךְ, שְׁלֹשִׁים וְשֵׁשׁ שָׁנָה, עַל כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְיְהוּדָה.

5 In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months; and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty and three years over all Israel and Judah.

ו וַיֵּלֶךְ הַמֶּלֶךְ וְאֲנָשָׁיו יְרוּשָׁלַם, אֶל-הַיְבֻסִים יוֹשְׁבֵי הָאָרֶץ; וַיֹּאמֶר לְדָוִד לְאֹמֶר, לֹא-תָבֹא הֵנָּה, כִּי אִם-הִסִּירְךָ הָעוֹרִים וְהַפְּסָחִים לְאֹמֶר, לֹא-יָבֹא דָוִד הֵנָּה.

6 And the king and his men went to Jerusalem against the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land, who spoke unto David, saying: 'Except thou take away the blind and the lame, thou shalt not come in hither'; thinking: 'David cannot come in hither.'

ז וַיִּלְכַּד דָּוִד, אֶת מְצֻדַת צִיּוֹן--הִיא, עִיר דָּוִד.

7 Nevertheless David took the stronghold of Zion; the same is the city of David.

[After securing Jerusalem as his capital city,
He bring the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem,
& then desires to built a 'House for God' in Jerusalem]

The concluding section- at the end of chapter 8:

יג וַיַּעַשׂ דָּוִד, שָׁם, בְּשֶׁבו, מִהַכּוֹתוֹ אֶת-אֲרָם בְּגִיא-מַלְחָה-- שְׁמוֹנֶה עָשָׂר, אָלֶף.

13 And David got him a name when he returned from smiting the Arameans in the Valley of Salt, even eighteen thousand men.

יד וַיִּשֶׂם בְּאֲדוֹם נֹצְבִים, בְּכָל-אֲדוֹם שָׁם נֹצְבִים, וַיְהִי כָל-אֲדוֹם, עַבְדִּים לְדָוִד; וַיֹּשַׁע יְהוָה אֶת-דָּוִד, בְּכָל אֲשֶׁר הִלָּךְ.

14 And he put garrisons in Edom; throughout all Edom put he garrisons, and all the Edomites became servants to David. And the LORD gave victory to David whithersoever he went.

טו וַיִּמְלֹךְ דָּוִד, עַל-כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל; וַיְהִי דָוִד, עוֹשֶׂה מִשְׁפָּט וְצְדָקָה--לְכָל-עַמּוֹ.

15 And David reigned over all Israel; and David executed justice and righteousness unto all his people.

טז וַיּוֹאֵב בֶּן-צְרוּיָה, עַל-הַצָּבָא; וַיְהוֹשָׁפָט בֶּן-אַחִילוּד, מִזְכִּיר.

16 And Joab the son of Zeruiah was over the host; and Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud was recorder;

יז וַצְדוֹק בֶּן-אַחִיטוּב וְאַחִימֶלֶךְ בֶּן-אַבִּיחָיָר, כֹּהֲנִים; וּשְׂרָיָה, סוֹפֵר.

17 and Zadok the son of Ahitub, and Ahimelech the son of Abiathar, were priests; and Seraiah was scribe;

יח וּבְנֵינְהוּ, בֶּן-יְהוֹיָדָע, וְהַכֹּרֶתִי, וְהַפְּלִתִי; וּבְנֵי דָוִד, כֹּהֲנִים הָיוּ. {ס}

18 and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over the Cherethites and the Pelethites; and David's sons were chief ministers.

III. The Biblical theme of “tzedek u'mishpat”

Genesis Chapter 18

Avraham 'prays' for Sedom

טז וַיִּקְמוּ מִשָּׁם הָאֲנָשִׁים, וַיִּשְׁקֹפוּ עַל-פְּנֵי סְדֹם; וְאַבְרָהָם--הִלֵּךְ עִמָּם, לְשַׁלְּחָם.

16 And the men rose up from thence, and looked out toward Sodom; and Abraham went with them to bring them on the way.

יז וַיְהִי, אָמַר: הַמְכַסֶּה אֲנִי מֵאַבְרָהָם, אֲשֶׁר אֲנִי עֹשֶׂה.

17 And the LORD said: 'Shall I hide from Abraham that which I am doing;

יח וְאַבְרָהָם--הָיוּ יְהִיָּה לְגוֹי גָדוֹל, וְעַצוֹם; וְנִבְרָכוּ-בּוֹ--כָּל, גּוֹיֵי הָאָרֶץ.

18 seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?

יט כִּי יִדְעֵתִיו, לְמַעַן אֲשֶׁר יִצְוֶה אֶת-בְּנָיו וְאֶת-בֵּיתוֹ אַחֲרָיו, וְשָׁמְרוּ דֶרֶךְ יְהוָה, לַעֲשׂוֹת צְדָקָה וּמִשְׁפָּט--לְמַעַן, הִבִּיא יְהוָה עַל-אַבְרָהָם, אֵת אֲשֶׁר-דִּבֶּר, עָלָיו.

19 For I have **known him**, to the end that he may command his children and his household after him, that they may keep the way of the LORD, to do righteousness and justice; to the end that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which He hath spoken of him.'

כ וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה, זַעֲקַת סְדֹם וְעֹמֶרָה כִּי-רַבָּה; וְחַטָּאתָם--כִּי כְבֹדָה, מְאֹד.

20 And the LORD said: 'Verily, the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and, verily, their sin is exceeding grievous.

כא אֲרֹדָה-נָא וְאֶרְאֶה, הַכְּצַעֲקָתָהּ הַבָּאָה אֵלַי עָשׂוּ כָּלָה; וְאִם-לֹא, אֵדָעָה.

21 I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto Me; and if not, **I will know**.'

כב וַיִּפְּנוּ מִשָּׁם הָאֲנָשִׁים, וַיֵּלְכוּ סְדֹמָה; וְאַבְרָהָם--עוֹדְנֵו עַל-מֶדֶד, לְפָנֵי יְהוָה.

22 And the men turned from thence, and went toward Sodom; but Abraham stood yet before the LORD.

כג וַיִּגַּשׁ אַבְרָהָם, וַיֹּאמֶר: הֲאֵף תִּסְפֶּה צְדִיק עִם-רָשָׁע?

23 And Abraham drew near, and said: 'Wilt Thou indeed **sweep away the righteous with the wicked?**

כד אִולי ישׁ חֲמִשִּׁים צְדִיקִים, בְּתוֹךְ הָעִיר; הֲאֵף תִּסְפֶּה וְלֹא-תִשָּׂא לְמַקּוֹם, לְמַעַן חֲמִשִּׁים הַצְּדִיקִים אֲשֶׁר בְּקִרְבָּהּ.

24 Peradventure there are fifty righteous within the city; wilt Thou **indeed sweep away and not forgive the place for the fifty righteous** that are therein?

Yirmiyahu chapter 22 – what can prevent the Destruction:

א כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה, יֵד בֵּית-מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה; וְדַבַּרְתָּ שָׁם, אֶת-הַדְּבָר הַזֶּה.

1 Thus said the LORD: Go down to the house of the king of Judah, and speak there this word,

ב וְאָמַרְתָּ, שְׁמַע דְּבַר-יְהוָה, מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה, הַיֹּשֵׁב עַל-כִּסֵּא דָוִד: אֵתָהּ וְעַבְדֶּיךָ וְעַמָּךְ, הַבָּאִים בְּשַׁעְרֵים הָאֵלֶּה.

2 and say: Hear the word of the LORD, O king of Judah, that sittest upon the throne of David, thou, and thy servants, and thy people that enter in by these gates.

ג כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה, עֲשׂוּ מִשְׁפָּט וְצְדָקָה, וְהִצִּילוּ גְזוֹל, מִיַּד עֹשׂוֹק; וְגַר יְתוֹם וְאַלְמָנָה אַל-תִּנּוּ, אַל-תַּחְמְסוּ, וְדָם נָקִי, אַל-תִּשְׁפְּכוּ בַּמָּקוֹם הַזֶּה.

3 Thus saith the LORD: Execute ye justice and righteousness, and deliver the spoiled out of the hand of the oppressor; and do no wrong, do no violence, to the stranger, the fatherless, nor the widow, neither shed innocent blood in this place.

ד כִּי אִם-עָשׂוֹ תַעֲשׂוּ, אֶת-הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה--וּבָאוּ בְשַׁעְרֵי הַבַּיִת
הַזֶּה מְלָכִים יֹשְׁבִים לְדָוִד עַל-כִּסֵּאוֹ, רֹכְבִים בְּרֶכֶב וּבַסּוּסִים,
הוא וְעַבְדּוֹ, וְעַמּוֹ. 4 For if ye do this thing indeed, then shall
there enter in by the gates of this house
kings sitting upon the throne of David,
riding in chariots and on horses, he, and his
servants, and his people.

ה וְאִם לֹא תִשְׁמָעוּ, אֶת-הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה--בִּי נִשְׁבַּעְתִּי נְאֻם-
יְהוָה, כִּי-לְחָרְבָה יִהְיֶה הַבַּיִת הַזֶּה. {פ} 5 But if ye will not hear these words, I
swear by Myself, saith the LORD, that this
house shall become a desolation. {P}

In chapter 23:

ה הִנֵּה יָמִים בָּאִים נְאֻם-יְהוָה,
וְהָקַמְתִּי לְדָוִד צֶמַח צְדִיק; וּמֶלֶךְ מֶלֶךְ
וְהִשְׁכִּיל, וְעָשָׂה מִשְׁפָּט וּצְדָקָה בְּאֶרֶץ. 5 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD,
that I will raise unto David a righteous shoot,
and he shall reign as king and prosper, and
shall execute justice and righteousness in the
land.

ו בְּיָמָיו תִּנְשָׁע יְהוּדָה, וְיִשְׂרָאֵל יִשְׁכֹּן
לְבֶטֶח; וְזֶה-שְּׁמוֹ אֲשֶׁר-יִקְרָאוּ,
יְהוָה צְדִיקְנוּ. {פ} 6 In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel
shall dwell safely; and this is his name
whereby he shall be called, The LORD is our
righteousness.

[Note how it explains our blessing in daily shmone-esray]

Tehillim 72 – King David’s prayer for his son Shlomo

א לְשִׁלְמוֹה: אֱלֹהִים--מִשְׁפָּטֶיךָ,
לְמֶלֶךְ יָתוֹ; וּצְדִקְתֶּךָ לְבֹן-מֶלֶךְ. 1 [A Psalm] of Solomon. Give the king Thy
judgments, O God, and Thy righteousness
unto the king's son;

ב יַדְּיוֹ עֹמֵד בְּצִדְקָה; וְעַנְיֶיךָ בְּמִשְׁפָּט. 2 That he may judge Thy people with
righteousness, and Thy poor with justice.

ג יִשְׂאוּ הָרִים שְׁלוֹם לְעָם; וּגְבְעוֹת, בְּצִדְקָה. 3 Let the mountains bear peace to the people,
and the hills, through righteousness.

ד יִשְׁפֹּט, עַנְיֵי-עָם-
-יוֹשְׁיָע, לְבְנֵי אֲבִיוֹ; וַיִּדְכֵּא עוֹשֵׁק.... 4 May he judge the poor of the people, and
save the children of the needy, and crush the
oppressor....

ט לְפָנָיו, יִכְרְעוּ צִיִּים; וְאִיָּבּוֹ, עֶפֶר יִלְחֲכוּ. 9 Let them that dwell in the wilderness bow
before him; and his enemies lick the dust.

י מַלְכֵי תַרְשִׁישׁ וְאֵיִים, מִנְחָה יִשִּׁיבוּ;
מַלְכֵי שֶׁבָּא וְסִבָּא, אֲשֶׁכֶר יִקְרִיבוּ. 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles
shall render tribute; {N}
the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts.

יא וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲווּ-לוֹ כָּל-מְלָכִים;
כָּל-גּוֹיִם יַעֲבֹדוּהוּ. 11 Yea, all kings shall prostrate themselves
before him; all nations shall serve him.

יב כִּי-יִצִּיל, אֲבִיוֹן מִשּׁוּעַ;
וְעָנִי, וְאִין-עֹזֵר לוֹ. 12 For he will deliver the needy when he
crieth; the poor also, and him that hath no
helper.

יג יַחַס, עַל-דָּל וְאֲבִיוֹן;
וּנְפֹשׁוֹת אֲבִיוֹנִים יוֹשִׁיעַ. 13 He will have pity on the poor and needy,
and the souls of the needy he will save.

יד מִתּוֹךְ וּמִחַמָּס, יִגְאֵל נַפְשָׁם;
וַיִּיקַר דָּמָם בְּעֵינָיו. 14 He will redeem their soul from oppression
and violence, and precious will their blood
be in his sight;

