

**ESSENTIAL 100:  
DAVID – A SINNER AFTER  
GOD’S HEART**

17<sup>th</sup> September 2006

# Essential 100: David

- Basic material is 1 and 2 Samuel
- Background from earlier sermons:
  - Anarchy of Judges
  - Request for a king, which Samuel counsels against
  - Anointing of Saul and his loss of favour
  - Anointing of shepherd boy David
- David's rise to be king, beginning the line we trace to Jesus

# Images of David – the brave shepherd



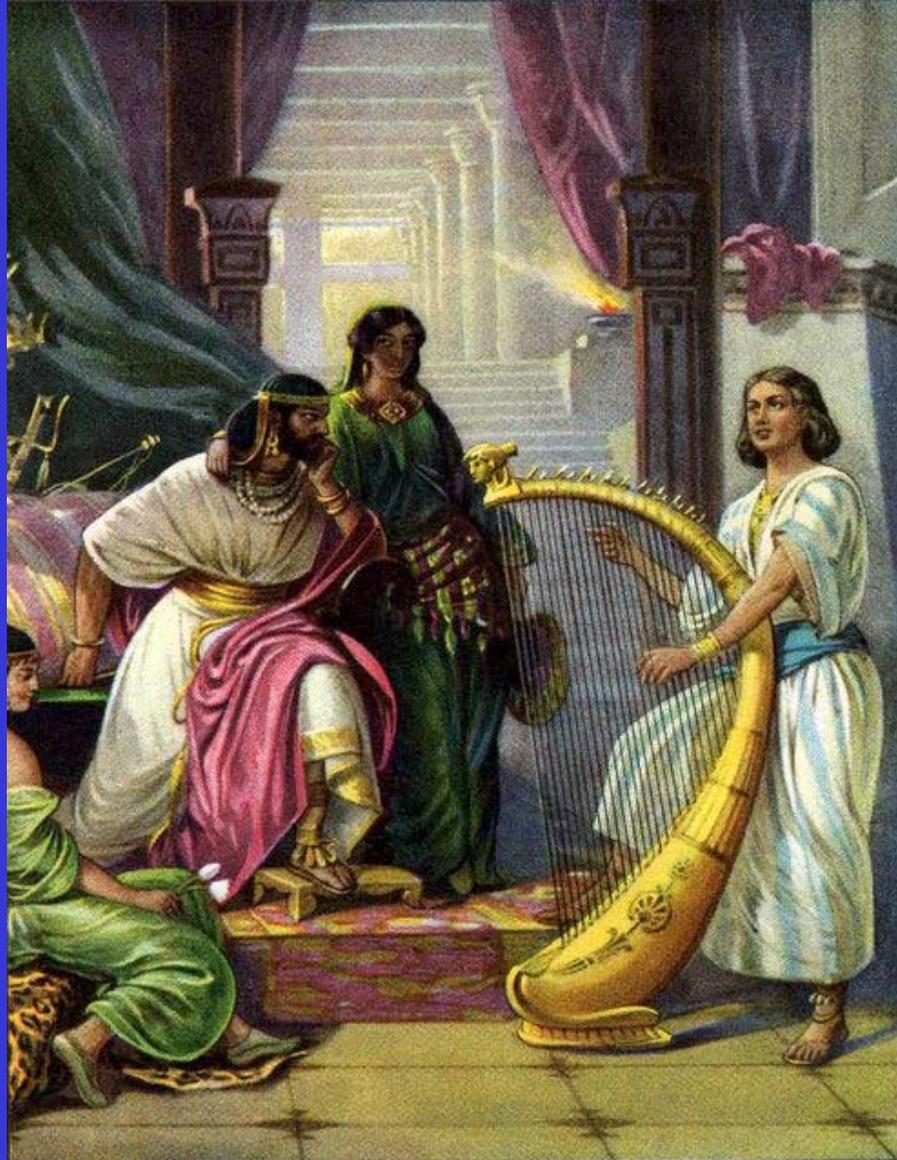
# Images of David – the killer of Goliath



# Images of David – the royal founder of a dynasty



# Images of David – the great musician





# Images of David – the “perfect man?”



# David the sinner

- A “Renaissance man”?...
- ...perhaps, but not perfect like Christ
- David’s sins:
  - **Adultery:** 2 Samuel 11: 1- 4 One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, "Isn't this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite?" Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her.

- **Murder:** 2 Samuel 11: 15 "Put Uriah in the front line where the fighting is fiercest. Then withdraw from him so he will be struck down and die."
- **Complacency...**
- **Lying...**
- **Extortion...**
- **Pride...**
- **Shedding of blood...** "You have shed much blood and have fought many wars. You are not to build a house for my Name, because you have shed much blood on the earth in my sight." (1 Chronicles 22:8)

# Further shortcomings

- A bad father, unable to control his sons
- Exploiting his wives
- The “dying mafia boss”
- System of forced labour

# David the man after God's heart

- Noble qualities – but damning catalogue of evil deeds
- But God says in Acts 13:22 “I have found David son of Jesse a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do.”
- Does David become a favourite due to his own actions or God's actions?

# David seeking God's heart

- **Depending** on God: “it is not by sword or spear that the Lord saves; for the battle is the Lord's, and he will give all of you into our hands” (1 Samuel 17:47)
- **Trusting** God: “The Lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.” (1 Samuel 17:37)
- **Listening** to God: “David enquired of the Lord” (e.g. 2 Samuel 5:23)

- **Repenting** sincerely: "I have sinned against the Lord" (2 Samuel 12:13)
- **Worshipping** God passionately "David, wearing a linen ephod, danced before the Lord with all his might, while he and the entire house of Israel brought up the ark of the Lord with shouts and the sound of trumpets." (2 Samuel 6:14)
- ...generally being **faithful** and seeking **relationship**

# God's grace to David

- **Anointing of David with his Spirit** “from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came upon David in power” (1 Samuel 16:13)
- **Sovereign choice of David**, as of Israel “David knew that the Lord had established him as king over Israel and had exalted his kingdom for the sake of his people Israel.” (2 Samuel 5:12)
- **God's covenant with David** “Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever” (2 Samuel 7:16)

# God and David's relationship

- “Gift and grasp” distinguishing David's actions
- A Father-Son relationship between God and David:
  - Conflict possible...
  - ...freedom of the Son...
  - ...whom the Father holds responsible, e.g. for Bathsheba...
  - ...Fatherly discipline (that David himself failed to exert!) but ultimately grace and mercy prevail, and God forgives

Application to our lives?

• WWWDD?

# Emulating David's faith

- David as our role model in faith – foundation of his relationship (“seeking God’s heart”)
  - **Depend** on God in times of trouble
  - **Trust** and do not be afraid
  - **Listen** to God’s direction
  - **Repent** and not rationalise....
  - **Celebrate**
  - Be **faithful** and put God at the centre
  - Give God the **credit** for our successes
- Take God’s gifts gratefully...
- ...not grasping for better ourselves

# God's grace and mercy to us

- Like David, We have all sinned, which often is a barrier to God...but he leaves the door open to reconciliation and forgiveness
- For we are God's children like David:
  - “The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.” (Romans 8:16)
  - “Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father?”. (Hebrews 12:7)
- John Calvin: “David is like a mirror, in which God sets before us the continued course of his grace”.

# Psalm 51:1-5

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.

Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.

Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge.

Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

# Psalm 51:6-12

Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place.

Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice.

Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.