

# David – A Man of Contrasts

[Hebrews 11:32](#); [1 Samuel 16:13](#); [30:6](#)

To study this man of contrasts, we must find ourselves in 1 Samuel 16 through 1 Kings Chapter 2. Also we should realize that David was used of God to write much of the book of Psalms, and he is mentioned in [Matthew 1:1, 6](#); [Luke 1:32](#) and [Acts 13:20-23](#). Now read [Luke 1:26-32](#); next we read [Acts 13:17-23](#).

David was single-mindedly committed to God, yet guilty of some of the most serious sins recorded in the Bible. He lived a frustrating life, first in the shadow of his brothers, then constantly on the run from vengeful King Saul. Even after he became King of Israel he was engaged in almost constant warfare to defend the kingdom. He was a great military conqueror – yet could not conquer himself – allowing one night of lust with Bathsheba to bring disastrous consequences into his life. He tried to cover up her pregnancy, failed, then he had her husband Uriah the Hittite killed.

Although King David fathered Solomon, one of Israel's greatest kings, he was also the father of Absalom, whose rebellion brought bloodshed and grief. He was sometimes lax, or absent as a father, not giving proper discipline to his children when they needed it.

King David's life was a roller coaster of emotional highs and lows. But he has left us with a beautiful picture of passionate love of God, and dozens of psalms, plus some of the most touching and beautiful poetry ever written.

## DAVID'S STRENGTHS

1. Courageous and strong in battle, trusting God for protection.
2. Loyal to Saul, despite Saul's crazed pursuit of him.
3. Loved God deeply, even with many mistakes, throughout his entire life.

# David – A Man of Contrasts (Continued)

## DAVID'S WEAKNESSES

1. Adultery with Bathsheba in [2 Samuel 11:1-27](#)
2. Took a census of the people, willfully violating God's command not to do it ([2 Samuel 24](#); [I Chronicles 21:1](#)).  
Question: Who incited David to take the census? God or Satan? Why did God consider this a weakness?  
([Read Research](#))
3. Not always the best father in the area of discipline, or with his presence in the lives of his children. With 8 wives and 20 plus children, he could not be what the children needed ([Research-"8 wives – 20 children"](#)).

## DAVID'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. When only a boy, he was the champion over the Philistines in killing Goliath, a giant and veteran warrior.
2. He killed many of Israel's enemies in battle.
3. He became friends with Saul's son Jonathan – a model for friendship.
4. He was included in the Faith Chapter of [Hebrews 11](#).
5. David was an ancestor of the Lord Jesus Christ.
6. He is called: *"a man after God's own heart"*
7. In fact, Jesus was often called the *"SON OF DAVID"*.

## LESSONS FOR US TODAY

1. All are sinners.
2. God uses us though we fail.
3. We cannot hide our sin from God.
4. God forgives – but be aware of consequences.
5. God highly values our *TRUST AND CONFIDENCE IN HIM*.
6. Despite life's ups and downs, He is ever-present to give direction, comfort and help.