

The Again Wars

2 Samuel 21:15-22

Read 2 Samuel 21:15-22

"The Philistines were at war again with Israel" (v. 15)

"There was again a battle" (v. 18)

"Again there was war" (v. 19)

"Yet again there was war" (v. 20)

Big Idea: David Is Ending, War Is Not

1.) David Grew Weary in the Midst of Battle

"...lest you quench the lamp of Israel." (v. 17)

A.) A Challenge to Our Worldview: We Tend to Accept Aging as Normal

B.) The Physical Decline of Our Bodies is Not By Design

Genesis 3:19, *"In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread Till you return to the ground, For out of it you were taken; For dust you are, And to dust you shall return."*

Genesis 6:3, **"3** *And the Lord said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years."*

Genesis 5, **"23** *So all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years. 24* **And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him."**

Deuteronomy 34:7, **"7** *Moses was one hundred and twenty years old when he died. His eyes were not dim nor his natural vigor diminished."*

Joshua 14:10-12, *"...here I am this day, eighty-five years old. **11** As yet I am as strong this day as on the day that Moses sent me...**12** Now therefore, give me this mountain of which the Lord spoke in that day; for you heard in that day how the Anakim were there, and that the cities were great and fortified. It*

may be that the Lord will be with me, and I shall be able to drive them out as the Lord said."

C.) The Old Testament Often Uses the Physical to Communicate Some Spiritual Reality.

2.) There Is no Weariness in War

A.) The Land Has No Rest From War

B.) No Rest is Indicative of Curse, Not Blessing

Leviticus 26:6, "I will give peace in the land, and you shall lie down, and none will make you afraid; I will rid the land of evil beasts, and the sword will not go through your land."

Joshua 11:23, "So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the Lord had said to Moses; and Joshua gave it as an inheritance to Israel according to their divisions by their tribes. Then the land rested from war."

*"It may be that the Lord will be with me, and I shall be able to drive them out as the Lord said. **13** And Joshua blessed him, and gave Hebron to Caleb the son of Jephunneh as an inheritance. **14** Hebron therefore became the inheritance of Caleb...**15** And the name of Hebron formerly was Kirjath Arba (Arba was the greatest man among the Anakim). Then the land had rest from war." Joshua 14:12-14*

*Joshua 21:43-44, "So the Lord gave to Israel all the land of which He had sworn to give to their fathers, and they took possession of it and dwelt in it. **44** The Lord gave them rest all around, according to all that He had sworn to their fathers."*

C.) Rest is a Major Part of the Messianic Promise

Isaiah 2:4, "He shall judge between the nations, And rebuke many people; They shall beat their swords into plowshares..."

3.) The Land Still Has Hope

A.) The Mention of Goliath the Gittite

B.) This Passage Ends on a Hopeful Note

Read verse 22.

C.) A Mention of the Lamp of Israel

"...You shall go out no more with us to battle, lest you quench the lamp of Israel." (v.17)

i.) The Lamp in the Midst of the Tabernacle is Now Associated with David in the Midst of Jerusalem.

"And to his son I will give one tribe, that My servant David may always have a lamp before Me in Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen for Myself, to put My name there." 1 Kings 11:36

ii.) A Davidic dynasty is Directly Connected to the Promise of God's Blessing.

Psalm 132:1-5, "Lord, remember David And all his afflictions; 2 How he swore to the Lord, And vowed to the Mighty One of Jacob "Surely I will not go into the chamber of my house, Or go up to the comfort of my bed; 4 I will not give sleep to my eyes Or slumber to my eyelids, 5 Until I find a place for the Lord, A dwelling place for the Mighty One of Jacob."

Psalm 132: 11-13, "The Lord has sworn in truth to David; He will not turn from it: "I will set upon your throne the fruit of your body. 12 If your sons will keep My covenant And My testimony which I shall teach them, Their sons also shall sit upon your throne forevermore. 13 For the Lord has chosen Zion; He has desired it for His dwelling place: "This is My resting place forever; Here I will dwell, for I have desired it."

Psalm 132:15-18, "I will abundantly bless her provision; I will satisfy her poor with bread. 16 I will also clothe her priests with salvation, And her saints shall shout aloud for joy. 17 There I will make the horn of David grow; I will prepare a lamp for My Anointed. 18 His enemies I will clothe with shame, But upon Himself His crown shall flourish."

Zechariah 4:1-9, "Now the angel who talked with me came back and wakened me, as a man who is wakened out of his sleep. **2** And he said to me, "What do you see?" So I said, "I am looking, and there is a lampstand of solid gold with a bowl on top of it, and on the stand seven lamps with seven pipes to the seven lamps. **3** Two olive trees are by it, one at the right of the bowl and the other at its left." **4** So I answered and spoke to the angel who talked with me, saying, "What are these, my lord?" **5** Then the angel who talked with me answered and said to me, "Do you not know what these are?" And I said, "No, my lord." **6** So he answered and said to me: "This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' Says the Lord of hosts. **7** 'Who are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain! And he shall bring forth the capstone With shouts of "Grace, grace to it!" **8** Moreover the word of the Lord came to me, saying: **9** "The hands of Zerubbabel Have laid the foundation of this temple; His hands shall also finish it. Then you will know That the Lord of hosts has sent Me to you. **10** For who has despised the day of small things? For these seven rejoice to see The plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel."

iii.) The Lamp Never Went Out

Application: Rest Has Already Been Initiated

Revelation 21:22-22:4, "**22** But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. **23** The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light. **24** And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it. **25** Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there). **26** And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it. **27** But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life. And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. **2** In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree

were for the healing of the nations. **3** And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him. **4** They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads. **5** There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever.