

When

- The Book of 1 Chronicles was written several hundred years after King David's reign.
- David became king of Judah in approximately 1055 B.C, the year Saul died. David's reign spanned approximately 40 years (1055-1015 B.C.). He reigned over Judah for 7 years and 6 months, before becoming king over all Israel. His reign over all Judah and Israel lasted 33 years.

Key Characters

- **David** – David was the 2nd king over all Israel and Judah.
- **Hadadezer** – The son of Rehob, the king of Zobah, an enemy of Israel.
- **Tou (Toi)** – The king of Hamath. His country cultivated a friendship with David because they were mutual enemies of Hadadezer.
- **Hadoram (Joram)** – The son of Tou.
- **Abishai** – One of David's 30 mighty men. He was the brother of Joab.



Where

- David fought in Philistia and Moab.
- The Euphrates River is mentioned in verse 3. The river lies hundreds of miles north of Jerusalem.
- David fought with Hadadezer of Zobah (Zobah-hamath). Most historians believe Zobab was in the region of Syria.
- Other key locations in this chapter include: Damascus, Hamath, Edom, Ammon, Amalek, and the Valley of Salt.

Outline

- ***2 Samuel 8 is a parallel to this chapter.**
- **DAVID'S POWER EXTENDS BEYOND ISRAEL'S BORDERS (18:1-13):**
 - + God gave David victory over his enemies, both domestic and abroad.
 - + In David's time, the influence of the kingdom of Israel spread more than ever before.
 - + Israel defeated the Philistines and took the city of Gath.
 - + They defeated the Moabites and made them their servants.
 - + David met Hadadezer of Zobah on his way to the Euphrates River and defeated him.
 - + David took 1,000 chariots and 20,000 foot-soldiers from Hadadezer. He kept enough horses to pull 100 chariots and hamstringed the rest.
 - + The Syrians came to the aid of Hadadezer, but David defeated them too, and killed 22,000.
 - + The Syrians were forced to pay tribute to the Israelites.
 - + Tou (Toi), the king of Hamath, sent his son to David to bless him and deliver a present of silver, gold, and bronze.
 - + David gathered many other riches from the surrounding nations and dedicated them to the Lord in Jerusalem.
 - + David subdued the people of Edom, Moab, Ammon, Philistia, Amalek, and Zobah.
 - + Israel's army, under the command of Abishai, stuck down 18,000 Edomites in the Valley of Salt, and the Edomites became servants to the Israelites.
 - + "The Lord gave victory to David wherever he went" (18:13).
- **A RECORD OF THE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS OF ISRAEL (18:14-17):**
 - + David was the king.
 - + Joab was commander of the army.
 - + Jehoshaphat was the recorder.
 - + Zadok and Ahimelech were priests.
 - + Shavsha was the secretary ("scribe", KJV).
 - + Benaiah was over the Cherethites and Pelethites.
 - + David's sons were "chief officials in the service of the king."

Application

- This chapter is another example of the faithfulness of God, and the reliability of the promises of God.
- Way back in Genesis 15, God made a promise to Abraham, saying, "In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates" (Gen 15:18).
- Before David's time, the land under control of the Israelites was significantly smaller than that described in the promise to Abraham.
- But God blessed David and permitted him to expand the influence of Israel from the Euphrates River to the River of Egypt.
- God always keeps His promises.
- The nation of Israel is a case study in the faithfulness of God.
- Reading their history should instill confidence in us that God will not let us down.