

"Then said David, I will shew kindness unto Hanun.... And David sent to comfort him by the hand of his servants for his father." Il Sam. 10:2.

Most heathen are suspicious of kindness, for in "their world," everyone is out for himself. They trust no one and could not believe an enemy would show kindness to the son of a former king.

Suspecting evil, they convince the new king—don't kill David's messengers of good will—but humiliate and insult them.

It was a "slap in the face" to David and his messengers for their beards to be half cut off and their garments cut in the middle.

They stayed in Jericho and later returned home.

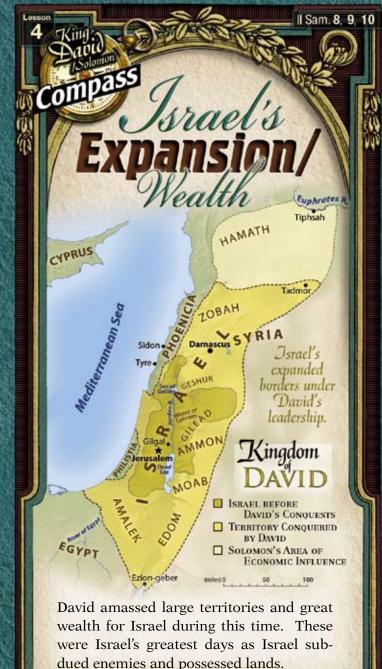
This ended in a big battle, which David won.

## Scripture to read before next study

II Sam. 11, 12:1-14

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## David's VICTORIES

II Sam. 8 lists the battles in which David had victory. As Israel's territory increased, their wealth also increased.

Each verse gives the enemy David subdued.

- Vs. 1 the Philistines
- Vs. 2 Moab
- Vs. 3 Zobah (near Euphrates)
- Vs. 4 David took 1,000 chariots, 700 horsemen, and 26,000 footmen.
- Vs. 5 22,000 Syrians (Damascus) were slain.
- Vs. 6 David had officers in Damascus; and the Syrians served David.

His secret was—

"And the Lord preserved David whithersoever he went."

## VICTORIES BRING wealth

- Vs. 7 David brought shields of gold.
- Vs. 8 "David took exceeding much brass."
- Vs. 10 vessels—silver, gold, and brass.
- Vs. 11 He dedicated to God all he gathered.
- Vs. 13 David's reputation increased after smiting 18,000 Syrians.
- Vs. 14 Edom became David's servants.

  His secret was—

"And the Lord preserved David whithersoever he went."

The silver, gold, and brass will later be used in building Solomon's temple.



"David said, Is there yet any that is left of the house of Saul, that I may shew him kindness for Jonathan's sake?" 9:1

David was kind to Mephibosheth because of his covenant to Jonathan.

Like Mephibosheth, we are not spiritually able to walk through life. In Adam, we received a fallen, sinful nature and are spiritually handicapped. We are children of wrath and without hope in this world.

Like Mephibosheth, we are also unlovely and enemies of Christ the King. Though children of wrath and deformed by sin, we are elevated to a high position with God, not for our sake but for Christ's sake, who with His own blood made a covenant to redeem us.

Christ commends His love to us and brings us into His house and makes us to "sit together in heavenly places." And we feast at His spiritual banquet table.

"Mephibosheth...did eat continually at the king's table; and was lame on both his feet" 9:13.