

**SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS**  
**Commentary by Michael Sigler**  
**July 8, 2012**

**David Embodies God's Justice**

Read 2 Samuel 23:1-7 and 1 Chronicles 18:14

**Key verse: "So David reigned over all Israel; and he administered justice and equity to all his people" (1 Chronicles 18:14).**

The above verse from 1 Chronicles is an accurate description of King David's place in Old Testament history. David was recognized as ancient Israel's greatest ruler.

2 Samuel 23:1-7 gives David's own description of his reign. It is a prophetic testimony, inspired by "the spirit of the Lord" (v. 2). And it is probably best understood as David's final instructions to his son Solomon and later descendants about the importance of "ruling in the fear of God" (v. 3).

Godless rulers (and godless people) "are like thorns that are thrown away" (v. 6), useful for nothing. But godly, faithful, and just rulers are "like the light of morning, like the sun rising on a cloudless morning, gleaming from the rain on the grassy land" (v. 4).

In verse 5, David speaks of the "everlasting covenant" that God made with David and David's "house." Speaking by "the spirit of the Lord," David gives godly principles of ruling for his successors and descendants. David also portrays, in the Spirit, the ultimate divine rule that would come through the line of David. That divine rule would come, as the fulfillment of God's plan, through the reign of King Jesus!

Isaiah's prophetic vision foretold the coming reign of King Jesus in even greater specificity: "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever" (Isaiah 9:6-7).

Many hundreds of years after the time of King David, God sent the angel Gabriel to tell Mary: "You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and

he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end”  
(Luke 1:31-33).

*Even so, come Lord Jesus!*

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