

MINISTERING TO THE SAINTS

SERVICES	13 JANUARY	20 JANUARY
CHILDREN'S CLASSES	Priscilla, Linda, Lillian, Ai Mei & Ai Lin	Priscilla, Linda, Lillian, Ai Mei & Ai Lin
USHERS	WEN LIANG & JENNETTE	BENJAMIN & POI CHING
BIBLE STUDY	CHARLIE DIPALMA Book of Philippians	YEOW The Sins of Kings and Commoners
SERMON	(Phil 2:25-30)	YEOW JEROBOAM I (1 Kings 11:26 to 14:20)
SONG LEADING	ALVIN	WEN LIANG
OPENING PRAYER	RICHARD	FRANCIS
SCRIPTURE READING	DANIEL	OOI
LORD'S SUPPER	OOI & YONG ENG LIM	JOVIN & RENG A
COLLECTION	TEE CHEE LIK	CHRIS
ANNOUNCER	YEOW	CHARLIE CHAN
CLOSING PRAYER	CHARLIE CHAN	EDWARD
CHORES	AI LIN	AI CHENG

PORTFOLIOS OF CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR 2008

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Benevolence
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Evangelism
Richard Lee

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Yeow Chin Kiong

Youth Work
Alvin Goh

Sunday School
Richard Lee

Property/ Utilities
Ooi Chong Hai

STATISTICS FOR 6 JANUARY 2008

CONTRIBUTION	RM2,024
MISSION FUND	RM1,284
BIBLE STUDY	34
VISITORS CLASS	9
WORSHIP ASSEMBLY	55
FRI - PRAYER MEET (4 JAN)	18
MANDARIN WORSHIP	8
MANDARIN CONTRIBUTION	RM245

Yet I considered it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker, and fellow soldier, but your messenger and the one who ministered to my need; since he was longing for you all, and was distressed because you had heard that he was sick. For indeed he was sick almost unto death; but God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow. Therefore I sent him the more eagerly, that when you see him again you may rejoice, and I may be less sorrowful. Receive him therefore in the Lord with all gladness, and hold such men in esteem; because for the work of Christ he came close to death, not regarding his life, to supply what was lacking in your service toward me.

Phil 2:25-30(NKJV)

DAYBREAK



BENEVOLENCE***EDIFICATION***EVANGELISM

VOL. 10 No. 2
13 January 2008

CHALLENGING QUERY #460

What can we learn from the life of David? Yeow Chin Kiong

A weekly handout for members of
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SUNDAYS:
9.30 AM
BIBLE STUDY
SUNDAY SCHOOL
10.30 AM
WORSHIP
2.30PM
MANDARIN WORSHIP

FRIDAYS:
8.00 PM
BIBLE STUDY

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that



If there was ever a man whose life was evidence that “all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus” (Romans 3:23-24). that man would be David, king of the united kingdom of Israel and an ancestor of Jesus (Matt.1:6, 17).

In seducing Bathsheba from her husband, Uriah the Hittite,- a non-Israelite (according to Gen.10:6, 15) warrior who was unwaveringly faithful to his Israelite king,- and mercilessly causing him to die in the battlefield (2 Samuel 11:1-27), King David was guilty beyond any reasonable doubt of conspiracy and the Ten Commandments prohibitions against adultery and murder. David's note to Joab, his battlefield commander, bearing instructions for Uriah's murder (2 Samuel 11:15) must be the most despicable piece of human writing contained in God's Word. God's judgment on David's thus giving occasion to the Lord's enemies to blaspheme (2 Samuel 12:14) was unequivocal, and His punishment swift and terrible upon David's family (2 Samuel 12:1-23).

Following up on this slew of sins with even worse violations of morality, the hero of the Hebrews showed himself capable of appalling cruelty and violence on a massive scale. When his delegation bearing condolences to the people of Ammon upon the death of their king met with humiliation (2 Samuel 10:1-5), he

declared war on the Ammonites which ended when he “brought out the people who were in (Rabbah, the capital city), and set (them) under saws, sharp iron instruments, and iron axes, and made them pass through the brick kiln ... thus he did to all the cities of the sons of Ammon” (2 Samuel 12:26-31). By today’s standards, King David would be a war criminal guilty of hideous atrocities of fatal torture on the civilian population of a defeated nation. For such cold-blooded actions in the battlefield, God’s judgment upon him was also unequivocal : “... You shall not build a house for My name, because you have been a man of war and have shed blood” (I Chronicles 28:3).

King David offended God even in the simplest matters of national administration when, disregarding the counsel of his military commander and implying a need to be confident of his own national capability instead of God’s help, he ordered a census or numbering of his standing army (2 Samuel 24:1-11). Again, God’s judgment was unequivocal but this time He gave David a choice of punishments (2 Samuel 24:11-13). Between being pursued for three months by his enemies, a seven-year famine for his land and a three-day plague in the same, all David could say was, “Please let us fall into the hand of the Lord, for His mercies are great; but do not let me fall into the hand of man” (2 Samuel 24:14). A self-serving and ignoble decision as any by a monarch, David’s choice resulted in 70,000 deaths by the plague throughout Israel (2 Samuel 24:15). After this, and too late, David came to his senses, “Surely I have sinned, and I have done wickedly; but these sheep, what have they done? Let Your hand, I pray, be against me and against my father’s house” (2 Samuel 24:17).

What happened in his family,- or “families”, for the many wives he took,- while he was alive (his son Amnon’s incestuous rape of his half-sister Tamar, 2 Samuel 13:1-14, resulting in Amnon’s murder by his half-brother Absalom, 2 Samuel 13:15-39, as well as Absalom’s revolt, 2 Samuel 15:1 to 18:23) shows that he was at best not a good parent and at worst one with no control at all of his dysfunctional family. His dying words to Solomon were about revenge (1 Kings 2:1-9), including a request that Solomon take the life of an individual whom David himself had sworn by the Lord not to kill (I Kings 2:8-9).

That such a man could be paid tribute by God in glowing terms at the start,- “I have found David, the son of Jesse, a man after My own heart, who will do all my will” (Acts 13:22, making direct reference to 1 Samuel 13:13-14),- speaks more about God’s mercy and grace than it does about David. God hand picked David, but David made some horrible mistakes, as we all do. However, David confessed each sinful error,- when it was pointed out to him or upon realizing it himself,- with a contrite heart, not attempting (as Adam did) in the least to justify his actions. In response to David’s confession and repentance, God was very patient with David, as He is patient with us (I Tim.2:3-4; II Pet.3:15; Acts 17:30-31).

David is the quintessential *anti-hero*,- not a villain but a character who lacks the traits of heroes. An anti-hero is a conflicted person, knowing how to do good (and expecting it from himself and others) but unable to do good all of the time. This is the operational definition of “sinner” (James 4:17). David’s one consistent trait evident in the full-blown, warts and all, story of his tumultuous life is his readiness to confess his sins. Where Saul would make excuses for his sins when they were pointed out to him (I Sam.13:11-14; 15:9-23; 28:5-19), David did not hesitate to confess them. The Greek for “confess” is HOMOLOGEO, meaning “to say the same thing” or agree with. All sins are forgivable (except the sin against the Holy Spirit, Matt.12:31-32, which is today the rejection of Divinely-inspired revelation) and it is confession,- our agreeing with God that we have sinned,- which allows God to forgive: “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (I John 1:9). This is the most valuable lesson we can draw from how God treated King David, who is very much like many of us (or at least like many who are in positions of authority).

SJ NEWS UPDATE

OUR GUESTS LAST WEEK

Sun - The Khoos (SJ’s guest) * William (Sui Lin’s husband) * Penny (Ai Lin’s guest) * David Siow (Alvin’s guest) *

OUR VISITORS LAST WEEK

Sun - Karen & Yik Min (JB) * DiPalmas (India) * Bee Ling (Melbourne);
Mandarin - Wei Kwan (Klang) * Candy (Kuantan) *

PRAYER REQUESTS : For the health of: Doris Chan (KL), Francis, Katherine, JC Choate, Frank Pierce, Mahiban, Gary, Mr Chiah Tee Sang (Sis Tee’s brother-in-law), Ah Ngen (Han’s brother), Steven How (*Daybreak* printer) * Santhi and family * Yik Min’s grandmother *Charlie DiPalma’s eyesight and Leela’s & Sarojini’s health *

WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR GRATITUDE TO:

- Sister Mary for conducting the visual aids class last Sunday and teaching the ladies on the topic HUSBAND & WIFE last evening. Thank you, all the sisters who were present.
- Charlie DiPalma for teaching us for the past months from the book of Philipians. The DiPalmas leave on Tuesday, 15 January and will be back mid April when Charlie will continue his classes on the epistle.
- Helen Yeu (Katherine’s sister & Earl Lam’s mum) for her gift of RM500 to the church.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS MEET with Richard immediately after worship today.

FRIDAY’S SCRIPTURAL LESSONS ON THE SILVER SCREEN

12 Angry Men (1957); was screened on 11 Jan. We shall discuss the film on 18 and 25 Jan.

HAPPENINGS THIS WEEK:

- Engs’ home fellowship at 8pm, Tuesday, 15 January 2008
- Chans’ home fellowship at 8pm, Wednesday, 16 January 2008
- Yeows’ home fellowship at 8pm, Saturday, 19 January 2008