

# December 12

# saturday

2 Samuel 5.1-5

King David was the most significant of all Jesus' ancestors in the family tree because of God's promise to David: "Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me..." (2 Samuel 7.11-16).

Jews have always called Messiah "the Son of David." Not only must he be descended from David, he must finally establish God's kingdom on earth, and rule in perpetuity.

Yet like all biblical heroes, David was hardly a choir boy. For sure, he came close at times—composing numerous psalms—but other times he messed up. See 2 Samuel 11. Highlights from his resume:

- Youngest son of Jesse, assigned to tend sheep while his brothers went off to war.
- Victor over the Philistine giant, savior of Israel's army.
- Skilled with the harp as well as the slingshot.
- Lived as outlaw while persecuted by the king (his father-in-law).
- Conqueror of Jerusalem. Brought home the Ark of the Covenant.
- Mocked by his wife for celebrating in public without clothes.
- Extended Israel's borders to their maximum historical extent.
- Survived a rebellion led by one of his sons.
- Forced by God to choose his own punishment, after conducting a census.

At the end of the day, he's the "man after God's own heart." Lived life to the fullest, for better and/or worse. Never greater, though, than in times of humble confession. He knew from experience: "A broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise" (Psalm 51.17).

King David Playing the Harp | Gerard van Honthorst | 1622

# David

*Pastor Ted Wright*

**Create in me clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, nor take your Holy Spirit from me.**