

2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

5 Then all the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron, and said, “Look, we are your bone and flesh. **2** For some time, while Saul was king over us, it was you who led out Israel and brought it in. The LORD said to you: It is you who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you who shall be ruler over Israel.” **3** So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron; and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the LORD, and they anointed David king over Israel. **4** David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. **5** At Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months; and at Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years.

9 David occupied the stronghold, and named it the city of David. David built the city all around from the Millo inward. **10** And David became greater and greater, for the LORD, the God of hosts, was with him.

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

6 David again gathered all the chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand. **2** David and all the people with him set out and went from Baale-judah, to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the name of the LORD of hosts who is enthroned on the cherubim. **3** They carried the ark of God on a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill. Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, were driving the new cart **4** with the ark of God; and Ahio went in front of the ark. **5** David and all the house of Israel were dancing before the LORD with all their might, with songs and lyres and harps and tambourines and castanets and cymbals.

12 It was told King David, “The LORD has blessed the household of Obed-edom and all that belongs to him, because of the ark of God.” So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-edom to the city of David with rejoicing; **13** and when those who bore the ark of the LORD had gone six paces, he sacrificed an ox and a fatling. **14** David danced before the LORD with all his might; David was girded with a linen ephod. **15** So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet. **16** As the ark of the LORD came into the city of David, Michal daughter of Saul looked out of the window, and saw King David leaping and dancing before the LORD; and she despised him in her heart. **17** They brought in the ark of the LORD, and set it in its place, inside the tent that David had pitched for it; and David offered burnt offerings and offerings of well-being before the LORD. **18** When David had finished offering the burnt offerings and the offerings of well-being, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD of hosts, **19** and distributed food among all the people, the whole multitude of Israel,

both men and women, to each a cake of bread, a portion of meat,^[a] and a cake of raisins. Then all the people went back to their homes.

Psalm 48 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

¹ Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised
in the city of our God.

His holy mountain, ² beautiful in elevation,
is the joy of all the earth,
Mount Zion, in the far north,
the city of the great King.

³ Within its citadels God
has shown himself a sure defense.

⁴ Then the kings assembled,
they came on together.

⁵ As soon as they saw it, they were astounded;
they were in panic, they took to flight;

⁶ trembling took hold of them there,
pains as of a woman in labor,

⁷ as when an east wind shatters
the ships of Tarshish.

⁸ As we have heard, so have we seen
in the city of the LORD of hosts,
in the city of our God,
which God establishes forever.

⁹ We ponder your steadfast love, O God,
in the midst of your temple.

¹⁰ Your name, O God, like your praise,
reaches to the ends of the earth.

Your right hand is filled with victory.

¹¹ Let Mount Zion be glad,
let the towns^[a] of Judah rejoice
because of your judgments.

¹² Walk about Zion, go all around it,
count its towers,

¹³ consider well its ramparts;
go through its citadels,
that you may tell the next generation

¹⁴ that this is God,
our God forever and ever.

He will be our guide forever.