

2 Samuel 8

King James Version (KJV)

(The mighty acts of David and the wars that he fought)

8 And after this it came to pass that David smote the Philistines, and subdued them: and David took Methegammah out of the hand of the Philistines. (Methegammah = the Bridle of Ammah - another name for Gath – the most powerful of the 5 Philistine major cities)

(Like a bridle controls the horse, so Gath controlled the direction of the other four major cities)

²And he smote Moab, and measured them with a line, casting them down to the ground; even with two lines measured he to put to death, and with one full line to keep alive. And so the Moabites became David's servants, and brought gifts. (He put 1/2 of them to death<the males>. The rest <the females> became servants to Israel) see Numbers-24:17 (God had judged Moab)

³David smote also Hadadezer, the son of Rehob, king of Zobah, as he went to recover his border at the river Euphrates. (This is a part of Syria) (to recover his border = to cause the hand to cover – an expression that means to take possession of)

⁴And David took from him a thousand chariots, and seven hundred horsemen, and twenty thousand footmen: and David houghed all the chariot horses, but reserved of them for an hundred chariots. (houghed- he hamstrung or destroyed the horses to prevent a counter attack from the Syrians) 1Chronicles-8:4 (7,000 horsemen)

⁵And when the Syrians of Damascus came to succour Hadadezer king of Zobah, David slew of the Syrians two and twenty thousand men. (succour= protect, rescue)

⁶Then David put garrisons in Syria of Damascus: and the Syrians became servants to David, and brought gifts. And the LORD preserved David whithersoever he went. (Garrisons were military outposts, to keep an eye on the population) (brought gifts = paid tribute and taxes)

⁷And David took the shields of gold that were on the servants of Hadadezer, and brought them to Jerusalem.

⁸ And from Betah, and from Berothai, cities of Hadadezer, king David took exceeding much brass. (1Chronicles-18:8 – this brass was later used by Solomon to make the brazen sea in from of the temple. Also the two main brass pillars in the temple)

⁹ When Toi king of Hamath heard that David had smitten all the host of Hadadezer, (Hamath – a stronghold of Kenites) 2Chronicles-2:55
Amos-6:14

¹⁰ Then Toi sent Joram his son unto king David, to salute him, and to bless him, because he had fought against Hadadezer, and smitten him: for Hadadezer had wars with Toi. And Joram brought with him vessels of silver, and vessels of gold, and vessels of brass: (Joram-called Hadaram in Chronicles – his name was changed by Toi to make Joram sound more like an Israelite. The same old back stabbing deception by the Kenites; they buy peace with whoever is dominant at the time)

¹¹ Which also king David did dedicate unto the LORD, with the silver and gold that he had dedicated of all nations which he subdued; (He was collecting material for the building of the temple)

¹² Of Syria, and of Moab, and of the children of Ammon, and of the Philistines, and of Amalek, and of the spoil of Hadadezer, son of Rehob, king of Zobah.

¹³ And David gat him a name when he returned from smiting of the Syrians in the valley of salt, being eighteen thousand men.

¹⁴ And he put garrisons in Edom; throughout all Edom put he garrisons, and all they of Edom became David's servants. And the LORD preserved David whithersoever he went. (Taking these lands allowed Israel to have seaports on the northern end of the Red Sea. There was no Suez Canal at that time)

¹⁵ And David reigned over all Israel; and David executed judgment and justice unto all his people. (A fair and just king)

¹⁶ And Joab the son of Zeruiah was over the host; and Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud was recorder; (recorder- historian, the writer of Chronicles)

¹⁷ And Zadok the son of Ahitub, and Ahimelech the son of Abiathar, were the priests; and Seraiah was the scribe; (scribe- accountant,

book keeper) (Zadok & Ahimelech – two high priests at this time. Zadok from Saul was with the Mosaic Tabernacle in Gibeon. Ahimelech was appointed by David when he only ruled Judah)

¹⁸ And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over both the Cherethites and the Pelethites; and David's sons were chief rulers. (chief rulers= princes) (Benaiah was one of David's "mighty men" in Chronicles. Cherethites = executioners – they executed judgments of David throughout the land. Pelethites were couriers)