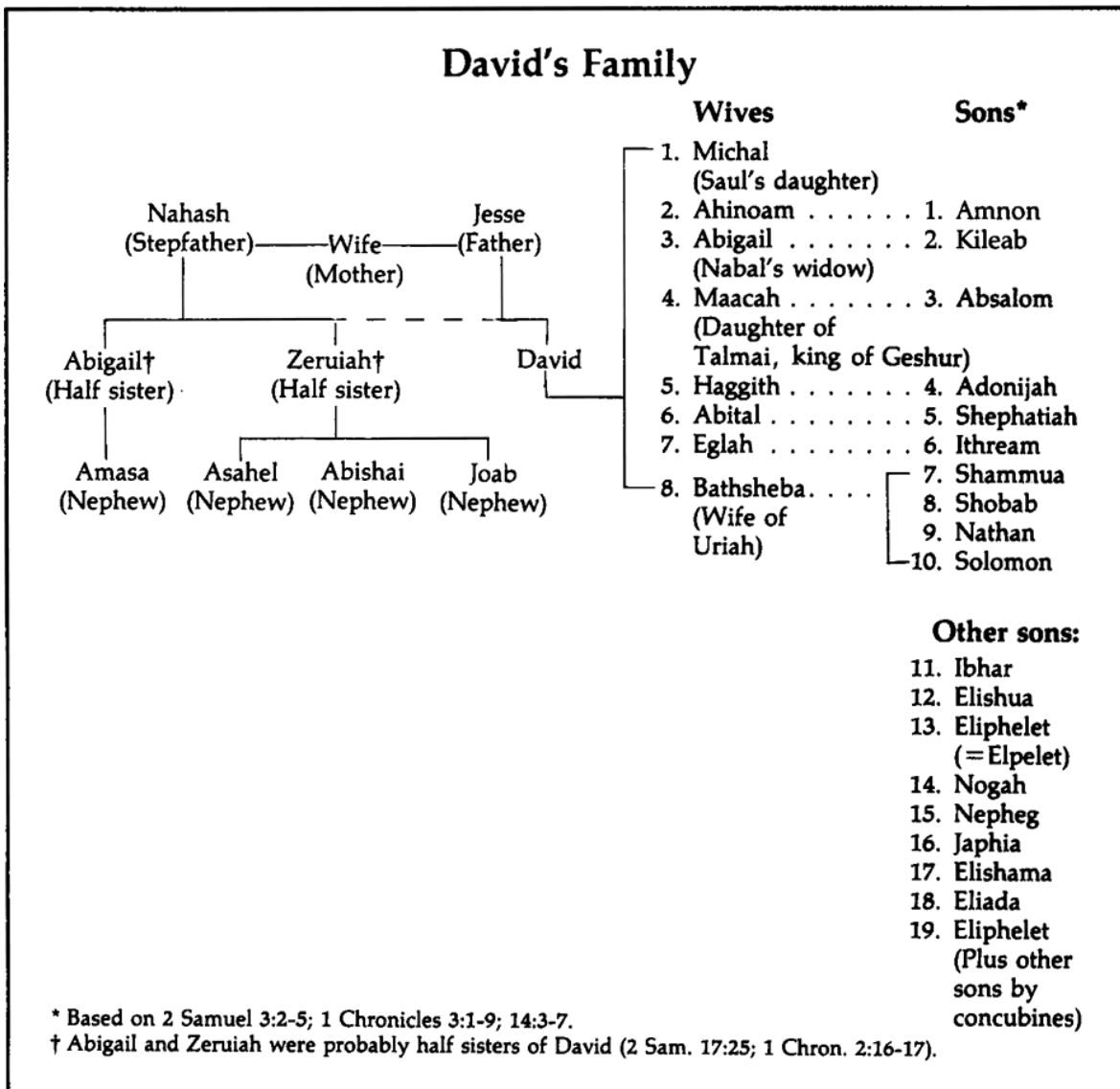


# Life of David

A Man After God's Own Heart

## The Judean Reign

- While war continued between David and the house of Saul, David's house increased with children of multiple marriages [2 Sam 3:1-5].
  - Amnon, son of Ahinoam.
  - Chileab, son of Abigail.
  - Absalom, son of Maacah, daughter of Talmai, King of Geshur.
  - Adonijah, son of Haggith.
  - Shephatiah, son of Abitail (not seen elsewhere).
  - Ithream, son of Eglah (not seen elsewhere).
  - David would have eight wives in total (see chart of David's Family below).



- The house of Saul was becoming weaker as there was a power struggle between Ish-bosheth and Abner [2 Sam 3:1, 6-11].
  - Abner gained power during the war.
  - Abner claimed Saul's concubine for his own.
    - ✦ This was a common way to make a claim for the throne.
    - ✦ When challenged about it, Abner explained his intention to turn over the kingdom to David.
- Abner nearly succeeded in uniting the divided kingdom [2 Sam 3:12-21].
  - Abner tells David of his desire to establish all of Israel under David.
  - David was agreeable, but asked Abner to bring him Michal as a sign of his good faith intentions.
  - David sent messengers to Ish-bosheth asking for Michal and Ish-bosheth agreed.
  - Abner personally interceded when Paltiel (her husband) tried to prevent the arrangement.
  - Abner lobbied with the elders of Israel and the tribe of Benjamin to unite under David.
  - David held a feast for Abner and sent him to finish the task of unifying all of Israel under him.
- Before Abner could succeed in uniting the kingdom, Joab and Abishai murdered him for the death of Asahel [2 Sam 3:22-39].
  - Joab returned from battle to learn of Abner's visit with David.
  - Joab rebuked David and made the accusation that Abner was a spy.
  - Joab had Abner brought back to Hebron (a city of refuge [Josh 21:13]).
  - Joab (and Abishai) murdered Abner to avenge the death of their brother Asahel at Gibeon.
  - When David learned of this, he washed his hands of the blood of Abner.
  - David honored Abner by giving him a proper burial in Hebron.
  - David led the people in a lament of Abner's death.
  - The people were pleased with David's sincere lament and they knew for sure that he had nothing to do with Abner's death.
  - David expressed his desire for the Lord to repay the evildoers for what they had done.