

The controversy: What about King David of Israel?

Controversy?

Who is King David of Israel? Is there a controversy surrounding him? There is so much to talk about with this man. He was little compared to other men. He had seven brothers or eight? Goliath David's famous foe was either 9'6" or 6'6": which is it? David might have been gay because of his relationship to Johnathan. David committed adultery to gain his second wife? He treated his first wife horribly. Did David dislike his second son Solomon? Finally did David in a sneaky way build Gods temple?

There is a ton of controversy that would make the Inquirer magazine jealous. Is he in the line of Jesus? Why didn't he kill the first King Saul when he had a chance? There are so many juicy dilemmas and so little space to write. Jerusalem was not founded by David but captured by him. Why was David picked by God as the first King, yet David is not the first King of Israel. Did this King dance in the streets naked? Oh boy this is an interesting man?

Do we have leaders like David today? Why so much scandal and gossip surrounding this King. Did he conspire to have one of his loyal soldier's killed? Did one of his loyal soldier's kill David's favorite son? Did David really kill Goliath with a sling shot? Did it really take one stone? Did David kill a lion with his bare hands? There certainly is a little controversy with the guy.

Maybe?

Let's use "Maybe" to answer some of these controversies. David was certainly small. The people asked God for a King in 1 Samuel 8:6 and soon after God granted this request. The interesting part is that Samuel the Prophet chose Saul who was handsome and tall instead. After Saul became a disaster as King, God picked a ruddy short boy named David to be King. Was this

David the seventh or eighth son of Jesse? In First Samuel 16 it says there were 8 sons. In 1 Chronicles 2 it says seven sons in total. Some have said maybe one died. Some others say that David is included in the seven sons. Maybe it's a clerical error and it really is eight sons.

David fought Goliath and he was really tall. Compared to short David anyone could be tall. I find that many numbers in Jewish history seem to be over inflated. Many records of Goliath have him at about 6'6" feet tall. Either way he was much bigger than David. Was David having an affair with King Saul's son Jonathan? 1 Samuel 18 depicts a love relationship between these two men. In those days gay relationships happened. There is nothing here to say they did or did not have sex. The passing of the robe and tunic seem to depict some sort of honoring and respectful allegiance rather than physical sex. What do you think?

David's first love in the Bible was Abigail. It seemed like a tragic love story. David rescued her from a bad relationship in 1 Samuel 25. Earlier He was given as a wife Michal sister to King Saul. She loved David deeply, but became very bitter. She lashed out at David for dancing in the streets naked. David never touched her again. Finally we have Bathsheba. David uncharacteristically stayed home from the war to observe this beautiful woman bathing on a roof top. He called her to himself and slept with her. Was it rape or an affair?

The relationship between David and his Son Solomon is interesting. Solomon is David's second son to Bathsheba. The first one died by Gods hand to punish David for adultery and murder. David Promised Bathsheba that Solomon was to be the next king. David however loved his other Son Absalom more. This is crazy stuff eh? Absalom is killed and he is forced to use Solomon as his heir. Later God tells David that Solomon will build Gods temple not David. David in the meantime brings in everything to build that temple for Solomon. What a family tree! What do you think?

Yes?

Yes David is full of controversy. David is in the line of Jesus through his dad Joseph. Wait a minute isn't it Mary who had a virgin birth? Yes you're splitting hairs or I am. Jesus is Joseph's legal heir which is in the line of David. It's like an adoption to the throne. However, Mary comes from the line of David too through the son of David Nathan. David was anointed King by Samuel on orders from God. This was during the reign of Saul. David was not the first King of Israel.

Saul asked for David to join his kingdom. David was good at leading armies and playing music for Saul. During this time Saul had an evil spirit in him that tried several times to kill David. At one point David ran away and hid from Saul. Twice Saul was in a position for David to kill him. Both times David refused to kill the King. David eventually did become King by Saul's own suicide. From Joshua to David there were wars with the city of Jerusalem. In 2 Samuel 5 David finally claims this city as his own. In Second Samuel 6 David returns God's Ark to the city. He dances in the streets naked.

Yes there are many controversies. David secretly murdered his lover's husband when she became pregnant. I suppose he had many wives and all his children had problems. He was a passive man. He did not kill his enemies. David refused to deal with the trouble within his children. God said he was a man after his own heart. However; David defied God several times in sneaky ways. He bought all the material for the temple after God told him not to build it. He stole two wives from their husbands. Yes this man has tons of controversies. What do you think?

No?

Could we say "No" David had no controversies? There are many politicians today that claim that title. Did President Clinton commit sex acts in the Oval office? Is President Obama an

American? Is Canadian Prime Minister Harper hiding truths as some claim? Did former Prime Minister Chretien have scandals in office? We may never know. These leaders say there is no controversy. Some say 6 million Jews died in WW2 and some say no. Were the exploits of King David over blown?

Did he try to hide his Adultery to Bathsheba's husband Uriah? Did he eventually put that man on the front lines knowing he would be killed? He married Bathsheba and fathered her child. Ironically David had a favorite son named Absalom. This son tried to kill his father David at one point, yet David still loved him. David had many sons through different women. One son Amnon decided to rape Tamar who is a true sister of David's favorite son Absalom. Are you confused yet? Absalom then decides to have sex with one of David's concubines on a roof top. David's Chief guard had enough and killed Absalom behind David's back. This is all in the Bible folks.

Is this soap opera stuff and a controversy? David says he killed a lion in the fields. Did David really kill Goliath using one shot with a stone? There are many things about this guy that could be controversial. Is it because he was a king that we know about these things at all? If he was a regular shepard would we have heard of David? Is it because he became famous that these things are controversies? Maybe God anointed David and expected more from him. Maybe being a king is hard. He had a tough life as a small sheppard boy. What do you believe about David?