

THE ENDLESS THRONE BEGINS

DAVID



A NEW MUSICAL BY
RYAN MALONE

ORIGINAL ARMSTRONG AUDITORIUM CAST RECORDING

Soundtrack Liner Notes

PERSONNEL

Executive Producer Gerald Flurry
Executive Producers... Stephen Flurry, Andrew Locher
Producer Ryan Malone
Recording Engineer Kenneth Sarkey
Vocal Coaches Mark Jenkins, Paula Malone
Rehearsal Pianist Mark Jenkins
Logo Design Emily Burns, Brooke Davis, Steve Hercus

SINGING CAST (in order of appearance)

Samuel the Seer Mark Jenkins
Memory of Elkanah/God's Voice David Brandon
Memory of Hannah Paula Malone
Memory of Young Samuel Seth Malone
People..... SOPRANO Deepika Azariah, Emily Burns, Olivia Culpepper, Becky Falk, Aimee Goulet ("Demanding a King" solo 3), Ramona Larsen, Christy McCarty, Stacey Short | ALTO Carolyn Coats ("Demanding a King" solo 2), Gabrielle Haddad, Tarah Hercus, Maggie Hilliker, Gail Lugo, Heather Morley | TENOR Anthony Chibarirwe, Justin Goodearl, Paula Powell, Brad Rumler, David Vejil, | BASS Albert Clarke, Sean Davison, Jordan Ellis ("Demanding a King" solo 4), Chris Eames, Mark Hyde, Edwin Trebels, Dan Westerbaan ("Demanding a King" solo 1)
Students of the Prophets SOPRANO Erica Amos, Jessica Brandon, Brandi Davis, Brooke Davis, Leah Hyde, Sarah Icasiano, Ashlynn McLain | ALTO Lindsay Eagle, Tasha Eagle, Ellie Hilliker, Zoe Hilliker, Victoria Locher, Ivory Nice, Jordy Rouzer, Ariana Saranga, Ansley Welsh | TENOR Jude Flurry, Scott Heerma, Ethan Hensley, Ezekiel Malone, Seth Malone, Mitchell McLain, Jordan Saranga, Micah Turgeon, Samuel Welsh, Zachary Williams | BASS Michael Davis, Zechariah Henderson, Gianni Welsh
Jesse and Wife Stephen Flurry, Rachel Hyde

Seven Sons.....Harley Breth (Eliab),
..... Jessie Hester, David Savage, John Rambo,
..... Tyrel Schlote, Callum Wood, Reese Zoellner
Daughter Zeruyah Laura Turgeon
Daughter Abigail Valerie Jenkins
David Ryan Malone
Michal the PrincessAmy Flurry
Michal's Handmaids ... Jamie Hawkins, Hannah Estebat
King Saul Joshua Sloan
Jonathan the Prince Steve Hercus
Saul's Soldiers Dan Burns, Michael Cocomise,
Douglas Culpepper, Caleb Heerma, Joel Hudson-Stewart,
..... Sam Livingston, Winston Schlote, Grant Turgeon
Youth ... Dillon Davis, Maggie Dilbeck, Micky Dilbeck,
Spencer Falk, Caitlin Heerma, Vanessa Henderson, Evan Hensley, Noah Hilliker, Luke Hyde, Tara Hyde, Megan Jenkins, William Jenkins, Talon Kaleho, Jacqueline Locher, Skye Malone, Nathaniel Morley, Max Orleans, Michal Orleans, Heidi Rumler, Katie Rumler, Jonathan Saranga, Daniel Welsh, Brett Williams,
Doeg the Edomite..... Sean Welsh
Abiathar the Priest Conner Brown
Zadok the Priest Joel Hilliker
Nathan the Prophet Shane Granger
Bathsheba the Queen Jennifer Trebels
Ahimaaz, Son of Zadok James Brandon
Jonathan, Son of Abiathar Dan Arnfield

ORCHESTRA

Ryan Malone (keyboards), Parthena Owens (flute), David Price (oboe), Eldon Matlick (horn), Jeff Kidwell (trombone), Roger Owens (percussion), Densi Rushing (violin I), Sarah Brown (violin II), Joseph Guevara (viola), James Shelley (cello), Mark Osborne (double bass)

LIBRETTO

ACT I
THE VOICE WAS HEARD

Adapted From 1 Samuel 1-5

(Samuel)

It all began on barren ground—
A womb cut off from life.
To halt her grief and ridicule,
A man consoled his wife...

(Elkanah)

Why is the wife of my youth
Full of such tortured emotion?
Though you can bear no child—
Have you not borne my devotion?

Am I not better than sons?
Better than ten—better than one?

The fruit of my fervent adoration
Is more than a thousand generations.
The strength of this bond is our greatest creation.
Am I not better—better than ten sons?

(Samuel)

His voice was heard,
By fervent persuading,
His wife was stirred.
He poured his love
In every word.
Because of his passion,
His voice was heard.

She cast her burden on the Lord,
Which then was rare to see.
In bitter tears she quietly vowed
And gave a silent plea:

(Hannah)

Eternal Lord of hosts,
O hear Your handmaid's prayer:
If You see my affliction,
And think on my despair,
Do not forget my sorrow.
Regard what I now swear:

If You give me a child, I will give You a son.
For our yearning is the same; our desires are one:
To make Your Family grow,
You made a mother's womb.
And though a gift to her,
Each child belongs to You.

Now I dedicate his life to be a pillar in Your courts.
For the fruit of my womb is Your Family's reward.

Regard what I now swear.
O hear Your handmaid's prayer.

Our desires are one.
Let me make You a son.

(Samuel)

Her voice was heard,
With less than a whisper
Her God was stirred.
She rose in peace,
Her faith secured.
Prepared for a family,
Her voice was heard.

"Heard of God," my name would mean.
For He came to her aid.
She soon conceived and brought me forth,
Then raised her voice and prayed:

(Hannah)

My heart rejoices in the Lord,
My horn He has extolled.
In Your salvation I rejoice;
Against all foes my lips are bold.
None is holy as the Lord,
No equal can be known:
There is none beside You, God.
There is no rock like Him alone!
Let not pride nor vanity
From your mouth proceed.
The Lord is God of knowledge
And He measures every deed.

The bows of mighty men are crushed
And shattered so in fright,
But those who waver wearily
Girded are they with strength and might!
The full have been hired for bread;
The hungry have ceased being fed.
So the barren womb has seven born,
But the mother of many waxes sore.

The Eternal kills and brings alive;
He makes both rich and poor.
He sends to the grave and raises high;
He lowers the lofty—exalts the obscure.
From the dunghill they will rise,
As kings they will be known;
No longer bound to dust,
They will share a glorious throne!

The pillars of the Earth—
The saints of God's command—
On them He sets the world,
And gives it to their hand!
He will keep their feet
He will help them stand.

The wicked shall be silenced—
In darkness meet their end:
By strength no man prevails.
On God he must depend!

All will be confounded
Who strive against the Lord;
Against them He will thunder,
From heaven He will roar!
The Lord shall judge the Earth
And govern every soul.
He gives strength unto His king;
His anointed's horn He will extol!

(Samuel)

While my memories were still quite vague,
My mother kept her oath:
She brought me to the holy place,
For my knowledge and my growth.

Though there I stayed, each year she came
And taught me many truths.
I served the sanctuary's work,
Though I was just a youth.

(God's Voice) Samuel...

(Samuel)

Then one night I heard a voice
Calling out my name.
I thought the priest had called for me,
But he was not to blame.

(God's Voice) Samuel...

(Samuel)

Three times I woke the aging priest,
Until he did perceive
That God Himself had called my name
This dark, perplexing eve.

(God's Voice) Samuel...

(Samuel)

He charged me to return to bed
And keep ready ears,
And tell the Lord this final time
That His young servant hears.

(God's Voice) Samuel...

(Young Samuel)

Your voice is heard,
From this wondrous calling
My heart is stirred.
Eternal God,
Declare Your word;
For I am Your servant:
Your voice is heard.

(God's Voice)

This evil priest whose eyes wax dim
Cut off his house shall be,
And from this sacred dwelling place
My presence soon shall flee.

All ears shall tingle,
All hearts shall faint.
I will see it through
Without restraint.

From these ruins you shall rise,
A new hope shall resound,
If you will let no words of mine
Fall unto the ground.

Raise me up a faithful priest
Who seeks my mind and heart,
Who will walk before my anointed one,
Who never shall depart.

(Hannah)

From the dunghill they will rise,
The Lord shall judge the Earth,
And govern every soul.
He gives strength unto His king,
His anointed's horn He will extol!

(God's Voice)

From these ruins you shall rise,
A new hope shall resound,
If you will let no words of mine
Fall unto the ground.

(Samuel)

It all began on barren ground—
A land devoid of light.
This wilderness would hear God's voice;
Its future would be bright.

A faithful priesthood I would train
To help the land unite,
But they demanded for themselves
A king as their right.

(People)

A king! A king! O hear our declaration!
Make us a king like every other nation!

(Solo 1) What dynasty is this—a prophet past his prime?

(Solo 2) With sons whose god is gain,

(Solo 3) Who's justice is but crime?

(Solo 4) Must these men be our princes?

Or is this at last the time for a king?

(Samuel)

Displeased and grieved by their request,
I prayed unto the Lord.
He answered with assuredness,
My courage He restored:

(God's Voice)

Their voice is heard
Though you feel rejected
It's Me they've spurned.

Since they remain
So undeterred,
Solemnly warn them:
Their voice is heard.

(Samuel)
So when the one anointed comes,
And when your voices ring,
Our God will live within this man,
Because of what you sing!

(Hannah)
Give strength unto his king

(Samuel)
He shall become another man,
According to God's Word,
So play with strength! Dance with might!
And make your voices heard!

WE ARE THE PILLARS

Adapted From 1 Samuel 2:8 and 1 Samuel 10:5-7, 24

(Students)
We give our strength unto the King,
And lift the horn of the anointed.
We help our Lord restore all things:
This is now the time appointed!

(Samuel)
You are the pillars of God's command,
And on your shoulders this kingdom will stand!
You are the pillars of the land!

(Students)
When our roots run deep
Into solid earth,
Then our planted feet
Will increase our worth.
Then our stature grows
With our heads held high.
We will take our pose
And reach to the sky.

We are the pillars of God's command,
And on our shoulders this kingdom will stand!
We are the pillars of the land!

With an upright heart
and a solid spine,
We can stand apart
While our strengths combine.
Being measured straight,
We are braced for storms.
We can bear the weight
With majestic form!

If we are loyal
Holding fast,

Forever royal
We will last!

(People): "God save the king!"
(Samuel): All are rejoicing!
(People): "God save the king!"
(Samuel): Let every voice sing!
(People): Long live the king with life everlasting!
Long live the king! Our anthems of joy now ring!

THE HEART OF A KING

Adapted From 1 Samuel 16

(Samuel)
This was the man whom God ordained,
Anointed with oil
To great ovation.
This was the man
With Heaven's honor, crown and rod.
But this was the man who then maintained,
By keeping the spoil
Of lawless nations,
He was a man
Who had obeyed the Voice of God.

But God's commands he had rejected,
Nor could his hard heart be corrected.
And though I cried to God all night
For a man once small in his own sight,
A new king now must be selected!

(Samuel): A king from Jesse's sons
God promised would appear.
This one is surely chosen.
Our king is standing here!

(God's Voice)
Look not on his height,
Nor judge by mortal sight,
The measure earthly instruments can chart.
For only God sees through
The superficial view:
The Lord Eternal looks upon the heart.

The heart of a king
Is a heart after my own.
It's the heart that rules from the throne.

Look not on his frame.
That's all your eyes can claim—
Such beauty man might classify as art.
God looks beneath the skin,
At what lies deep within:
The Lord Eternal looks upon the heart.

Look not on his face,
Nor prove by human gaze,
With what your finite vision can impart.
For man can only know

What surface light will show:
The Lord Eternal looks upon the heart.

The heart of a king
Is a heart after God's own.
It's the heart that rules from the throne.

(Samuel): A king from Jesse's sons
God promised would appear.
But none of these is chosen.
Are all your children here?

(Jesse): The youngest yet remains
(Wife): Behold he tends the sheep
(Sisters): He dwells among their folds
(Eliab): He is probably asleep!

(Samuel): Go fetch him from the fields!
(Jesse): Among the nursing ewes?
(Samuel): Can you be sure that he
Is not the one whom God shall choose?

WHAT IS MAN?

Adapted From Psalm 8 and 19

(David)
The skies, like a heavenly harp,
The spheres, like harmonious strings,
Resound with the glory of God,
His wisdom and brilliance they sing.

How great is the sum of Your thoughts!
How great is the depth of Your mind!
So many things You could regard,
Yet You meditate on mankind.

What is man that he is on Your mind?
What is man when all this You've designed?
What is man that the work of your hand
Could be under his command?
What is man?

You gave him a limited life;
You gave him a handful of days;
But You made him just less than a God
And will crown him with glory and praise.

Though infants and babes in Your sight,
You will strengthen his voice for Your aim:
To silence the enemy's boast,
To bring You great honor and fame!
How excellent Lord is Your name!

How can it be
That He who numbers each star
Counts every hair on our heads?
Though He could dwell afar,
He lives with us instead!
Though the orbits He discerns,

He knows our secret faults.
And with intimate concern
He cleanses and exalts.

Will we ever understand?
Your purpose is so grand!
What is man?

CALLING FOR DAVID

(Zeruyah)
A servant of the Lord is at our house.
He comes with secret missions to fulfill:
To find another man to wear the crown,
But not one brother satisfied God's will.

Now he seeks a man who is after God's desires,
After God's own heart, who will do what He requires.

He is calling for David.
And this calling is a heavenly prod.
It's a calling to greatness,
A calling from God.

While you have been confined to tend this field,
I've seen the mighty works you have achieved.
You've conquered savage beasts with your bare hands,
Because the God of strength you have believed.

Now I think I see what our Lord will see in you.
Go before God's man so your heart stands in God's view.

THE ANOINTED

Adapted From 1 Samuel 16:12 and Psalm 89:20-57

(God)
I Am the Lord whose eyes foresee
This is the one who holds the key.
So I appoint him,
Arise! Anoint him,
For this is he!

(Samuel)
REFRAIN
This is the Anointed,
The Lord's Anointed.
Who can abase what God has exalted?
God's arm and right hand
He has extended
To His Anointed.
This is The Lord's Anointed.

Our God takes David from the sheep,
The Lord's own flock he now shall keep;
A firstborn son to God he'll be,
Deemed higher than all other kings.
With perfect heart, he shall fulfill
Our Lord Eternal's perfect will.

God will in kind meet all his cares,
His heart's desires and silent prayers.

As you behold each dawning day,
Or think upon the moon's display,
The faithful stars that fill the sky,
Believe the God who cannot lie:
His covenant with Jesse's son —
His Word — can never be undone.
For him God builds a house that's sure:
The line of David shall endure.

(Hannah, Samuel)
The Lord shall judge the Earth,
And govern every soul.
He gives strength unto His king,
His anointed's horn He will extol!

CALLING FOR DAVID (Reprise)

(Zeruyah)
A servant of the throne is at our house.
He says the king is troubled in his mind.
An evil spirit has him in its grasp,
When godly peace and wisdom once had shined.

Now they seek a man who is skillful on the harp.
When his strings resound this foul spirit shall depart.

This servant of the throne knew of your skill
And other strengths of character you bear:
Your wisdom, courage, fortitude and strength;
Your way with words and love of God are rare.

For your faithfulness now your future will be bright,
Stand before the king and find favor in his sight.

He is calling for David.
And this calling is a heavenly prod.
It's a calling to greatness,
A calling from God.

THE MIGHTY HARP

(Instrumental)

HAIL THE HERO!

Adapted From 1 Samuel 17-18

(Michal)
A new team has arisen here,
The Philistines have fled in fear!
Who knew the latest tool Saul would employ?
To quell the giant's hateful taunts,
The champion our king would flaunt
Was just a keen yet unassuming boy!

Two generations side by side

Have won our nation greater pride
This pair now boasts unprecedented might.
A seasoned man, a ruddy youth —
Both fighting for the God of truth:
All heathen armies they will put to flight.

(Michal, Handmaids, Women, Girls)
Hail the hero with joyous acclaim!
Hail king Saul, for the thousands he has slain!

(Michal)
Now without armor, without pause,
Young David ran with noble cause
To meet the foe with just his sling and his rod.
And as he set the glossy stone,
He knew that he was not alone,
His faith was in the living God!

His rock went forth at lightning pace,
And struck their champion in a place
Where copper, brass and armor did not shield.
The vile colossus tumbled down
A plume of dust rose from the ground
And now Goliath's sword the boy would wield.

The heavy blade he lifted up
So gravity could make the cut
That brought an end to every enemy threat.
He showed to all the giant's head
Our troops rejoiced, the others fled,
Our king pursued and chased them to their death.

(Michal, Handmaids, Women, Girls)
Hail the hero with thunderous acclaim!
David hail, for TEN thousands he has slain!

(Saul)
In this song these maids describe
The tens of thousands they ascribe
To victories of David — this they sing!
But when they tell of my amount
'Tis only thousands that they count,
So next they'll ask that David be their king!

Come to me, Jonathan,
You my trusted, firstborn son,
Listen closely to this mission that I charge:
I want David destroyed;
I want all your men deployed,
And who does this then his bounty shall be large!

(Jonathan)
My brother and friend,
Your life I defend;
I come here to give you this warning:
Our men lie in wait
To wield my father's hate,
By ending your life in the morning.

My love I have proved;

My faith is unmoved;
I gave you my robe, sword and bow.
And you I will bless
With every request:
In safety and peace you shall go.

(David, Jonathan)
May God be between us—
Your seed and mine.
So may our descendants
Be joined for all time:
Closer than brothers,
A union renowned,
Family forever,
What Heaven has bound.

GIVE HIM WINGS

Adapted From Psalm 59

(Michal) To Ramah David flies,
Into the prophet's keep;
(Handmaid #1) Yet to the soldier's eyes
Right here he soundly sleeps.
(Handmaid #2) This gives him until dawn
To find safe passage there.
(Michal) So till the night is gone,
Let us join our hearts in prayer.

Give him wings, Lord above.
Give him wings, like the dove.
Let him fly from the fray.
Let him fly far away.

Deliver him—defend him,
From those who rise against him.
Deliver him—and save him,
From those who seek to slay him.
Awake this night to help him.
Awake and strike his foes.
Awake, show them no mercy,
O Lord God of Hosts.

Behold the fierce threat,
When the mighty unite;
See the ambush is set
To destroy him this night,
Through no sin of his own;
His offense is unknown.
At dusk they return;
Like a dog hear them growl.
For his flesh do they yearn;
Round the city they prowl.
From their mouth poison drips
With sharp swords on their lips.

But You laugh with disdain
At these heathen, O Lord.
We keep watch and we wait
For the strength You afford.

All his foes by Your wrath
And Your power consume.
Let their pride be their trap
And their cursing their doom.

So at dusk let them return;
Like a dog let them growl.
For his flesh do they yearn;
Round the city they prowl.
But no blood will be spilled;
They will sleep unfulfilled.

At morning's first glow,
We sing of Your power,
And the mercy You show,
Our refuge and tower.
We praise You aloud,
For the strength You endowed.

Fly away, like the dove.
Fly away, my love.

HUNT HIM DOWN!

Adapted From Psalm 7

(Saul)
With your eyes like a hawk,
Being cat-like as you stalk,
Be relentless, overturning every stone.
You will track! You will trace!
And, triumphant in the chase,
You will kill the one who dares defy the throne.

Dig a ditch! Make a pit!
That his steps we might outwit.
When he stumbles then his weaknesses are bared.
Whet your sword! Bend your bow!
Aim your arrow at our foe,
Let your instruments of death now be prepared.

(Saul, Soldiers)
Hunt him down!
Do not rest until he's found!
Spill his blood! Soak the ground!

(Saul)
Overtake! Overpower!
Overwhelm our prey this hour.
Overrun and trample down the worthless weed.
With your foot—with your thrust,
Drive his honor in the dust,
So that on his corpse the scavengers may feed.

Tear his flesh with your claws!
Let no one support his cause.
And should anyone attempt to interfere,
Even if my own son,
This I promise would be done:
I would hang him on the wall with my own spear!

THE FEET OF HIS SAINTS

Adapted From 1 Samuel 2:9; 19:18

I find myself here
Because of a king
Who could not be soothed by my harp.
He hurled his spear,
While I plucked the string,
So twice I had to depart.

The anger aroused
Appeared to subside;
He set me in combat's command..
Yet he had allowed
This post to provide
My death at the enemy's hand!

But God is my stay,
Whenever I call;
He lightens my way:
I never shall fall!

(Hannah) He will keep the feet of His saints
(Samuel) They are guarded by God's hand.
(Students) If they falter—if they faint
(All): The Eternal helps them stand!

(David)
To the King's shock,
Alive I returned
With proof of the heathens' demise.
The great paradox:
My triumph had earned
His daughter as this battle's prize.
Her heart I had won
Without sling or spear.
All spoils were outdone
By her love so dear.

The king sent his son
To finish my life,
But closer than kin we were bound.
He warned me to run,
And helped by my wife,
I vanished without being found.

I come here to hide,
Your grace to entreat.
Be now my guide:
I sit at your feet.

WE ARE THE PILLARS (Reprise)

(Samuel, Students):
We are the pillars
Of God's command,
And on our shoulders
This kingdom will stand!
We are the pillars of the land!

(Soldiers)

We give our strength unto the King,
And lift the horn of the anointed.
We help our Lord restore all things:
This is now the time appointed!

SHARE MY THRONE

Adapted From Psalm 110 and Revelation 5:21-22

(David)

The moment is upon us,
The time to say farewell.
And he who has an ear,
Let him hear what I foretell.
Look forward to my coming
When I return as king,
The age that we await,
And the great rewards I bring:

For if you conquer
You will share my throne.
This seat of honor
You will call your own.
For in my/your/our struggles
I/you/we am/are not alone,
Sit at my right hand.
And share my throne!

Our foes shall be our footstool;
Our reign shall reach all seas;
Great giants will be vanquished;
All kings will bend their knees.
Our God builds us a city
Where He will soon abide;
And this we will inherit,
If we conquer side by side!

(David, Students)
We will rule together!
We will rule forever!

(David)
You will be a pillar in my courts,
And stand as solid supports!

(Hannah, Samuel)
From the dunghill they will rise,
As kings they will be known;
No longer bound to dust,
They will share a glorious throne!

ACT II

PSALMS OF THE FUGITIVE

Adapted From 1 Samuel 20-29

Psalm 56 (when the Philistines took him in Gath)
(David)
To a heathen land I flew;

As a silent dove I hid;
But the king there knew my name,
And my refuge he forbid.
Then came a certain calm
To compose this psalm:

Be merciful to me, O God,
Save this humble vagabond
From all my enemies.
From all calamities.

Daily do they follow me;
Each day do they oppress;
Each day they hope to swallow me;
Oh save me from distress,
And all my fears suppress!

In God I praise His Word,
In God I put my trust,
How can I fear the flesh?
How can I dread mere dust?

Daily they distort my words,
To feed their wicked thoughts,
Prepared to strike, they hide, they lurk —
To serve their evil plot,
To bring my soul to naught.

All my wanderings You can count;
Your bottle keeps my tears;
Your book records their vast amount.
When You incline Your ear,
My foes shall disappear.

Psalm 54 (when he changed his behavior before Abimelech; who drove him away, and he departed.)

For a moment there I feared,
And madness I did feign,
So the king would let me go
With no need to explain.
The moment I was free,
This hymn God sent to me:

My mouth is filled
With songs of praise,
With lasting honor all my days!
My soul upbuilds
With zealous boasts.
And kindles joy in humble hosts.

So join with me
To praise God's name,
To magnify his glorious fame!
My humble plea
I know He hears,
And rescues me from all my fears.

(David, People)
Encamped around our host
Are the angels of the Lord;

In chariots of fire,
They stand with flaming sword,

(People)
O taste and see
That God is great,
And none will hunger if they wait
On God. For He
will starve our foes,
And give His people sure repose.

(David)
O children, come,
My words now hear,
And I will teach you godly fear.
Refrain your tongue
From speaking guile;
Make godly peace your chief desire.

(Jesse) Upon the just remain God's eyes
(Wife) His ears are open to their cries.
(Brothers) But with disgust He turns His face
(Brothers/Sisters) Against the evil and the base,
(Jesse's Family) To end all thoughts of their disgrace.

Psalm 57 (when he fled from Saul in the cave)

(David)
Be merciful to me, O God,
Save this humble vagabond
From all my enemies,
From all calamities.

Your wings are my shadow;
Your wings are my shield.
Safe from the heat,
I am concealed.
Your wings are my shelter;
Your wings are my shade;
There safely I trust
And sing unafraid.

Lions make my soul their den:
O when will they depart?
Whose fire devours the sons of men —
Whose teeth are spears and darts —
Like swords their tongues are sharp.

(People)
Be exalted, O God, above the skies,
And over the Earth may Your glory arise.

(David) Nets they lay along my path,
And pits in their deceit,
(Jesse's Wife) But they fall prey to their own wrath
(Abigail) Their traps betray their feet.
(Zeruyah) Their end will be complete!

(David)
Early I awake each day
To pay my humble vows;

With steadfast heart I sing Your praise,
With pipes and harp aloud,
To soar above the clouds.

(Saul)

Hear me now, Benjamites:
We had David in our sights,
He was trapped and cornered at the prophet's school.
He was there in our clutch,
Yet some spirit came on us,
Till each one of us was dancing like a fool.

Even now he is gone,
And are all of you his pawns?
Has he promised you great riches in exchange?
At his aid is my son
Yet who told me? Not a one!
Now can anyone my confidence regain?

(Doeg) My king, I bring you tidings
Of David's whereabouts.
I know where he's been hiding
(Saul) At last, a loyal scout!

(Doeg)
When leaving Samuel's dwelling,
To Jonathan he sped,
And at your son's compelling,
To Nob this rebel fled.
The high priest there gave him bread.

I know, for I was there,
Detained before the Lord.
This man the priest helped spare
Is one he would award
The gift of Goliath's sword.

(Saul)
This evil priest who scorns my cause
Cut off his house shall be!
And from that sacred dwelling place
God's presence soon shall flee.

(Both)
All ears shall tingle,
All hearts shall faint.
I will see it through without restraint.

Psalm 52 (when Doeg the Edomite came and told Saul, and said unto him, David is come to the house of Ahimelech.)

(David)
O mighty man,
Why boast of plans —
This mischief you devise?
Your tongue is honed
On oilstones
Of wickedness and lies.

Your words have stung,
Deceitful tongue,

All righteousness you flout;
You'll soon be mute,
For by the root,
Our God will pluck you out!

The righteous men
Shall see your end;
They laugh and sing this song
(People) He made his health
His trust of wealth,
In God he was not strong.

(David) But as for me,
I am a thriving olive tree,
In God's house I'm planted.
I trust in His mercy,
And the goodness He has granted.

(Doeg)
I did as you demanded
And slaughtered every priest—
Beyond what you commanded,
Each woman, child and beast!

Amid this I discovered
That David fled to Gath;
Yet with his name uncovered,
He chose another path.

He went then to Adullam
In a cave he dwelled,
His family then joined him
And others who have felt
Their rights have been withheld.

He took them all to Moab
Sought refuge for his kin,
And then back to his homeland,
In Hareth he has been,
(Saul) Its forest?
(Doeg) He hides therein!

(Abiathar) My face you may recall;
From Nob I have escaped.
(David) The son of the high priest?
(Abiathar) Abiathar is my name.

Great carnage I have witnessed
Unfathomable pain.
I am the sole survivor
Of hundreds who were slain.
King Saul accused my father
Of conspiracy with you.
Yet father knew not your plight
Nor the terror it would brew.

Cut off in the flower of their age,
Cut off in their prime,
Cursed as an everlasting wage,
Cursed for all time.

He commanded of my family
That death be our reward.
But his men obeyed their conscience,
And lifted up no sword.
But one who was among them,
A servant of King Saul,
The chiefest of his herdsmen,
This Edomite slew them all.

A king who spared the lesser of the heathen
Did not show that same mercy on his own:
He slaughtered beasts and nursing infants even —
A massacre that man has never known!

(David)
I have caused your family's ruin,
So with my people dwell;
For he who seeks my life
Is hunting you as well.

(Doeg)
To Keilah David traveled
To fight the Philistines,
His hideout soon unraveled;
He could not have foreseen
Keilah's loyalty to the king.

They gave up his location,
He journeyed next to Ziph;
I heard this information
From this habitation's chiefs,
(Saul) So there David finds no relief!

Psalm 54 (when the Ziphims came and said to Saul, Doth not David hide himself with us?)

(David)
Save me, God, by Your great name,
Defend me by Your might!
Hear the prayer that I proclaim,
The plea that I recite.
Give ear unto my plight!

Strangers rise against me here;
The ruthless seek my end.
The true God they do not revere,
Nor do they comprehend
He is my help and friend.

(Jonathan)
My father seeks you here;
But, David, show no fear!
This hunter will never find you.
For God is your guide,
His angels stand beside,
And I as your brother behind you.

Though I am his heir,
He is fully aware
That you will be king of this land.
My allegiance is known —

(David) And you will share my throne!
(Jonathan) And forever will be at your right hand!

(David, Jonathan)
May God be between us —
Your seed and mine.
So may our descendants
Be joined for all time:
Closer than brothers,
A union renowned,
Family forever,
What Heaven has bound.

(Doeg)
Our fugitive is resting
In the desert of Maon.
This wilderness is testing
The safety he has known:
There he can be overthrown!

Psalm 63 (when he was in the wilderness of Judah.)

(David)
Early do I seek You, God,
In dry and barren lands.
My soul, it thirsts! My flesh, it longs
To see your mighty hands!

Your love is more than life to me;
My soul is satisfied.
Your goodness is the richest feasts;
My mouth is open wide!
Your praises I have cried!

I remember You upon my bed,
And meditate each eve,
How You have always been my aid,
To you my soul shall cleave —
(People) Your right hand never shall leave!

But those who would destroy my soul
Shall fall into the deep,
As ration for the beasts below —
(Abiathar) What lying lips will reap!
(David, Abiathar, People) But true lips God shall keep.

(Doeg)
We had his camp surrounded,
This place would be their grave.
But we all left confounded:
The Philistines did invade!
He then went to Engedi's cave.

Psalm 142 (when he was in the cave)

(David) With my voice to God I cry
And for His grace I plead.
I pour my thoughts before His eyes,
(Abiathar) And show Him every need!

(David) When my spirit starts to faint,
You know the path I tread:

How they laid traps along the way
And no help lay ahead,
(David, Abiathar) And every refuge fled!

(David) From persecutors rescue me,
Whose strength is more than mine!
Save me from the dungeon keep,
So my voice may define
(David, Abiathar) Your majesty divine!

(Doeg)
He spared you at Engedi
And made his mercy known;
Here was your chance to end him,
And yet you let him go
To keep on defying the throne.

With news that Samuel died,
He was loathe to carry on:
To have his strength supplied,
He now would be withdrawn
To the wilderness of mount Paran.

Psalm 145

(David)
When my heart is desolate,
I muse on days of old,
On all your works I meditate
To make my spirit bold.

Early do I seek You, God,
In dry and barren lands,
My soul, it thirsts! My flesh, it longs!
To You I stretch my hands!

Help me hear your loving grace
Each morning when I wake,
And help me know which path to trace,
Which steps my feet should take.

(Doeg)
He heard you gave his Michal
To be another's bride
He journeyed next to Carmel,
And took him two more wives,
Then went back to Ziph to hide.

Now there he stood before you
He spared your life again
To slay him I implored you,
But you would then extend
A vow that your hunting would end.

Yet wary of your oath,
He fled to Gath once more.
After sixteen months of growth,
That king is seeking war.

He does not trust in David
To fight along his side;

Yet still our swords may slay them:
Both enemies will die!
(Doeg, Saul) No longer can you, David, hide!

(Hannah)
The wicked shall be silenced ...

THE ANOINTED (Reprise)

Adapted From 2 Samuel 1:1-16; 1 Samuel 24:4-7; 26:7-12

(Zadok)
A stranger came into our camp
And held the crown of Saul;
He claimed with pride that he caused
Our captain's foe to fall.

He thought he'd be rewarded
For what he had reported,
And by his execution some were alarmed.
So David then began to preach,
How twice his king was in his reach,
And why he stayed his hand from doing harm:

While hiding in Engedi's cave,
He could have sent Saul to his grave;
For Saul was there—his guard was down,
And David's men were all around.
Then later to Saul's camp they crept
And went unseen to where he slept.
Yet twice no kingly blood was shed,
For this is what our captain said:

This is the Anointed,
The Lord's Anointed.
Who can abase what God has exalted?
God's arm and right hand
He has extended
To His Anointed.
This is The Lord's Anointed.

Now looking with our human eyes,
There's much in a man to criticize.
A deeper truth must be explained:
He fills a role that God ordained.
This lesson I will teach my son,
To fix his eyes upon the one
Whom God has chosen for his plan,
To see the Lord behind the man!

THE BOW

Adapted From 2 Samuel 1:17-27

(Zadok) O now Israel,
This dirge you must tell:
How beauty is slain in your heights.
(Abiathar) With David lament
This mournful event:
Your voice in this chorus unite.

(Zadok) In Gath hold your tongue,
And in Ashkelon
Declare not this news on its streets.
(Abiathar) Lest heathen rejoice,
And with jubilant voice,
Their daughters extol our defeats.

(Zadok, Abiathar)
How the mighty have fallen in the fray.
How their weapons have vanished,
And their shields are cast away.

(People)
O mount of Gilboa,
Let there be no
Accumulation of dew.
Nor let there now yield
Rich rain on your field,
For there the anointed they slew!
How the mighty have fallen!

Strong Jonathan's bow
Turned not from the foe,
Nor from the spilled blood of the slain.
The sword of King Saul
Caused the mighty to fall,
And returned to its sheath not in vain.

(Youth)
A father and son,
In death they were one;
In life they were loved and admired.
Like eagles in flight,
Like lions in might,
Their memory leaves us inspired.

(Michal, Handmaids)
Now Israel hears
Her daughters shed tears
For Saul who adorned them in pleasures:
With scarlet and gold,
And riches untold,
And turned their apparel to treasures.

(David)
O now Jonathan,
I grieve at your end:
Such heights where you finished your life!
With this I was blessed:
The love you expressed,
Surpassing the love of a wife.

(People)
How the mighty have fallen in the fray.
How their weapons have vanished,
(David) And their shields are cast away.
(People) Now to David we sing this day:
We are your flesh;
We are your bone;
God gives to you His glorious throne!

This is our pledge, our pact, our bond to enact.
Let our allegiance be known:
We are your flesh and your bone!

Yes, even when Saul was our king,
You were our shepherd and guide.
(Brothers) Now you shall lead us,
(Abigail) Now you shall feed us,
(Zeruyah) And claim what was so long denied!

God's covenant is certain with him.
And toward us these blessings extend.
(Jesse's Wife) Our hope is unfettered
(Jesse) With him as our shepherd.
(All) His kingdom shall be without end!

THE ARK RETURNS

Adapted From Psalm 132

(David)
Long ago we thought the Ark of God
Would give us victory.
But from God's sacred dwelling place,
His presence soon would flee.
The Ark was captured by our foes;
What trouble they would earn!
For seven months it tortured them,
So this spoil they would return.

For twenty years the Ark remained
Abandoned in the wood.
Through forty years of Saul's regime
He'd have left it there for good.
I heard of this at Ephratah,
When tending Father's sheep,
And till I fetched the Ark of God
My heart would never sleep.

Now we have conquered this holy land.
Now it is under our Lord's command.

Arise, O Lord, come to your rest—
This chosen city which you have blessed!
To give you a home will fulfill my quest!
Arise, O Lord, and come to your rest!

(Abiathar) Now Zion you desired, Lord,
Forever as Your shrine!
(Zadok) The lamp You gave Your chosen one
Shall cause his crown to shine!
(Both) The Ark, the symbol of Your strength,
Will make this hallowed ground;
The beauty of Your holiness
Will make this place renowned!

(David)
My chief joy is this holy hill;
Your cause I will advance;
And since You made my strength to grow,

I praise You in the dance!

(Zadok) Your priests are clothed with righteousness!
(Abiathar) With shouts Your saints rejoice!
(Zadok, Abiathar) They sing a new song to Your name!
(People) Give thanks with joyful noise!

(David)
To build you a home is now my quest!

ACT III **YOU ARE THE MAN!**

Adapted From 2 Samuel 12

(Nathan)
Let the king now bend his ear;
For his judgment do I seek,
So he can make his sentence known
For the man of whom I speak:

In a city, dwelled two men—
One had plenty, one had naught.
The rich man boasted many lambs—
The poor just one that he had bought:
In his house he raised this ewe,
At his table it was glad;
Among his children, how it grew—
The daughter that he never had.

To the city, came a man
Traveling far and seeking rest.
The rich man hatched a greedy plan
To entertain the weary guest.
Of his own he would not reap,
Loathe to tap his vast supply,
He took the pauper's only sheep,
And feasted to his neighbor's cry.

(David)
As the Lord Eternal reigns,
This man shall be put to death!
But first his neighbor shall regain
His best four lambs that still draw breath.
For the cruelty this man showed,
An execution I demand!
This man will reap the fruit he sowed!
(Nathan) You are the man!

You are the man whom God ordained.
Anointed with oil,
Whose cup flowed over;
You are the man
God rescued from the hand of Saul.

You are the man who had obtained
Your enemy's spoil,
His house and daughter;
You are the man
God set as monarch over all!

And if you lacked, or if you wanted,
No proper blessing need be hunted.
All you had to do was ask,
But upon yourself you took this task,
Now your sins must be confronted!

You are the man who stole a life:
You set him before
The deadliest battle;
You are the man
Whose house will always feel the sword.

You are the man who stole his wife!
Despising the Lord
With satisfaction!
You are the man
Whose wives will meet the same reward.

These things you did in secret;
In silence God observed;
But now in daylight's view,
Your punishment is served.

(David)
This is what I deserve
For the actions I abhor
And though I killed a man,
I have sinned against the Lord. ...

PSALMS OF THE REPENTANT

Adapted From Psalm 49-51, Psalm 52 and Psalm 103

(David)
Let all the world bend an ear,
For this parable I heard;
So from my harp this wisdom sounds,
And from my lips this word:

Should a monarch be afraid to sin?
Is the king above the law?
No royal wealth can pay this debt.
Can riches clear his flaw?
Can man redeem a life he stole?
Is salvation his to give?
What king can resurrect a soul,
Except the Lord who lives?

Men inwardly assume their lives
Will continue without end.
But they as sheep go to the grave;
No wealth can go with them.
Thus on my beauty death would feed,
If not for God Most High;
He shall redeem me from the grave,
If unto Him I cry:

Wash me, cleanse me of these scarlet stains.
Purge me, clear me of my guilt and blame.

For no excuses can erase my shame,
For the Lamb I have slain.

Now for this evil I confess;
Against you only I transgress;
These sins I'll always know.
In lovingkindness, hide Your eyes
From all the evil I devised,
And make me white as snow.

O purify my inward parts;
Create in me a clean, pure heart;
Renew an upright spirit,
That then my mouth You will reclaim
To sing Your praise and bless Your name,
So sinners then might hear it.

Restore to me the joy I lost.
When realizing what it cost,
O how my soul did cower!
Do not remove me from Your face,
And keep me in Your Spirit's grace.
Uphold me with that power.

What sacrifice could pay the price?
Can the blood of bulls or goats suffice?
The gifts You never have declined
Are offerings of a different kind:
A broken spirit, heart and mind.

What human sorrow could relieve your pain?
It is death I have gained.

(Nathan)
Your life is saved,
But shame would breed,
If how you have behaved
Produced abundant seed.
Your guilt is gone;
God will forgive;
Yet the son your sin has spawned,
God will not let him live.

But as you grieve,
Console your spouse;
God says she shall conceive
To help rebuild your house.
He shall be called,
"A man of rest";
His future shall be famed,
His efforts shall be blessed.

O how they are blessed whom God forgives.
He hears their heartfelt confession,
Removes their transgression
As far as east is from west.
O how they are blessed whom God forgives.

Now for your crimes,
The blood you spilled,

God says that in your time,
His house shall not be built.
But Solomon
This task will face;
He is God's chosen son
To build His holy place.

He shall see peace
And quiet days,
His kingdom shall increase;
His wealth shall earn God praise.
And you will be
His only one:
The only rightful queen.
The only heir your son.

RETURN TO JERUSALEM

Adapted From 2 Samuel 15 and Psalm 5

(Abiathar)
Another son has claimed the crown
And captured many hearts,
So David flees from Absalom:
With weeping, he departs.

(Zadok)
But as we left Jerusalem,
The Ark was his concern;
While at the Mount of Olives' base,
He charged us to return.
"We know our God is with the Ark,"
He said with humble tears,
"But whether He is at my side,
This truth remains unclear."

(Abiathar) Ten thousands are against him, Lord,
(Zadok) But our king You have sustained,
(Abiathar) On the wicked's face Your wrath is poured,
(Zadok) David's triumph You've ordained!

(Both) So we return to Jerusalem,
The Ark of God we bring.
We return to Jerusalem
To prepare it for our king.

(Zadok)
The Lord will use our presence there,
To foil this rogue regime.
Our sons will be shrewd messengers,
To frustrate all their schemes.

(Priests' Sons)
How many are his enemies!
His foes have been increased!
They claim that for his many pleas
God's thoughtfulness has ceased.

(Abiathar) But all his needs You have fulfilled.
You gird him with Your shield.

(Zadok) You hear him from your holy hill
(Both) Your glory you've revealed.

(Zadok, Abiathar, Priests' Sons)
Soon he returns to Jerusalem
With everlasting light;
He returns to Jerusalem!
Soon the Ark and Throne reunite!

WITH GOOD NEWS I RUN!

Adapted From 2 Samuel 18:19-28

(Ahimaaz)
Absalom has died this day,
This is the price that rebels pay
For evil that is done against the Lord.
His brother's life he had erased,
His family's honor he disgraced,
And chased his king and father into war.
To save the king's life I risked my own
As a secret agent of the throne,
So God's elect obtained the upper hand.
How bittersweet that his son fell,
But still it means that all is well,
King David can return unto the land!

I run with glad tidings,
I run with good news,
I run with great vision
To the man God did choose;
To tell how God avenged him,
How God's will has been done.
I run with this message;
With good news I run!

I run to deliver,
I run to declare,
I run to distribute,
So our king is aware.
He'll say as I'm approaching:
"It looks like Zadok's son;
He runs with glad tidings."
Yes! With good news I run!

This yearning to report,
This urgency—this heat,
Is wind behind my back
And fire beneath my feet!
My swiftness is unmatched,
My speed is not outdone,
And all who go before me I outrun!

I run as a herald,
I run as a hope,
I run as a helper,
God's man I uphold.
This will be our tradition:
My father and my sons will always be loyal.
With this good news I run!

LAST WORDS

Adapted From 1 Kings 1-2 and 2 Samuel 23

(Nathan)
Our king is growing gray.
His heir God has revealed.
Yet more arise this day who boldly will not yield.
A rebel claims the throne—
A son he did not choose.
To him this is not known,
Our king must learn this news!
Go tell him for your sake of Adonijah's reign.
Your son's life is at stake.
This truth must be made plain!

(Bathsheba)
My lord, I beg you heed the tidings that I bring;
You promised that our seed was Israel's next king.
Yet Adonijah reigns—
(Nathan) Among a zealous host—
(Bathsheba) With boisterous refrains!
(Nathan) Strong followers they boast.
(Bathsheba) Your edict they condemn.
(Nathan) Your old age they have blamed.
(Bathsheba) They have your priest with them.
(Nathan) Abiathar they claimed.

(David) Of all my many sons,
God chose the one you bore.
(Bathsheba) Let my lord king David live forevermore.
(David) My faithful priest and you
Have been forever loyal;
Give Solomon my rule:
Anoint his head with oil.

My house is far from pure,
But God has sworn to me:
This covenant is secure,
So will it not increase?
Yet those who have betrayed
Are cast off as the briar;
And those who give them aid
Shall be caged and burned with fire.
Now bring the rightful heir!
This wisdom must be known
Before the crown he wears—
Before he shares God's throne.

I go the way of all the Earth,
Be strong, my son, and rise.
Show yourself a man of worth,
Obedient and wise.
Serve God with a perfect heart,
And with a perfect mind.
(Bathsheba) Give not your strength to women,
Nor judgment unto wine.

(David)
If he who governs men is righteous in his rule,
With godly fear at hand,

He shines like precious jewels.
He shines as bright
As morning's rise,
Like sun's first light
On cloudless skies—
Beyond the night,
After rain shall pass—
A glistening sight on tender grass.

(David, Bathsheba)
If you walk in God's way,
If you keep His commands,
You will prosper each day,
You will strengthen your hands.

(David, Bathsheba, Nathan, Zadok)
Be a son to God the Lord,
And your Father He will be.
If you seek Him then He will be nigh,
Forsake Him and He will flee.

(David)
Now build a house for God the Lord,
For which I have prepared;
All it calls for, I have stored;
No good thing have I spared.
The Lord has chosen you to build;
Be strong, my son, and rise.
My last words must be fulfilled,
Obey what I advise.

I AM EVERY MAN

(David)
I am every man, who never had a voice.
I am every child, who was dubbed the unlikeliest choice.
And I am every babe whose cries are finally heard.
I am every son who finally feels preferred.

I am every slave who most would overlook.
I am every soul whose faults could fill every book.
And I am every lord whose honor overflows.
I am every saint in whom God's power grows.

Everything that I've been through
Helps connect my life with you.
I have suffered every sentiment and state.
Every parent knows my pain,
Every sinner knows my shame,
Every culture, class and kindred can relate.

I am every man, and my journey is yours.
I am every man, so this story endures.
God could use my name as His purpose for all.
For the great and small.

From a shepherd to a king,
From a desert to a spring,
This potential lies in every hand;

For this hope I stand:
I am every man.

I am God's master plan:
I am every man.

GOD SAVE THE KING!

Adapted From Psalm 72

(Nathan) A new day has dawned!
(Zadok) Jerusalem's streets are gleaming!
(People) We come to the spring,
To greet the new king with our faces beaming!
(Zadok) His name shall be great.
(Nathan) All others shall bow before him.
(Bathsheba) All voices will raise
A chorus of praise to adore him!

(People) "God save the king!"
(Zadok) All are rejoicing!
(People) "God save the king!"
(Nathan) Let every voice sing!
(People) "Long live the king,"
(Zadok, Nathan) With life everlasting!
(People) "Long live the king!"
Our anthems of joy now ring!

(Jesse, Wife) Like rain he descends—
(Brothers) Abundance shall fill creation.
(Sisters) And our daily prayer
Ascends for the heir of this glorious nation:
(Hannah) Give strength to Your king,
(Elkanah) Provide him Your righteous judgments,
(Samuel) That peace may endure
With justice assured in his presence.

(People)
"God save the king!" All are rejoicing!
"God save the king!" Let every voice sing!
Long live the king with life everlasting!
Long live the king! Our anthems of joy now ring!

His Father has charged him to build God a home,
To give us a beacon wherever we roam;
To summon all people in single accord,
To come to the temple to worship the Lord!

(All)
The Lord shall judge the Earth,
And govern every soul!
He gives strength unto His king!
His anointed's horn he will extol!

*Recorded and mixed at Cornerstone Recording Co., Edmond, OK
Choruses recorded at Armstrong Auditorium, Edmond, OK*

Copyright © 2014 Herbert W. Armstrong College
All Rights Reserved