



David: A Man of Passion and Destiny

Charles R. Swindoll

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David, unlike any Bible character before him, had the charisma to inspire a great nation. Yet in other ways he was a most ordinary man—often gripped by destructive passion, rocked by personal tragedy, and motivated by political gain. Yet, he is the one character the Bible describes as a "man after God's own heart." In this first volume of the "Great Lives" series Charles Swindoll shows how David proved his love for God many times over in an extraordinary life that left an enduring legacy of faith.

David: A Man of Passion and Destiny Details

Date : Published February 26th 1997 by Thomas Nelson (first published 1988)

ISBN : 9780849913822

Author : Charles R. Swindoll

Format : Hardcover 320 pages

Genre : Christian, Biography, Religion, Nonfiction, Christian Living, Faith, Christianity



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From Reader Review David: A Man of Passion and Destiny for online ebook

Charles Jr. says

This book gives us an in depth look at David's life. David was truly a man of Passion and Destiny. What better way to see Romans 8:28 in action than to look at the life of the man that the Bible declares as being after God's own heart. Swindoll's entire book series is great and very helping in providing spiritual insight encouragement through the life of biblical characters. I have read through it 3 times and each time I seem to glean more and more.

Tiffany Ashcraft says

i thought it was a great book and it taught me a few things about friendship!

Rachel says

It's taken me 3 years to finally complete reading this book, not because of it's length however – I just get too distracted in my reading habits! It was good to dig back into this book and finally finish it up.

Though David is a well-known and well-loved character of mine it was wonderful getting an in-depth look at his life laid out completely in this way and unbroken, as it often fails to do in church sermons of course. Charles Swindoll takes you verse by verse, chapter by chapter, story by story, never covering over David's mistakes, and giving many wonderful lessons and applications from this "man after God's own heart".

I highly recommend this entire series of character studies, as I always find something truthful and authentic in taking the time to get a closer look at these well-known people from God's word.

Matias says

Exelente! Pocos libros tienen esta mezcla tan profunda, pero a la vez tan práctica. La pluma de Swindoll es sencillamente maravillosa; realmente logra que uno se lance a la aventura del estudio biográfico junto con él, escarbando, gozando, llorando y sufriendo con el mismo David. Sin duda, un libro muy recomendado.

small says

This particular book was hard for me to get through. I actually stopped half way through. I think it is because I was comparing David's life to Joseph's life. I read Joseph right before this one. The two are so different. I got very confused with what God was allowing here with the two men. But if I would have continued to read, I would have seen the consequences of David's actions. Even though he was still considered a man

after God's own heart, he had consequences for his sins. It affected not just him, but his whole family. There was a domino effect that lasted many, years after. This book brought me to a place to learn about true grace and mercy. Something I don't ever want to take for granite. Highly recommended.

John Hibbs says

I started to diligently read this book but started skimming and quickly realized it wasn't worth my time. This is a watered down version of the real lessons to be learned from the life of David. We have the advantage of knowing how things turn out when we read the Bible and this colors our interpretations of the Old Testament stories, in particular. If you read this book, please do it in the light in which it was written--as a book for beginning Christians who have not given up the baby food. If that's you, go for it. Otherwise, look for a more fulfilling read. Otherwise, stick with the Old Testament.

Jim says

David is a man that all persons can relate to. He experience every temptation I know. At least the ones i have face. Even though God called him "A man after my own heart" David committed the most ghastly of sins. Swindoll presents a vivid picture of a man like us all; struggling to do what is right and struggling to hid sin. If you don't want to see your shortcomings, don't read this book. If you want to know human nature and the love of God, READ IT.

James Kim says

I love Chuck Swindoll's writing and sermons. This is another very good book. A wonderful way to get to know the person of David, the King of Israel.

The reason this book only gets 3 stars from me is because Swindoll doesn't deal with the final chapter of David's life when he instructs Solomon to get even with David's old enemies. I find that to be a sad chapter to David's life and was curious about how Swindoll would deal with that but Swindoll leaves it out. I would have appreciated his thoughts on the last chapter of David's life.

Bryson Shaw says

Love reading and listening to anything by Charles Swindoll. He's mastered the art of storytelling and you can hear his benevolent laugh roar throughout the pages.

This was my first dive into David's life past the David vs Goliath story. Look forward to reading more.

Bridget says

3.5 stars

I've been wanting to start reading this biblical character series by Charles Swindoll for a while, but I picked up this book at this time for one reason: I had finished reading 1 and 2 Samuel recently, and I did NOT like David. At all. Other times reading his story, I saw the kid who trusted God and took down Goliath, the young man who refused to take revenge on Saul when he had the chance, or the king who brought the ark of God back to Jerusalem with worship and dancing (which is all true). This time, however, I saw a miserable failure as a husband and father, a coward who ran when he should've stood, and a foolish leader whose pride led to a plague that killed 70,000. How is this guy called "a man after God's own heart"?

So I read this book to get a different perspective.

Pastor Swindoll basically paraphrased the story of David from 1 and 2 Samuel, then gave 3 or 4 life lessons at the end of each chapter. It was all good, but I wish it had gone a little deeper. I had hoped for an in-depth study of this man's life, rather than just a broad overview. I did draw some conclusions from what I read here though.

If you want to see the heart of King David, read the Psalms. They are full of cries for help, confession of sin, reminders of God's faithfulness in the face of our faithlessness. No matter how low David got in his own moral failures, his heart was still seeking the Lord. He paid for the sins he committed, as did his (many) wives, his children, and his entire kingdom. But he found grace and mercy every time he turned to his Father. That's man after God's heart.

One last note: I also heartily agree with Charles Swindoll when he wrote how glad he is that God is finished writing the Bible. Our sins won't be broadcast worldwide in the number one bestselling book of all time. We could each be featured prominently. Praise God that His mercies are new every morning.

Henry says

A great introduction and build into the life of King David. This work resounds with me today.

Justin carpita says

swindoll brings bible charecters to life like noone else.

Rose Griffith says

With intermittent reading of the Old Testament, David was an enigma to me. After reading this book, I feel like I know and understand his character, actions and why he is often referred to with the line: David had a heart for God.

Mr Swindoll brings David alive to the reader like a great history professor I once had (James Morrison), bringing his flaws to the fore, not hiding them to make David larger than life. There were times I felt I could identify with his shortcomings and times I simply admired how strong and unfailing his faith in God was.

The book is well-written and has intrigued me to seek out other of Swindoll's book. This is an author, a theologian, I feel I can learn a lot from.

David make a lot of mistakes, huge mistakes, but he always returned to the most important thing in his life: his faith, his God. It gives me hope that we mere humans can be so good as to emulate his strength!

Katie says

Loved it. I read this one chapter per day as my Bible study. I loved focusing on one person and working my way through a book of the Bible at the same time.

Trooper1048 says

A very good christian book to read.
