

Leap Over a Wall:

The Life of David

“By My God, I can leap over a wall!”

--David (2 Sam. 22:30)

October 11, 2009



Today, we begin a powerful worship and preaching series on the life of David, a central figure in the Word of God. David, however, is not the primary story in the Word--it is the Word Himself, Jesus Christ. Jesus is the pivotal story in God's revelation, the story that gathers all other stories into its orbit, establishes the center, and provides the comprehensive coherence. *God reveals himself in Jesus.* As the apostle John reminds us, “The Word was God ... and became flesh and dwelt among us.” (John 1:1, 14)

Interestingly enough, one of the ways Jesus is introduced to us is as the “Son of David.” That designation isn't an incidental detail of genealogy, but a major item of theology--that is, *it's about God.* The David story anticipates the Jesus story. The Jesus story presupposes the David story. David. Why David? There are several strands that make up the answer, but prominent among them is David's earthiness. He's so emphatically human: David fighting, praying, loving, sinning. David conditioned by the morals and assumptions of a brutal Iron Age culture. David with his eight wives. David angry; David devious; David generous; David dancing. There's nothing, absolutely nothing, that God can't and doesn't use to work his salvation and holiness into our lives. If we're going to get the most out of the Jesus story, we'll want first to soak our imagination in the David story.*

So, as Jesus dwells among us through Word and Sacrament ministry, we ourselves will learn what it means to say with David, “By my God, I can leap over a wall!” Welcome to all who worship with us today!

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