

I Samuel 25:43-44 and David's Wives

- **Opening Questions**

1. What was more common in Old Testament Israel – monogamy or bigamy/polygamy?
2. How many Old Testament men can you name who had more than one wife? See any trends here?
3. Analyze these quotes:
 - a. “We can hardly point with certainty to a single text in which polygamy is expressly forbidden and monogamy is universally decreed.”
 - b. “The church’s case against polygamy on the basis of Scripture is a flimsy one.”
4. Time to read Genesis 2:24, Matthew 19:4-6, Deuteronomy 17:17, and Proverbs 5:15-19.
5. Do bigamists or polygamists suffer the consequences of their sin even if they are not directly condemned for it in the Old Testament? Any examples?

- **David's Wives**

1. He first married M_____, but Saul gave her to P_____ or P_____ after she helped David escape. When David began his reign in H_____, Michal was r_____ to him (II Samuel 3:12-16).
2. It is hard to be certain whether A_____ or A_____ married David first. We know nothing of A_____ except her hometown was near Abigail’s hometown of C_____ in southern Judah. David m_____ both of them before becoming King while h_____ from Saul. Both stayed in the Philistine city of G_____ while David was on the run (I Samuel 27), and both were captured by the A_____.
3. By the time of his s_____ year reign in H_____, he also married Maacah, Haggith, Abital, and Eglah (II Samuel 3:2-5). He had s_____ sons from s_____ different wives. It is worth noting

that A_____, who will rebel against David, had a
G_____ mother from the royal family of a l_____ in
modern-day S_____.

4. When he reigned in J_____ for the next
t_____ years, he married m_____ w_____ and
had more s_____ and d_____ (II Samuel 5:13-14, I
Chronicles 3:5-9). We only know the name of one of these wives. Can
you name her?
5. In addition to his wives, David also had an unknown n_____
of c_____ (II Samuel 5:13). These were not
w_____ to whom a man was m_____ but they were
generally counted as part of his h_____ (e.g. Hagar, Bilhah,
Zilpah). David left t_____ concubines behind in Jerusalem when he
fled from A_____ (II Samuel 16:20-22), and upon his return to
Jerusalem, David p_____ them and treated them as
w_____ (II Samuel 20:3).
6. David's p_____ ways were learned too well by Solomon
who had _____ wives and _____ concubines (II
Samuel 15:16).
7. Even with this u_____ p_____ of polygamy, God in
m_____ considered David to be a man after His own h_____
(I Samuel 13:14).