

and proclaimed himself king of the Ammonites. Thus, “. . . The Lord gave David victory everywhere he went” (8:6). Notice, David was not merely pushing the enemies off Israel’s borders. He was making the neighboring peoples subject to him.

Map #10 — The Empire of David and Solomon

Label and number your map.

Notice this map covers much more land than the usual map of Palestine.

Draw a dotted line around the usual area shown.

Now show David’s victories. Label:

Philistines (not subject, but subdued)

Phoenicians (not subject, but friendly)

Hamath (not subject, but friendly)

Color each of these nations a different color.

Label the peoples subject to David:

Edom Zobah

Moab Ammon

Damascus

Color all the land David controlled.

David wanted to build a temple for Jehovah in Jerusalem. At first, Nathan the prophet approved of the idea, but God sent him back to David to tell him God did not approve. God said, “I have never asked for a permanent dwelling place. Why should I have one now? David, I took you from a sheepcote to make you ruler of My people and I have been with you in all you have undertaken. Furthermore, I will set up your house after you to rule over My people. But, David, you have shed much blood. Your son after you will be a man of peace, and I will let him build Me a house. If your sons sin, I will punish them, but I will not take away My mercy from them as I did to the house of Saul. Your kingdom and your throne will be established *forever*” (2 Sam. 7:4-17; 1 Chron. 22:6-10; paraphrased). Even now, Jesus is said to be sitting on “David’s throne” (Acts 2:30-33; see also Luke 1:32-33). David spent the rest of his life gathering stones to be used for the temple of the Lord.

A tragic thing happened while David’s men were besieging the city of _____ (11:1). David was usually at the head of his forces, but this time he set them ahead and tarried in Jerusalem. He saw a woman named Bathsheba and committed fornication with her, though she was the wife of one of his most loyal men. She was with child as a result, and David sought to cover his sin. He had her husband Uriah put in the forefront of the battle so he would be killed, and he took Bathsheba as his wife.

Nathan rebuked David for his sin. He said the child of fornication would die. The sword would never depart from David’s house from that day forward. Trouble would arise from within his own family. His wives would be lain with openly as a disgrace to the house. Thus, his sin marked a sad day for David himself and for all Israel. See Psalms 51 for a glimpse of the grief David felt over his sin.

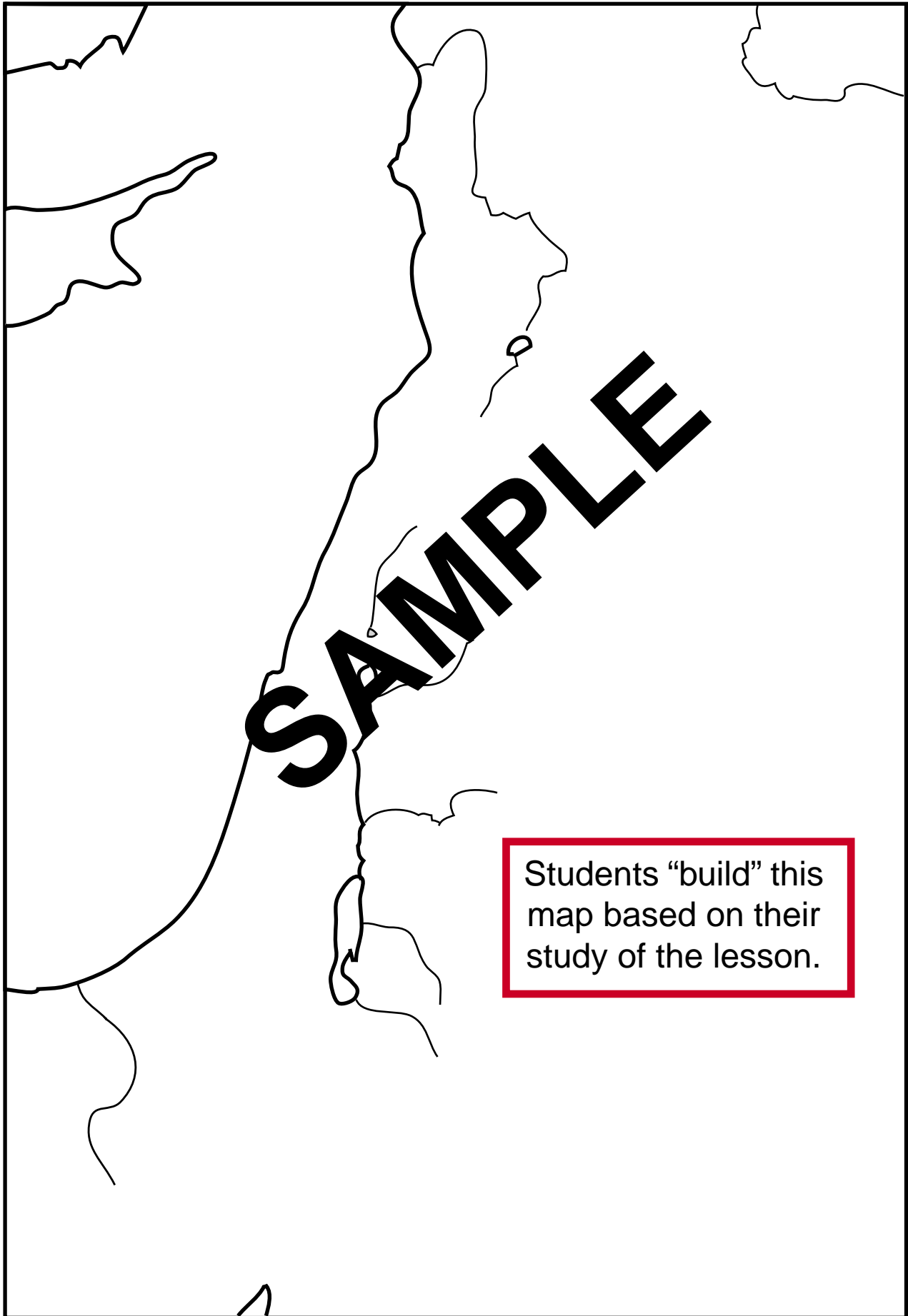
Some time passed, and David’s eldest son Amnon raped his half-sister Tamar. David was grieved, but how could he punish his son for a sin no worse than his own? Another son, Absalom, killed Amnon and fled for his life. Years passed before he and his father were reconciled.

Absalom was heir to the throne, but he did not want to wait until his father’s death. He began to win the hearts of the people by flattery and shrewd political maneuvers. He watched his chance until he thought his following was strong enough, then he declared himself king in _____ (15:10)

David did not want to be caught inside the city of Jerusalem with no chance to gather forces, so he left as soon as he heard the news of Absalom’s rebellion. It was one of the saddest scenes in the entire Bible to watch David and his most loyal men leaving Jerusalem, fleeing from his own son. He and his company crossed the brook _____ (15:23), just outside the city wall and made their way up the mount of _____ (15:30), weeping as they went. Their plan was to spend the first night in the Jordan Valley near the ford Hushai. An advisor David had sent back to serve as spy, sent a message for them to hurry across the river and get to a safe place lest Absalom follow them immediately. David followed the advice, and, by morning, all of his men were across the Jordan (17:16, 22). They hurried on to the city of _____ (17:24) in Gilead. Loyal men came to his aid with food and supplies. An army began gathering to oppose Absalom.

The resulting battle took place in the _____ of _____ (18:6). Usually, when we speak of anything connected with Ephraim, it is located west of the Jordan. This may be an exception to the rule because Absalom’s forces had crossed the Jordan also, and were camped in the land of _____ (17:24, 26). It is possible the battle began on the east side of the Jordan and moved across the river as Absalom’s troops fell back before David’s men. Absalom’s army was defeated and the soldiers fled for their lives. Absalom himself was killed also.

The tribe of _____ assembled at _____ (19:15) to bring David back with pomp.



Students “build” this map based on their study of the lesson.

