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The Remaining Years of David's Rule  
 2 Samuel 21:1-1 Kings 2:11

- Psalms "bookending" the reign of David. 2 Samuel 22:1-23:7
  - As the Psalm in chapter 22 marked near the beginning of the reign of David, chapter 23:1-7 captures the last of his written words.
  - An oracle is a divinely given message. The picture is something that was whispered into someone's ear.

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The Remaining Years of David's Rule  
 2 Samuel 21:1-1 Kings 2:11

- Psalms "bookending" the reign of David. 2 Samuel 22:1-23:7
  - David describes himself as
    - the anointed of the God of Jacob. (1 Samuel 16:13)
    - The sweet psalmist of Israel. (73 of the 150 Psalms in the book of Psalms are attributed to David.) May also be translated, "the favorite of the songs of Israel".

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The Remaining Years of David's Rule  
 2 Samuel 21:1-1 Kings 2:11

- Psalms "bookending" the reign of David. 2 Samuel 22:1-23:7
  - The message received by David from God contrasts the blessings of a godly ruler over those he identified as "worthless men."
  - The godly ruler rules justly and is motivated by the fear of God. (see 2 Samuel 8:15)

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4

The Remaining Years of David's Rule  
 2 Samuel 21:1-1 Kings 2:11

- Psalms "bookending" the reign of David. 2 Samuel 22:1-23:7
  - He lists the benefits of a godly ruler:
    - Hope
    - Peace
    - Provides a context for the people to thrive (2 Timothy 2:1-4)

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5

The Remaining Years of David's Rule  
 2 Samuel 21:1-1 Kings 2:11

- Psalms "bookending" the reign of David. 2 Samuel 22:1-23:7
  - David references God's covenant with his house.
    - David's house (dynasty) is secure.
    - God will prosper the efforts of this house as they rule the people in righteousness.

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6

The Remaining Years of David's Rule  
 2 Samuel 21:1-1 Kings 2:11

- Psalms "bookending" the reign of David. 2 Samuel 22:1-23:7
  - David contrasts the reign of the ungodly
    - Futile
    - Harmful
    - Fleeing

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7

Lessons

- Those who rule do so at the pleasure of God.
  - We submit first and foremost to God's rule and then to the rule of those He places in authority.
  - Scripture makes clear that prayer for those in authority is a responsibility of those who serve God.

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8

Lessons

- God has clearly revealed the expectations He has for those who rule.
  - We have the responsibility to use every appropriate means to educate and influence those in authority concerning God's righteousness.
  - We have the responsibility to use any appropriate means to hold those in authority to the standard of God's righteousness.

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9

Lessons

- Those who rule have the opportunity to be a blessing to people in their care.
- Those who rule can be a detriment to those in their care.

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