

## **2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10<sup>ii</sup>**

All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron, and said, "Look, we are your bone and flesh. For some time, while Saul was king over us, it was you who led out Israel and brought it in. The LORD said to you: It is you who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you who shall be ruler over Israel." So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron; and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the LORD, and they anointed David king over Israel. David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. At Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months; and at Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years. David occupied the stronghold, and named it the city of David. David built the city all around from the Millo inward. And David became greater and greater, for the LORD, the God of hosts, was with him.

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### **<sup>ii</sup> About 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10**

Samuel, the last and greatest judge, grudgingly anoints Saul as the first king. After a turbulent reign ending in civil war, Saul dies violently and the tribes of Israel unite in their support of David as their new king. The tribal representatives recognize David's history of leadership even during Saul's reign. More importantly, they acknowledge the divine choice that appointed David as "heir apparent."

David is anointed king by "all the elders of Israel" (v. 3). This is his third anointing as king: the first by Samuel in private (1 Samuel 16:13); the second by the leaders of Judah, David's tribe (2:4); and lastly by representatives of all the tribes. Each anointing was increasingly public and with wider consequences. Though David's grandson lost the united kingdom, Christians claim the throne belonged to his heir, Jesus.