



## 28: The House of David (2 Samuel 7)

*What happens when your plans for God collide with God's plans for you? In 2 Samuel 7, David discovers that God's promise is bigger than anything he imagined—a promise that leads straight to Jesus, the eternal King.*

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### teachingnotes

\* All Scripture is from the Christian Standard Bible (CSB) unless otherwise noted.

David plans to build the House of God (temple), but God plans to build the House of David's dynasty instead...a line of kings that will ultimately lead to Jesus, the King whose throne lasts forever.

What we are reading comes from one of the most important chunks of Scripture of all of the Old Testament writings - known as **the Davidic Covenant**, one of the major covenants in the Bible alongside the covenants with Noah, Abraham, and Moses.

This Old Covenant/Testament text is a 1,000 year old bridge that crosses into the New Covenant/Testament.

#### 2 Samuel 7:1-3

When the king had settled into his palace and **the LORD had given him rest on every side** from all his enemies, the king said to **the prophet Nathan**, "Look, I am living in a cedar house while **the ark of God sits inside tent curtains.**" So Nathan told the king, "Go and do all that is on your mind, for the LORD is with you."

**The LORD had given him rest on every side from all his enemies.** Since chapter 8 has David in multiple battles, this leads scholars to conclude that either: a) the events of chapter 7 come AFTER the events and chapter 8, tied directly to the *theme* of bringing the ark to Jerusalem, rather than chronological, or b) God had given rest for the time being, but more war was coming.

Either way, at this point **the ark of God was on the front burner of David's mind.** Just bringing it to Jerusalem wasn't enough for him as he was wrestling with a thought he couldn't get out of his mind: "How can I live in an exquisite PALACE while God lives in a humble TENT?"

David expressed this concern to **the prophet Nathan** (the first mention of this man), although he will play a prominent role in King David's life. Nathan encourages David to do whatever is on his heart - which is building a TEMPLE for Yahweh.

#### 2 Samuel 7:4-7

But that night **the word of the LORD** came to Nathan: Go to **my servant David** and say, "This is what **the LORD** says: Are you to build Me a house to dwell in? From the time I brought the Israelites out of Egypt until today I have not dwelt in a house; instead, I have been moving around with a tent as My dwelling. In all my journeys with all the Israelites, have I ever spoken a word to one of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd My people Israel, asking: Why haven't you built me a house of cedar?"

Up until this point David has been referred to as "the king" 3 times (2 Sam 7:1-3). Yet when Yahweh refers to David, He calls him **My servant David**, NOT "the king". This speaks to the fact that **"the king" recognizes his role as the SERVANT of Yahweh.**

❓ **What are YOU and I known for?** Our position before people OR our position before God.

Will we be known for being **a SERVANT of Yahweh?**

**God doesn't need a house.** He is not held inside of that little box called *the Ark of the Covenant*. Later that there is another reason why God doesn't want David to build His temple (David has shed much blood - 1 Chronicles 22:6-10).

**God can't be contained in the temple.** God's Presence is not restricted to this building or any other religious building.

❓ What difference would being aware of God's Presence - wherever we go - make in our lives?

## 2 Samuel 7:8-11

So now this is what you are to say to My servant David: **This is what the LORD of Armies says:** I took you from the pasture, from tending the flock, to be ruler over My people Israel. **I have been with you wherever you have gone**, and I have destroyed all your enemies before you. **I will make a great name for you** like that of the greatest on the earth. I will designate a place for My people Israel and plant them, so that they may live there and not be disturbed again. Evildoers will not continue to oppress them as they have done ever since the day I ordered judges to be over My people Israel. I will give you rest from all your enemies. "The LORD declares to you: **The LORD himself will make a house for you.**"

This kind of promise wasn't made by God to anyone else since God's promise to Abraham, telling him, "**I will make you into a great nation**, I will bless you, I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing." (Genesis 12:2).

So instead of David building a house for Yahweh (temple), Yahweh will continue to build **the House of David** (dynasty). God rejects David's plan, but doesn't reject David.

🕒 David's **plan** has changed, but his **purpose** has not - **his life is to point others to the faithfulness of Yahweh**, & so is YOURS! As long as THAT'S your purpose, then God's redirecting your plans should be something you welcome!

There WILL come a time when a more permanent temple than a tabernacle tent will be built, not by David, but by his son.

## 2 Samuel 7:12-17

When your time comes and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up after you your descendant, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. **He is the one who will build a house for My Name**, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will discipline him with a rod of men and blows from mortals. But **My faithful love will never leave him** as it did when I removed it from Saul, whom I removed from before you. **Your house and kingdom will endure before Me forever**, and your throne will be established forever."  
Nathan reported all these words and this entire vision to David.

**Psalms 89** is a later poetic song written to parallel David's bragging on Yahweh.

**Psalms 89:1-4** **I will sing about the LORD's faithful love forever**; I will proclaim Your faithfulness to all generations with my mouth. For I will declare, "Faithful love is built up forever; You establish your faithfulness in the heavens." The LORD said, "I have made a covenant with My chosen one; I have sworn an oath to David My servant: 'I will establish your offspring forever and build up your throne for all generations.'"

## 2 Samuel 7:18-19

Then King David went in, **sat in the LORD's presence**, and said, Who am I, **LORD God**, and what is my house that you have brought me this far? What You have done so far was a little thing to you, LORD God, for You have also spoken about Your servant's house in the distant future. And this is a revelation for mankind, LORD God.

King David is humble and grateful as he marvels at God's grace. These incredible promises were MUCH BIGGER than just pointing to his son, Solomon! David wanted to build God a house, but God planned to build David a dynasty that would lead to the eternal King **in the distant future** — the LORD Jesus!

## 2 Samuel 7:20-29

**What more can David say to You?** You know Your servant, LORD God. Because of Your word and according to Your will, You have revealed all these great things to Your servant. This is why **You are great, LORD God**. There is no one like You, and there is no God besides You, as all we have heard confirms. And who is like your people Israel? **God came to one nation on earth** in order **to redeem a people for Himself**, to make a Name for Himself, and to perform for them great and awesome acts, driving out nations and their gods before your people You redeemed for Yourself from Egypt. You established Your people Israel to be Your Own people forever, and **You, LORD, have become their God**. Now, LORD God, fulfill the promise forever that you have made to your servant and his house. Do as you have promised, so that your name will be exalted forever, when it is said, "The LORD of Armies is God over Israel." The house of your servant David will be established before you since you, LORD of Armies, God of Israel, have revealed this to your servant when you said, "I will build a house for you." Therefore, your servant has found the courage to pray this prayer to you. LORD God, you are God; your words are true, and you have promised this good thing to your servant. Now, please bless your servant's house so that it will continue before you forever. For you, LORD God, have spoken, and with your blessing your servant's house will be blessed forever.

**God had given David an incredible promise**, a promise to build the House of David...**FOREVER** (2 Sam 7:16)!

🔍 BUT...within 400 years, enemies will have destroyed the temple that David's son had built (586 BC), and **NO SON OF DAVID** would ever officially sit on the throne of Israel ever again...*Had God's promise failed? Has God's word been found false?*

1,000 years after the life of King David, **Jesus is birthed in Bethlehem** - David's home, BECAUSE...Jesus is from David's tribe of Judah AND from David's family tree. Jesus being in the lineage of David is noted multiple times in the New Testament (Mt 1:1,6; Lk 3:31; Lk 1:32-33; Lk 2:4; Mt 9:27, 21:9; Acts 2:29-30, Rm 1:3; Rev 22:16).

### Luke 1:31-33

Now listen: You will conceive and give birth to **a son**, and you will name him **Jesus**. He will be great and will be called **the Son of the Most High**, and the Lord God will give Him **the throne of his father David**. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and **His kingdom will have no end.**"

When it was time to give birth...

### Luke 2:4-5

Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee, to Judea, to **the city of David**, which is called **Bethlehem**, because he was of the house and family line of David,

This King lived during the time of the Roman occupation, when the people were EXPECTING a conquering king, a military messiah. Yet, Jesus didn't invite people to join His militia and prepare to expel the Romans. Instead, Jesus says...

### Matthew 11:28-30

Come to me, all of you who are weary and burdened, and **I will give you rest**. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, because I am lowly and humble in heart, and you will **find rest for your souls**. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

That's a **CRAZY CLAIM...unless it's TRUE!** Jesus says it's by *trusting HIM, following HIM*, that **rest** can be found - *rest from the enemies of sin, shame, & spiritual death*. That was Paul's message as well, as he mentions what we have been learning throughout our Samuel study.

### Acts 13:20-23

...He [God] gave them judges until Samuel the prophet. Then they asked for a king, and God gave them Saul. After removing him, **He raised up David** as their king...**From this man's descendants**, as He promised, God brought to Israel the Savior, Jesus.

Some listened to Paul's message and many dismissed it. Most of the people of Israel are still looking for a military messiah to bring them PEACE - **someone from the House of David**.

Most Jews deny the ONE who is **the ultimate proof of the promise completely fulfilled - Jesus**, the King of all Kings and the LORD of all lords (Rev 19:16), Whose kingdom will never end; the AUTHOR of LIFE (Acts 3:15) and the JUDGE of all humankind (Mt 25), who one day...WILL RETURN as a Conquering King.

✠ **Will you find your REST in Jesus & challenge others to come to HIM and find REST for their souls too?**

## heretoserveyou

Have questions and need some help? ...real soon...how about now? Please **call** or **text** us soon!

- \* Contact **Jackie** (850-673-1582), **Christy** (850-673-9764), **Caleb** (864-315-8015), **Gary** (850-673-2507), **Betty** (850-973-3266), or another follower of Jesus soon!
- \* Or call our **deacons & wives: Alan & Christy Androski** (850-464-1428), **Noel & Patricia Barnes** (813-767-2881), **Derek & Emily Beaty** (813-763-4421), or **Chris & Caitlin Day** (850-673-7920), **Glen & Margie Peacock** (850-464-1484).

# Discussion questions

These questions are designed to help you LIVE what you LEARN with your family, friends, or small group.

## The House of David — 2 Samuel 7

### 1. David's Desire to Honor God - Read 2 Samuel 7:1-3

- What does David's concern about the ark reveal about his heart toward God?
- Why do you think Nathan initially tells David to proceed with his plan?
- What are some ways people today try to honor God with good intentions that may not actually be what God wants?
- Can you think of a time when **your plan for God** was different than **God's plan for you**?

### 2. God Is Not Contained in Buildings - Read 2 Samuel 7:4-7

- What does this passage teach us about God's nature and presence?
- Why might people be tempted to think God is more present in certain places than others?
- How do the following passages expand this idea? **Read: Acts 7:48-50, John 4:21-24, 1 Corinthians 6:19**
- How should the reality that God is always present affect: the way we speak, the way we treat people, the choices we make when no one is watching?

### 3. God's Grace in David's Story - Read 2 Samuel 7:8-9

- Why does God remind David that He took him from the pasture?
- What does this reveal about how God works in people's lives?
- Read the following passages: 1 Samuel 16:11-13, 1 Corinthians 1:26-29
- What encouragement does this give to people who feel ordinary or overlooked?

### 4. The Great Promise (The Davidic Covenant) - Read 2 Samuel 7:10-16

- What specific promises does God make to David in this passage?
- Which parts of this promise refer to Solomon, and which point beyond him?
- Why do you think the word "forever" is repeated several times in this passage?
- What does this promise reveal about God's faithfulness to His people?

### 5. The Fulfillment in Jesus - Read Luke 1:31-33, Matthew 1:1, Acts 2:29-31, Revelation 22:16

- What do these passages reveal about Jesus' connection to David?
- Why was it important that the Messiah come from David's line?
- How does Jesus fulfill the promise of an eternal kingdom?
- What kind of king were people expecting in Jesus' day?
- How is Jesus' kingdom different from the kingdoms of this world?

### 6. David's Response to God's Grace - Read 2 Samuel 7:18-22

- What stands out to you about David's attitude in this prayer?
- Why does David respond with humility rather than pride?
- What phrases in David's prayer show his understanding of God's greatness?
- How does remembering what God has done in our lives shape our worship and gratitude?

### 7. God's Plan vs. Our Plans - Read Proverbs 16:9 and James 4:13-15

- What do these verses teach about human planning and God's sovereignty?
- Why can it be difficult when God redirects our plans?
- How did David respond when God said no to building the temple?
- What would it look like for us to trust God when our plans change?

### 8. Finding Rest in the True King - Read Matthew 11:28-30

- What kinds of burdens was Jesus talking about?
- What burdens do people carry today that only Christ can truly remove?
- How does recognizing Jesus as the King from David's line deepen the meaning of this invitation?
- What does it look like practically to "come to Jesus" and find rest?

### 9. Final Reflection - Read 2 Samuel 7:16 again

- "Your house and kingdom will endure before Me forever, and your throne will be established forever."
- How does this promise increase your confidence in the reliability of God's Word?
  - What does it mean personally for you that Jesus is the eternal King?
  - How should our lives look if we truly belong to His kingdom?