

INTRODUCTION

Hey, if you have your Bibles, and I hope you do,

- please grab them and turn to 2 Samuel chapter 5.
- You can open a phone or a tablet to 2 Samuel 5,
- or you can use one of the hard-backed black bibles
 - under every single chair.
 - You'll find 2 Samuel 5 on page **257**.

INTRODUCTION

You ever get to the end of a project or a job or a task...

- and feel the great weight just kinda melt off your shoulders?
- There's just this lightness and joy that fills your heart?

Well, whenever that happens,

- especially in bigger, longer, more time consuming things...
- our response is normally this:

SLIDE FINALLY!

- *I'm finally done with high school!*
- *I finally get to go to college!*
- *I finally got my first job!*
- *I finally met that special someone!*
- *We finally got married!*
- *We've finally saved enough for our first house!*
- *We finally got pregnant!*
- *We are finally done with diapers!*
- *We can finally afford to retire!*

Today...we have a FINALLY moment with David.

So, the last two weeks we have covered some interesting topics.

- We looked at David amassing wives,
 - and talked about the Bible's take on polygamy.
- And then last week,
 - in the wake of so much violence and murder.
- We used that as a springboard to talk about...
 - violence in the Bible and what to do with that.

Well, today is much less controversial, ok?

David FINALLY becomes King of Israel.

TRANSITION

And so, I want to do what I did last week...

- and work through the text...
- and then apply it...
- in the second half of the sermon.

And I've taught on some of these things before,

- so if you've been here for a while,
 - some of this might sound familiar.
- But that's ok!

A preacher's goal shouldn't be to bring new and novel stuff every sermon.

- It's to teach us God's Word...
- as many times as it takes...
 - for those principles...
 - to be cemented in our minds and hearts.
- So, that we might actually believe these things...
- and have our lives changed accordingly.

Let's go. 2 Samuel 5 starting in verse 1

2 SAMUEL 5:1-5

[1] Then all the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said, "Behold, we are your bone and flesh. [2] In times past, when Saul was king over us, it was you who led out and brought in Israel. And the LORD said to you, 'You shall be shepherd of my people Israel, and you shall be prince over Israel.'" [3] 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. [4] David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. [5] At Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months, and at Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years.

EXPLAIN

FINALLY!

David is FINALLY anointed King over all of Israel.

Now, remember...

- The prophet Samuel had anointed David in 1 Samuel 16...
- But this was the secret anointing of David...

He was probably a teenager at this point.

- 13, 14, maybe 15 years old.
- Now he's 37.
 - We're talking 22...maybe 25 years...
 - he's been waiting for this promise to be fulfilled.
- And now, it's FINALLY here!

ILLUSTRATION: 1999

Just for fun...25 years ago was the year 1999.

Many of you weren't even born!

The end of the 1900s. Here's what was going on.

- The Y2K scare...
 - anyone else fill their bathtub with water...
 - just in case the grid went down?
- In 1999 Tiger Woods was 23...
 - and he won his first PGA Championship.
- Tony Hawk landed the first 900 on a skateboard in 1999.
- The first, and only good, Matrix movie came out.
- Napster and music piracy was all the rage.
- And, of course, Sponge Bob Square Pants premiered.

TRANSITION

How do you think you'd feel...

- if a prophet from God made you a promise...
- and you had to wait 25 years for it to come to pass?

Well, David is FINALLY king.

- And then the next verses show...
- how God starts to establish David's kingdom and reign.

Verse 6:

2 SAMUEL 5:6-10

[6] And the king and his men went to Jerusalem against the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land, who said to David, "You will not come in here, but the blind and the lame will ward you off"—thinking, "David

cannot come in here.” [7] Nevertheless, David took the stronghold of Zion, that is, the city of David. [8] And David said on that day, “Whoever would strike the Jebusites, let him get up the water shaft to attack ‘the lame and the blind,’ who are hated by David’s soul.” Therefore it is said, “The blind and the lame shall not come into the house.” [9] And David lived in the stronghold and called it the city of David. And David built the city all around from the Millo inward. [10] And David became greater and greater, for the LORD, the God of hosts, was with him.

EXPLAIN: CITY

The first way David’s kingdom is established is by him setting up his CITY.

- Now, David’s hometown was Hebron.
 - That’s where he’s ruled Judah...
 - for the last seven-and-a-half years.
- And King Saul was from the tribe of Benjamin,
Well, David shrewdly decides to set up his new kingship...
- not from his hometown in Judah,
- but he actually picks a city called Jerusalem...
 - maybe you’ve heard of it?

Jerusalem is located right on the border of Judah and Benjamin.

- Right on the border of David’s tribe and Saul’s tribe.
- So, David chooses neutral territory.

But at this point, Jerusalem isn’t associated with any one tribe of Israel.

- It’s occupied by the Jebusites...
 - who should have been kicked out...
 - during Israel’s conquest of the promised land...
- But they weren’t.

So, David takes Jerusalem,

- and sets it up as his capital city.

Verse 11:

2 SAMUEL 5:11-12

[11] And Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, and cedar trees, also carpenters and masons who built David a house. [12] And David knew that the LORD had established him king over Israel, and that he had exalted his kingdom for the sake of his people Israel.

EXPLAIN: NATIONS

Well, after the CITY of David is established,

- the king of Tyre,
 - a part of the Phoenician Empire,
 - sees David's growing strength.
- And he gives David trees and carpenters...
- to help make David a palace in Jerusalem.

The NATIONS outside of Israel...

- are beginning to recognize...
- David's kingdom is being established.

And verse 12 is a key verse in this.

- All these things are helping David KNOW...
- that the Lord is establishing him as king.

They are confirmations that FINALLY God's promises are being fulfilled.

EXPLAIN: 13-16

Now, in verses 13 through 16...

- we find David taking more concubines...
- and having more children.

I won't read these verses but just point out two sons to note.

- Verse 14 mentions Solomon and Nathan.
- These are two sons of Bathsheba,
 - and we know specifically Solomon...
 - would be an ancestor of Jesus,
 - through Mary's line,
 - as seen in Matthew 1:6.
 - And Nathan was an ancestor of Jesus,
 - through Joseph's line,
 - as seen in Luke 3:31.

Verse 17:

2 SAMUEL 5:17

[17] When the Philistines heard that David had been anointed king over Israel, all the Philistines went up to search for David. But David heard of it and went down to the stronghold.

EXPLAIN: PHILISTINES

Now, the Philistines were the scourge of God's people.

And remember, the Philistines had just killed King Saul and his sons.

- They had routed Israel.
 - And David had been living among them at that time.
- So, they had the upper-hand.

And until now,

- the Philistines must have thought David...
 - was either still an ally...
 - or perhaps neutral towards them...
 - especially because of his civil war...
 - with the house of Saul.
- But once he is crowned over all Israel,
- they perceive him as a threat.

Verse 18:

2 SAMUEL 5:18-21

[18] Now the Philistines had come and spread out in the Valley of Rephaim. [19] And David inquired of the LORD, "Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will you give them into my hand?" And the LORD said to David, "Go up, for I will certainly give the Philistines into your hand." [20] And David came to Baal-perazim, and David defeated them there. And he said, "The LORD has broken through my enemies before me like a breaking flood." Therefore the name of that place is called Baal-perazim. [21] And the Philistines left their idols there, and David and his men carried them away.

EXPLAIN

Two things to note here.

- First, *Rephaim* literally translates *Giants*.
- So, they meet David in the Valley of Giants.
 - They are going up against the Giant Slayer...
 - in the Valley of Giants.
- I just love details like that in the Bible.

And second,

- please note that David inquired of the Lord,
- and then obeyed the Lord,
- and then gave credit to the Lord for his victory.

This is the man after God's own heart.

Verse 22:

2 SAMUEL 5:22-25

[22] And the Philistines came up yet again and spread out in the Valley of Rephaim. [23] And when David inquired of the LORD, he said, "You shall not go up; go around to their rear, and come against them opposite the balsam trees. [24] And when you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam trees, then rouse yourself, for then the LORD has gone out before you to strike down the army of the Philistines." [25] And David did as the LORD commanded him, and struck down the Philistines from Geba to Gezer.

EXPLAIN: BATTLE PART 2

So, it would appear that the Philistines are gluttons for punishment...

- because they come to the Valley of Giants again.

And take note that David inquired of the Lord, again.

- But this time God tells him...
- to attack differently from last time.
 - He moves differently in the second battle.
- And David, again, did as the Lord commanded him.

So, just a side point, but...

- we don't just do what God told us to do...
- we do what God tells us to do.
 - It's not enough to pray once,
 - get some direction,
 - and just go.
- We are to consistently inquire of the Lord...
- and always be attuned to where he is currently directing us.
 - Don't just do what God told you...
 - do what he tells you!

TRANSITION

So, David is FINALLY King of Israel...

And God is FINALLY establishing his kingdom.

So, let's talk application.

I want to remind you that this has all taken 25 years!

With the rest of our time today...I want to address the question:

- What do we do...
- as we wait for God...
- to do whatever it is...
- we think he should be doing in our lives?

What do we do as we wait for our own FINALLY?

APPLICATION 1: PROMISE OR WISH

Well, I have three application points for us, and the first one is a question.

As you wait, first ask yourself:

Is this thing I'm waiting for a **SLIDE PROMISE OR WISH?**

I mean, seriously,

- can you point to God's Word...
- and show that this is an actual PROMISE from God?
- Or is it something that you WISH would happen.

Now, there's nothing wrong with WISHING for some stuff.

We can wish and hope and dream about all kinds of stuff.

- But sometimes we are waiting in futility...
- for something God never actually promised to us.

Now, I'm gonna give some examples,

- and they might just rub you wrong or hit a nerve.
- But I want to do this,
 - because I often meet with people...
 - who are so upset with God...
 - because this or that...
 - and he never promised you that thing!

So, let me give us two quick examples.

EXAMPLE: PROSPERITY

First, let's talk about PROSPERITY.

- Sometimes we will take a dream or an idea or an endeavor,
- and we'll grab a verse out of context like...

SLIDE JEREMIAH 29:11

[11] For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

But we'll take that verse and say,

- *"See, God has promised to prosper me...*
 - *in this business endeavor,*
 - *or this relationship,*
 - *or whatever it may be."*

But, if we look at the context of this verse, **it wasn't given to you and me!**

- This was to the Israelites who were in exile in Babylon.
 - They were in exile...
 - for their disobedience to God...
 - for 70 years.
- And he's promising them...
 - not prosperity and success in some endeavor.
- He's saying,
 - *"You won't be in exile forever.*
 - *There is hope.*
 - *There is a future."*

And it's in the context of decades of discipline from the Lord.

But Christians love to take this verse and apply it to them.

- We love to slap it on a coffee mug...
 - or cross-stitch it on a pillow...
 - or post it on social media with a real artsy photo...
- and take it to mean that...
 - our small business is going to prosper...
 - or our relationship is going to prosper...
- But it doesn't mean that!
 - It doesn't mean you're gonna crush your finals...
 - without studying!

That's NOT the promise WE can take from this.

- The promise WE can take is that God has a plan for you.
- And it is toward our ultimate good and not harm.
 - But all the details in our lives...
 - is not where prosperity is promised.
- That's just a WISH.

EXAMPLE: PARENTING

Second, this one happens all the time, and it is heartbreaking to see.
Let's talk PARENTING.

SLIDE PROVERBS 22:6

[6] Train up a child in the way he should go;
even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Now, this is gonna be hard to hear for some of you...

- but this is not a promise...
- that every kid who is raised in a Christian home...
- will ultimately be a Christian themselves.

We take this as a PROMISE...but it's not. It's a PROVERB.

A proverb is a pithy statement about how life GENERALLY works.

- It's not a PROMISE.
- It's not meant to be an IF/THEN statement.
 - IF you do this...
 - THEN this will happen.
- A proverb is how life GENERALLY works.

So, yes, train your child in the way he should go.

- That's WISDOM on how we should parent.
- But there's no PROMISE of the result.

Listen, parents,

- all we can do is influence,
 - which is a very important thing.
- But all we can do is influence their hearts...
- and pray for them like crazy...
- and model to them...
 - that a relationship with Jesus Christ...
 - is the most important thing in this life.

But none of that guarantees our kids will be Christians.

These are **SLIDE** WISHES...not PROMISES.

And the list could go on and on...

- God never promises us long, healthy lives.
 - You could get cancer.
- God never promises us monetary wealth.
 - You could be poor.
- God never promises that we will get married.
 - You could look for that special someone your whole life!
- God never promises that we won't have seasons of doubt.
- God never promises that we won't be hurt by other people.

TRANSITION

Be careful to check if what you're waiting for...

- is actually a PROMISE...
- or if it's just a WISH.

APPLICATION 2: SLOW NOT FAST

Second application.

Very often, God seems to move **SLIDE SLOW NOT FAST**

Please don't be surprised by this.

- Following Christ is a marathon...not a sprint.
- It's a crock pot...not a microwave.
- It's a soaked-in slow drizzle...not a 10 minute thunderstorm.
- God moves more like a glacier...than an avalanche.
 - Slow and steady...but unrelenting in its purpose!

But I don't want that!

- I want it fast.
- I want it now.

The trouble is, all throughout the Bible,

- when God wants to do something in somebody...
- he usually goes SLOW NOT FAST.
 - WE want that FINALLY moment.
 - But we've gotta wait on the Lord.

EXAMPLES

I mean, we're talking about David...

- but consider Abraham and Sarah...
 - who waited 25 years for God to give them...
 - the promised son, Isaac.
- Moses spends 40 years in Midian tending sheep...
 - before God shows up in a burning bush...
 - to send him back to Egypt.

- Even the Apostle Paul,
 - after getting knocked off his horse,
 - and converting to Christianity,
 - he spends almost 15 years preparing...
 - before he starts his church-planting ministry.

Here's what I've learned... **God's timetable never moves at my pace.**

- I mean, sometimes this whole thing...
- feels like it moves incredibly slow!

This goes completely against our instant gratification world!

- **God's timetable never moves at my pace.**

APPLICATION 3: WAIT DON'T WASTE

- So, is it a PROMISE OR WISH?
- His timing is SLOW NOT FAST.

But my last application is for you to **SLIDE WAIT DON'T WASTE**

- I want you to WAIT on the Lord...
 - when everything around you...
- is trying to get you to WASTE this season.

See, we have become inoculated with the idea that waiting is a bad thing.

- **Our whole world,**
 - **in an attempt to make things easier,**
 - **and more streamlined,**
 - **and more convenient...**
- **has bred into us a lack of patience,**
- **and that has resulted in a lack of resilience!**

I taught on this when we studied James a number of years ago.

But James 5 says this:

SLIDE JAMES 5:7

[7] Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains.

ILLUSTRATION: FARMER

So, James illustrates how to WAIT with a farmer.

- The farmer never comes to his field and says,
 - “Alright, I’m just waiting on you God!
 - Do something!
 - Let go and let God!
 - I’m waiting!”

No! That’s not waiting!

- Rather, the farmer does everything he can,
 - he digs,
 - and he plows,
 - and he seeds,
 - and he weeds.
- He does everything he can to cultivate the fruit!

But, at the end of the day...

- the farmer must wait patiently for the rains to come...
- and for God to give growth.

There’s something that happens in the waiting.

- In the waiting...
- God is working.

Don’t WASTE this waiting! Do something!

EXAMPLES

Young parents in here: you're just waiting for a full night of sleep!

What did you do today?

- *"Well, all I did was change diapers, and clean up after my kids."*
 - No, you were building and forming those kiddos...
 - but also...God was building character in you!
 - God was at work in you,
 - shaping you,
 - and maturing you.

Hey businessman or businesswoman: What did you do today?

- *"I worked my job..."*
- *and earned my paycheck.*
- *nothing of real, lasting value."*
 - No, God is building character in and through you!
 - Who knows what God is doing...
 - in your faithfulness at work!?!

Hey students, what did you do?

- *"I studied some lame things..."*
- *about history and math...*
- *that I'll probably never use again."*
 - Hey...maybe you won't!
 - But God is building character in and through you!
 - God is using this time to prepare you!

Don't WASTE this season. Instead...WAIT.

CONCLUSION **FINALLY! SLIDE W/PADS**

So, if we were to go all the way back...

- to the early chapters of 1 Samuel,
- all this stuff began with Saul...
 - the first King of Israel.
- And he was impatient,
- and he didn't wait,
- and he took matters into his own hands...
- and because of that he lost his kingdom.

It was taken from him, and given to David, who today,

- is FINALLY anointed King of Israel.
- 25 years later.

So, take these applications from his story to heart today:

- Be careful to check if what you're waiting for...
 - is actually a PROMISE...or if it's just a WISH.
- Remember that...
 - God's timetable almost never moves at my pace.
 - He's SLOW NOT FAST.
- And until that FINALLY moment comes...
 - don't WASTE the season...
 - but actively WAIT on the Lord...

And that's why I had Isaiah 40:31 read over us this morning.

This IS a promise you can bank on:

SLIDE ISAIAH 40:31

[31] but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint.

Let's pray.

RESPONSES:

Well, every week at Fathom we respond in 4 ways:

- COMMUNION – THE LORD’S SUPPER
- GIVING TITHES & OFFERINGS – fathomchurch.org/give
- PRAYER - fathomchurch.org/prayer
- SINGING

So, I’m going to read the Words of Institution from the Apostle Paul, we’ll take communion, and then we’ll sing:

1 CORINTHIANS 11:23–26 – WORDS OF INSTITUTION

[23] For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, [24] and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” **TAKE**

[25] In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” **TAKE**

[26] For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

Love you church, let’s stand and sing together.

RESOURCES CONSULTED:

- Davis, Dale Ralph. Focus on the Bible Commentaries. 2 Samuel: Out of Every Adversity.
- Davis, Dale Ralph. *Nailing Down A Kingdom*.
- Osborne, Larry. *Hurry Up And Wait*.
- Tsumura, David Toshio. The New International Commentary on the Old Testament. The Second Book of Samuel.