



A BETTER KING

A SERIES IN 2 SAMUEL



2 Samuel 7:1-16 – The Davidic Covenant

April 23, 2023

Background

1. David felt guilty about his big house.

Now when the king lived in his house... 2 Samuel 7:1a (ESV)

*...and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies...
2 Samuel 7:1b (ESV)*

...the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." 2 Samuel 7:2 (ESV)

*And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you."
2 Samuel 7:3 (ESV)*

*But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, "Go and tell my servant David, 'Thus says the Lord: Would you build me a house to dwell in?'"
2 Samuel 7:4-5 (ESV)*

2. God gave David two reasons why he was not to build the ark a house.

I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. 2 Samuel 7:6 (ESV)

*For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.
Matthew 18:20 (ESV)*

In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" ' 2 Samuel 7:7 (ESV)

3. God had a plan for David's life.

A. God was at work in David's past.

Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you... 2 Samuel 7:8–9a (ESV)

B. God had a plan for David's near future.

1. God will give David a great name.

I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth.
2 Samuel 7:9b (ESV)

And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed. Genesis 12:2–3 (ESV)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places... Ephesians 1:3 (ESV)

2. God will give a place for his people.

And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more.... 2 Samuel 7:10a (ESV)

3. God will give peace to his people.

...And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel... 2 Samuel 7:10–11 (ESV)

4. God will give David and his people rest.

...And I will give you rest from all your enemies... 2 Samuel 7:11a (ESV)

C. God had a plan for David's distant future.

...Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house.
2 Samuel 7:11b (ESV)

When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.
2 Samuel 7:12 (ESV)

Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him.
Genesis 12:7 (ESV)

Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, "And to offsprings," referring to many, but referring to one, "And to your offspring," who is Christ. Galatians 3:16 (ESV)

He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 2 Samuel 7:13 (ESV)

"In that day I will raise up the booth of David that is fallen and repair its breaches, and raise up its ruins and rebuild it as in the days of old,..." Amos 9:11 (ESV)

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. Isaiah 11:1-2 (ESV)

I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son... 2 Samuel 7:14a (ESV)

For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"? Hebrews 1:5 (ESV)

And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Luke 1:31-33 (ESV)

Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Matthew 16:16 (ESV)

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Mark 1:1 (ESV)

But he remained silent and made no answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" Mark 14:61 (ESV)

...When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. 2 Samuel 7:14b-15 (ESV)

The word of the Lord came to Jeremiah: "Thus says the Lord: If you can break my covenant with the day and my covenant with the night, so that day and night will not come at their appointed time, then also my covenant with David my servant may be broken, so that he shall not have a son to reign on his throne,..." Jeremiah 33:19-21a (ESV)

In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.' Jeremiah 33:15-16 (ESV)

He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. 1 Peter 2:22–23 (ESV)

...and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." Matthew 3:17 (ESV)

And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.' " 2 Samuel 7:16 (ESV)

Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this. Isaiah 9:7 (ESV)

Application

He said to them, "But *who do you say that I am?*" Simon Peter replied, "*You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.*" And Jesus answered him, "*Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.*" Matthew 16:15–17 (ESV)

Life Group Questions

1. **Read 2 Samuel 7.** What did you learn that was new? What parts of this message were a surprise?
2. **Read 2 Samuel 7:1-3.** How does David's response to peace and prosperity in his kingdom differ from King Nebuchadnezzar's response in **Daniel 4:29-30**?
3. What did David and Nathan do wrong in their initial decision to build a temple? What should they have done?
4. Why is 2 Samuel 7 one of the most important chapters in the Bible?
5. **Read 2 Samuel 7:8-9.** In these verses, God reminds David that He is the one who protected him and gave him every good thing in his life. Looking back on your life, where have you seen God sustaining and protecting you?
6. **Read 2 Kings 11.** 2 Kings 11 is the story of Athaliah and her attempt to wipe out David's descendants. What does this story teach us about God's ability to keep his promises even when things look hopeless? How does the encourage you?
7. **Read 2 Samuel 7:11-16.** What about the Davidic covenant in 2 Samuel 7:11-16 tells us it must ultimately point to Jesus, the Son of God, not just another human being?
8. **Read Matthew 16:15-17.** Peter recognized Jesus as the fulfillment of 2 Samuel 7. Jesus told him that his ability to recognize this was a gift of God the Father. Today many people do not recognize the true identity of Jesus. Take time to thank God for opening your eyes to recognize Jesus as the promised descendent of David, who is our king and savior.