

## 2 Samuel 7:17-29 — Praying God's Promises

**April 30, 2023**

Good morning CrossWinds! If you are new, it is great to have you. This morning, we continue our study of 2 Samuel. We are examining the second half of 2 Samuel 7, verses 17-29. These verses are a prayer that David prayed when he was overwhelmed by God's goodness to him. My hope is that from this prayer, we would learn more about how to pray with hearts filled with gratitude to God for his goodness to us in our lives through Jesus.

To understand why David has a heart filled with gratitude, I want to briefly review the first half of 2 Samuel 7 that we covered last week. Some of you were not here. Those verses are considered to be some of the most important verses in the Old Testament so there is no harm in reviewing them.

### **Background**

When 2 Samuel 7 began, David was established as king over all of Israel. He had rest from his enemies. He had a new capital city known as Jerusalem. He had just completed a new palace built of cedar. It was a luxurious home that would have been featured on the lifestyles of the rich and famous. Life was good. God was good.

I picture David and the prophet Nathan relaxing together as they sat on the back porch of his house that overlooked the city. They were probably drinking good coffee, the kind that Matt makes at the Gathering Grounds Coffee Bar. As David looked over the city, he was overwhelmed by God's goodness to him. God took David from a boy tending sheep and chose him to be king. The road to the throne room was a bumpy one. After David's victory over Goliath, King Saul was

jealous of David and spend the rest of his life trying to kill David, but God protected David in those tough times. For years, David ran for his life, not just from King Saul but also from Abner and Ish-Bosheth, who wanted to do away with him. God was good, he cut them off. David did not need to lift a finger against them. God kept his promise to David and set him as king over the nation. God gave David great peace and blessing.

David's heart was overflowing with thankfulness to the great God who had been so good to him. From his luxurious back porch, he could probably see the tent that housed the ark of the covenant, the place where God dwelled. David had an idea for how he could express his gratitude to God. Just as he had a luxurious home, he wanted to build a luxurious house for the ark of God so it would no longer be in a tent. When he shared this with Nathan, the prophet, at first, Nathan thought that was a great idea. I picture Nathan and David giving one another high-fives after talking of the idea.

Then, during the night, when it was quiet, Nathan slowed down. Sometimes, when we slow down, is when the quiet voice of God begins to speak. I picture that happening to Nathan. In the quiet of the night, God told Nathan that David was not to build a house for the ark.

David felt he had arrived, God was done with him because God couldn't be any better to him. God told Nathan that was wrong. God had more work for David to do and more grace he wanted to show David. Instead of David building God a house, God was going to build David a house. The house God would build would not be a house of wood, brick, and mortar. David already had that kind of

house. The house God planned to build for David would be a dynasty known as the House of David. God would continually raise up David's descendants after him so a descendant of David would always be on the throne of Israel.

When King Saul sinned, God destroyed his dynasty. Not so with David and his descendants. When David's descendants sinned, God would discipline them, not destroy them. The book of 1 and 2 Kings traces the history of David's descendants on the throne of Israel for 400 years. It tells us how they sinned and then how God disciplined them to turn his people back to him.

In the promises that God spoke to David about building him a house, last week, we noticed there was an aspect of these prophecies that Bible scholars call telescoping. This means part of the prophecies spoke about David's descendants in the near future. Other aspects of these prophecies spoke about the distant future. There were even elements of the distant prophecies that could only be fulfilled by a unique person.

Telescoping is like looking at mountains on the horizon. While mountains peaks on the horizon appear next to one another, the truth is they may be hundreds of miles apart. In the same verse, we may have part of a prophecy that will be fulfilled in the near future and other parts of it that will be fulfilled in the distant future.

Let me show you three parts of the prophetic verses in 2 Samuel 7 that refers not just to David's near future but to his distant future and to a descendent of David who is more than just another human being in the line of David.

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)

Nothing appears abnormal until you look at the Hebrew grammar. The word *offspring* is in the singular, not the plural. If God promised to give David a dynasty of kings, this should be plural. Why is offspring singular? This must refer to one particular offspring of David, where God will establish his kingdom. Who would that be?

Earlier in Genesis, God promised to give Abraham offspring who would bless the earth. The word *offspring* is also singular in that verse. In Galatians 3:16, Paul tells us the singular tense for *offspring* speaking of Abraham's descendent who would bless the world is a reference to Jesus. In the same way, this singular offspring of David, whose kingdom God would set up, is also a reference to Jesus.

The second clue this is not just talking about another merely human offspring of David is found in the next verse.

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

At first, this appears to be talking just about Solomon, David's son, who built the temple, the house for God. Solomon's bloodline did last on the throne of Israel for a long time. When David's descendants sinned, just as God said he would, he disciplined them but didn't destroy their line. The problem is that this talks about a kingdom that is established forever. Only God can set up things that last forever. This text may not be about just another earthly king who will reign for 20 years and be killed.

The next verse gets interesting.

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

The ultimate king in the bloodline of David, whose kingdom will be set up by God and whose kingdom will last forever, is someone in David's bloodline that will have God as his father and will be known as the son of God.

Looking at this with a New Testament pair of glasses, it looks like it is talking about Jesus. If we go to Hebrews 1:5, the author of Hebrews tells us this verse in 2 Samuel 7 refers to Jesus.

Understanding these verses from 2 Samuel 7 gives us a fresh way to read our Bible. For example, the Gospel of Luke begins with a genealogy to demonstrate that Mary, the mother of Jesus, was a descendant of David. She was in the bloodline of David and could bear a son that would be king.

When the angel Gabriel comes to Mary to tell her she will be pregnant by the Holy Spirit, even though she was a virgin, look what Gabriel says to her about the child in her womb.

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)

Gabriel told Mary that the child in her womb would be the long-awaited descendent of David prophesied about in 2 Samuel 7. He would be known as the Son of God. He would have God as his Father. His kingdom will last forever.

When David learned he would father a dynasty of kings and his kingdom would not end, he was blown away. The fact that he would have one descendant whose kingdom would not end and who would have God as his father was

overwhelming and humbling. How should David respond? What would he say or do after God was so good to him? The answer to that question is the remainder of the chapter that we are studying this morning.

In accordance with all these words, and in accordance with all this vision, [Nathan spoke to David](#). 2 Samuel 7:17 (ESV)

The way that God normally communicates to people is with words. This is how God speaks to us today, through his word, which is the Bible. Nathan, the prophet, spoke to David all the words God spoke to him about David's future.

Notice it says he spoke in accordance with all this vision. At first, it appears that Nathan had a vision. I don't think that is what happened. The vision spoken about here is God's vision for David's future, which was described to Nathan and David in words.

The application to us is that God still speaks today. He speaks through his words in the Bible. This is why the Bible, in the book of Hebrews, says God's Words are living and active, sharper than a double-edged sword. God still speaks to us through His words today.

[Then King David went in and sat before the LORD...](#) 2 Samuel 7:18 (ESV)

The chapter began with David sitting in his house, desiring to build a house for the ark out of gratitude to God for all God had done. Now, the impact of what God will do for him and his descendants in the future has moved him to God's house, where he was overwhelmed with a sense of gratitude and just needed to sit before the Lord.

Even before we look at David's prayer, we need to see the impact God's goodness had on David. He had to come before God, and with a thankful heart, he had to pray.

As I was thinking about that, I think of times when we are overwhelmed not by worry but by gratitude in our lives. It is appropriate to come to church and pray just to thank God for all he has done. It is good to pray when we are worried, but it is also good to pray when we are grateful. Many times when people come into the worship space to sit alone during the week and pray, it is out of concern for the future. There is nothing wrong with that. It is even better when we must come to God's house to sit and pray because we are overwhelmed with gratitude for what God has done.

Maybe for you, the place to go when you pray not just for the concerning times in life, but when you are overcome with gratitude to God in life is that special place in your basement where you read your Bible, that place you go to pray and read your Bible. It is good to go there and pray when our heart is filled with gratitude to God, not just when we are concerned about the future.

The rest of the chapter is David's prayer of gratitude to God. It breaks into two parts. Verses 18 to 24 look back with thanks to God for what he has done. Verses 25 to 29 look forward as David ask God to fulfill the promises he said will take place.

**When we pray, we should thank God for what he has done.**

**We should thank God for how he has been good to us**

..."Who am I, O Lord GOD, and what is my house, that you have brought me thus far? 2 Samuel 7:18 (ESV)

The Lord took David from tending sheep as a boy in Bethlehem and made him the nation's leader. In the bumpy decade from the sheep fields to the throne room, God gave David victory over people who set themselves against him, like the Philistines. God cut off everyone who tried to destroy him, like Saul, Abner, and Ish-Bosheth. David responded simply, "Who am I that you have been so good to me?" I don't deserve any of this goodness.

David saw himself as completely unworthy of all the goodness God gave him in his life. Do you feel that way? When you reflect on your life, are you grateful for how good God has been to you? Most of us don't take the time to stop and look back and remember how good God has been.

On Tuesday night, Cindy and I spent time together after dinner. It was a little date. We didn't know what to do, so we went to the basement to watch television. We are not television people. As usual, we couldn't find anything good to watch. We ended up watching a series of Youtube videos on recycling. We learned that paper products are easily recycled, but plastic is different. Since plastic is difficult to recycle, much of our recycled plastic is not recycled. It is shipped overseas and dumped in foreign countries. The video showed people living in mountains of plastic trash from America dumped in places such as Vietnam, Laos, or Cambodia. My heart went out to the people living in these plastic trash mountains of leftover Pepsi bottles. I thought about how God has been good to me. I wasn't born there. I didn't grow up in a garbage dump. God, in his goodness, gave me two great parents who love Jesus. They took me to church. They raised me in a great home where I learned about God's love. God,



in his grace, exposed me to some great pastors and eventually led me to CrossWinds, where I have the privilege of serving you. God has been so good.

Even more important than the kindness God showed to me physically is the privilege of being exposed to the gospel and God drawing me to himself so I could respond to Christ and be born again. The people in the recycle video, who were living in mountains of garbage, will probably never hear of Jesus. They will probably spend their life far from God in this world and the next world. God has been so good to each of us through Jesus.

How has God been good to you? Has he provided for you financially? Has he blessed you with a family? God has been good to us in many ways, but the best blessing he has given to any of us is knowing Jesus and the forgiveness of our sins that can only be experienced through Him.

Look what the Bible says about God's goodness to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:6–8 (ESV)

Yes, God was amazingly good to David and to his descendants. Through Jesus, God has also been good to us. When we were in sin, rightfully condemned to an eternity in the lake of fire, God sent Jesus, his own son, to die for us. As Paul says, "While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." We are completely undeserving of God's goodness to us through Jesus, yet God loved us when we were unlovely. Jesus died for us. God even softened our hearts to hear the good news of Jesus, and then he drew us in to respond to the good news of Jesus because we were so far gone spiritually that we couldn't respond

to it on our own. Who are we that we deserve this kind of goodness and kindness from God? Like David, we should be blown away because we deserve none of it.

David then moves from looking at God's goodness to him in the past, to looking at God's goodness to him in the future.

And yet this was a small thing in your eyes, O Lord GOD. You have spoken also of your servant's house for a great while to come, and this is instruction for mankind, O Lord GOD! 2 Samuel 7:19 (ESV)

David knew that no matter how remarkable God's goodness and undeserved grace had been in the past, all that goodness was just a small thing in the eyes of God compared to the goodness God planned to show David and his descendants in the future. David said, "You have spoken also of your servant's house for a great while to come." Then he said, "This is instruction for mankind."

David realized that what God planned to do through him was not just for his descendants. It was not just for the nation of Israel. David understood that the one unique son God would send through his lineage, that one for whom God would set up a kingdom that would last forever, would be a blessing to all of mankind, not just Israel and David's descendants. David understood the significance of God's words.

I think David also realized this was a continuation of God's promise to bless humanity through the line of Abraham. Look what God said he would do for the world through Abraham's descendants.

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 12:3 (ESV)

David realizes that all the families of the earth would be blessed through him, especially through this chosen descendant, who is Jesus.

Think of the level of undeserved grace and kindness God showed to David and how incredibly undeserving of any of this David felt.

There is a lesson for us in this. The better we understand how undeserving we are and how good God has been to us through Jesus, the more humble we will become. Ten times in David's prayer, he calls himself "your servant" in response to God's incredible kindness to him. David doesn't call himself the king. He knows he is simply an undeserving servant upon whom God has given inexplicable grace. That fills his heart with gratitude and humility.

The application for us is that the more David understood how good God has been, the more humble he became, and the more he viewed himself in this world as simply a servant of God.

David was blown away as he looked forward to God's goodness through Jesus. We should be blown away as we look back on God's goodness to us through Jesus.

In Ephesians 1, Paul tells us how good God will be to us through Jesus in the future. This helps us better understand how God's goodness to us through Jesus will be even better in the future.

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)

I love this verse. Through Jesus, God has given us every possible spiritual blessing in heaven. God could not be better to us than he already been to us through Jesus. Think about that. If God wanted to be better to us than he already

has been to us, he couldn't improve. Every possible blessing God can give is already ours through Jesus.

Just as David could only see God's promised blessing to his descendants in the future by faith, in the same way, it may not feel like we are the most blessed beings in the universe right now. It may not feel like God cannot bless us more than he already has through Jesus. Understanding how blessed and honored we will be in all of eternity through Jesus is something we must also see with the eyes of faith. Just as David had to take God at his word, we need to take God at his word.

Let's see how Paul prayed for the Ephesians.

...having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might... Ephesians 1:18–19 (ESV)

Paul's prayer for the Ephesians is that God would open the eyes of their hearts so they would better comprehend how amazingly good God had been to them in Jesus. Paul prayed that they would better understand how God could not be any better to them than he already had been through Jesus.

Think of this. The one who created the universe took on a body permanently so he could become one of us. He died for us. He adopted us as his brothers and sisters. We are now completely identified with Jesus. When God the Father looks at us, he doesn't see our filth, our sins, our regrets, and our shame. He sees the purity, beauty, and perfection of his own son covering us. When God looks at us, he sees the perfection and beauty of his own son.

When God the Father, through all of eternity, is good to his son and delights in his son, which he will be for all of eternity, he will also be good to us and delight in us because we are so closely identified with Jesus that there is no way we can not experience God the Father's goodness to Jesus his son.

Just as David was blown away by God's kindness to give him a future descendant that would bless all of mankind by dying for our sin, in the same way, we should be blown away by God's goodness to us in all of eternity through Jesus.

**And what more can David say to you? For you know your servant, O Lord GOD! 2 Samuel 7:20 (ESV)**

David was not literally speechless. If he were literally speechless, his prayer would have stopped at this verse. He was figuratively speechless. Words could not adequately capture the gratitude to God he felt in his emotional world.

**Because of your promise, and according to your own heart, you have brought about all this greatness, to make your servant know it. 2 Samuel 7:21 (ESV)**

This kindness to David gave him a window into God's heart. God's heart is to have great compassion and mercy on people who desperately need it. God is incredibly loving, kind, merciful, and good. God's heart was not just to be good to David but to be good to all of mankind through David. This does not mean God is good to everyone in the same way, but that God's heart was not to leave all of mankind justly condemned to the lake of fire. God's heart is so good that through Jesus, he extends complete forgiveness to anyone who will take it. He offers to adopt us as his brothers and sisters and make us the most blessed beings in the universe. We deserve none of this, but that is God's heart. God loves to be good to people who don't deserve it like he was good to David, who didn't deserve it.

Maybe this morning, you are here, and your life is a mess. You have wandered far from God. You have gone your own way. You have rebelled against God. Know that God's heart toward you is not to condemn you. God's heart is to save you. God loves you. Jesus, the son of God, died for your sin. If you turn to Jesus, asking him to forgive your sin and be in charge of your life, Jesus will not just save you in eternity, but he will give you a new heart and a new life right now. That is God's heart toward you today.

Therefore you are great, O LORD God. For there is none like you, and there is no God besides you, according to all that we have heard with our ears. 2 Samuel 7:22 (ESV)

David couldn't help but say to God in his prayer, "O Lord, you are great." Isn't this true? We have a God who takes the undeserving and the nobodies in this world and then chooses to bless them beyond their wildest imagination because God is that good. He did that to David. He does that to us through Jesus. Our God is so good

David also said, "There is no God besides you and no God like you." That is true. What other so-called God in this world is as good as our God? The Bible tells us there is only one God. The gods others worship are demons, not just a different way of worshipping the same God. That is why all other Gods are not good. They take life instead of giving it. For example, take Islam. Allah is not another name for God. Allah is a demon. Allah enslaves you. He doesn't love you and give you life. To get to paradise, which is not the Bible's version of heaven, you need to have your good deeds outweigh your bad. If Allah has a bad day, he sends you to torment anyway. That is terrible. That is not what the true God of the universe is like. That is demonic. The true God of the universe loves to show

great mercy to undeserving people, just like he did for David and just like he does for you and me through Jesus. There is no other God in the universe like this.

I always wonder why people avoid church. Why do people run from church? They seem to think the church is about bad news. They seem to think the church is about worshipping a God who takes away life. The exact opposite is true. I love attending church, where we plumb the depths of God's love for us through Jesus. I need the encouragement and love of Jesus every weekend. So do you.

**We should thank God for how he was good to His people in history.**

**And who is like your people Israel, the one nation on earth whom God went to redeem to be his people, making himself a name and doing for them great and awesome things by driving out before your people, whom you redeemed for yourself from Egypt, a nation and its gods? And you established for yourself your people Israel to be your people forever... 2 Samuel 7:23–24a (ESV)**

David now moves from how good God was in his life and the good promises God made to David about his future, and he looks back in history and remembered how God has always been good to his people. He remembers Egypt.

God took his people out of Egypt. They were slaves in Egypt. They were forced to throw their newborn baby sons in the Nile River to watch their children drown before their eyes. They faced genocide. God was good. He came to the rescue of his people. God sent plague after plague on the Egyptians, crushing the nation and their gods.

As David reflects on God's goodness to his people in the past, he explored different facets of that salvation. God saved his people from certain

death in Egypt so he could be their new master. In the Bible, when God saves people he doesn't free people so they can live for themselves. He frees people so they now belong to Him and live for Him. When we hear that, part of our heart is disappointed. It sounds like God frees us from one master only to enslave us to another master. This is the wrong picture. God freed his people from their masters in Egypt because they dealt with death, destruction, and agony. God then bound his people to him not to take their love but because he loved them and now wants to give them life. God didn't smash the Israelites' chains in Egypt so they could live for themselves. He destroyed the Israelites' chains so they could live for Him, the good master who loves them.

God has done the same for us. Just as the Israelites were enslaved to the Egyptians, where they faced suffering and certain death, we were enslaved to Satan and sin. We were facing eternal death in the lake of fire. God loves us. Jesus died for us. Jesus rescued us not so that we could live for ourselves but so we can live for him. Living for Jesus is not a harsh thing. It doesn't take life. It gives life. All of God's plans, words to us, and commands to us are good for us because he loves us. Jesus' plans for us are better for us than the plans we have for ourselves. It is a joy that gives life to have Jesus as our master. Why would we want to be free to live apart from Jesus when we can be free to live for Jesus, who always has good plans for us, better plans than we have for ourselves? Look what the Bible says about Jesus freeing us from our slavery, just like he did for the Israelites in Egypt and their slavery. Look at the great cost Jesus paid to set us free.



...knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. 1 Peter 1:18–19 (ESV)

We were not bought with money. God couldn't buy us off. It cost God something far more valuable than cash. It cost him the shedding of the precious blood of his only Son to set us free. Imagine how much God loves us for him to do this for us. Would you send your son to die in an undeserving person's place? None of us would, yet this is what God did for us. Doesn't it humble you to know how much God loves us?

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body. 1 Corinthians 6:19–20 (ESV)

Paul says God did not pay the exorbitant cost of the shed blood of his own son so we could live for ourselves. Our life now belongs to God. We are to live for God. That is the only appropriate response.

...And you, O LORD, became their God. 2 Samuel 7:24b (ESV)

As I studied, one biblical scholar pointed out that in Hebrew, these words are similar to the language used in a Hebrew wedding ceremony. They speak of someone giving themselves to another person in marriage for as long as they shall live.

God doesn't just save his people to serve him. He gives himself to his people in love. He gives himself for better or for worse. For richer and for poorer. In sickness and in health. He will never leave us, no matter how much we fail Him, he will not turn his back on us. That is the kind of love and commitment

God made to the people of Israel and the kind of love and commitment God made to us through Jesus. Isn't this overwhelming?

### **When we pray, we should pray for God to fulfill His promises.**

How does someone pray to the Lord when they are overwhelmed by God's goodness? The lesson we learn in this section is that the best prayer to God should plead for God to fulfill the promises He made to His people. David takes the promises God made to him, and he prays that God would fulfill those promises. He does this because he knows God's plans for us are what is best. God's plans for us and His promises to us are better than our plans for ourselves.

This is helpful. We often do not know what to pray. We pray for our Aunt's hang nails. Those prayers are not wrong, but they are not the best. Better prayers are when we find God's plans and promises to us and then ask for God to carry out what he has already promised to do. Those are the kind of prayers God loves to answer.

**And now, O LORD God, confirm forever the word that you have spoken concerning your servant and concerning his house, and do as you have spoken. 2 Samuel 7:25 (ESV)**

David's prayer was that the Lord would do what he promised to do. God's promises to him were so good. What more could he ask for other than for God to do the good plans he had already promised to accomplish?

**And your name will be magnified [made great] forever, saying, 'The LORD of hosts is God over Israel,' and the house of your servant David will be established before you. For you, O LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, have made this revelation to your servant, saying, 'I will build you a house.' Therefore your servant has found courage to pray this prayer to you. And now, O Lord GOD, you are God, and your words are true, and you have promised this good thing to your servant. 2 Samuel 7:26–28 (ESV)**

David felt in this prayer, but he didn't need to be shy because God had revealed His good plans for Him, so he simply asked God to accomplish the good plans He already had in His heart.

Today, how does this change the way we pray? We need to find things in the Bible that God has promised to accomplish, then pray that God would set out to keep his promise. For example, yesterday, when I was in my Bible reading, I ran across Luke 19:10.

[For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.” Luke 19:10 \(ESV\)](#)

At CrossWinds, we always speak about our mission of “Reaching People With Jesus.” In Luke 19:10, we see that is what Jesus came to do. When we ask God to help us seek and save the lost, God is behind answering that prayer because that is something God has committed to accomplish. We can pray bold prayers in that area because seeking and saving the lost is what Jesus came to do.

Let me give you another example.

[If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9 \(ESV\)](#)

When we have sinned against God, and we confess our sins to God, we can know with confidence that God will forgive our sins. He will answer our prayer because that is something God has promised to accomplish.

[Now therefore may it please you to bless the house of your servant, so that it may continue forever before you. For you, O Lord GOD, have spoken, and with your blessing shall the house of your servant be blessed forever.” 2 Samuel 7:29 \(ESV\)](#)

## Applications

1. Gratitude for what God has done for us leads to humility. This is not just true for what God promised to do for David and his descendants but what God has promised to do for us through Jesus.
2. David was blessed beyond his wildest dreams. In Jesus, we are blessed by God beyond our imagination.
3. God's heart for us is not to condemn us but to save us.
4. Just as God saved Israel from slavery and in love bound her to himself, God saves us from slavery to sin through Jesus and bind us to himself so we live for Jesus.
5. One of the best ways to pray is for the fulfillment of the promises God made to us.



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