

The House Of David (2 Sam. 7, 8)

David’s Unsettled Heart (2 Sam. 7:1-3)

1 Now it came to pass when the king was dwelling in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies all around, 2 that the king said to Nathan the prophet, “See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells inside tent curtains.” 3 Then Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you.”

- We’re unsure when this chapter occurs.
- Was David feeling guilty? Cedar was expensive and highly prized. Cedar trees might have come into Israel as part of David’s trade with Tyre.
- David contrasts his situations with the situation of the Ark.
- We encounter Nathan for the first time. He arrives on the scene with no history or genealogy. His gift (“Nathan”) had made room for him.

The Word Of The Lord Comes (2 Sam. 7:4-11a)

4 But it happened that night that the word of the LORD came to Nathan, saying, 5 “Go and tell My servant David, “Thus says the LORD: “Would you build a house for Me to dwell in? 6 For I have not dwelt in a house since the time that I brought the children of Israel up from Egypt, even to this day, but have moved about in a tent and in a tabernacle. 7 Wherever I have moved about with all the children of Israel, have I ever spoken a word to anyone from the tribes of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd

My people Israel, saying, ‘Why have you not built Me a house of cedar?’ ”’ 8 Now therefore, thus shall you say to My servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts: “I took you from the sheepfold, from following the sheep, to be ruler over My people, over Israel. 9 And I have been with you wherever you have gone, and have cut off all your enemies from before you, and have made you a great name, like the name of the great men who are on the earth. 10 Moreover I will appoint a place for My people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own and move no more; nor shall the sons of wickedness oppress them anymore, as previously, 11a since the time that I commanded judges to be over My people Israel, and have caused you to rest from all your enemies.

- Nathan at first affirms the intention of David’s heart, but his ears were still open. Was God angry or pleased by David’s desire?
- Should we criticize Nathan for encouraging David to build?
- Maybe David already had a vision for the Temple and what it should look like. We know he would eventually get a prophetic “download” of the Temple. (1 Chron. 28) David might simply have been looking to see if Nathan had any check in his spirit about the planned construction project.
- In response to David’s desire, God says some powerful things:
 - First, He has not been asking or complaining about this.
 - Second, He is the one who has established David.
 - God’s determination was to appoint a place for Israel.

An Astonishing Promise (2 Sam. 7:11b-17)

11b Also the LORD tells you that He will make you a house. 12 “When your days are

fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 14 I will be his Father, and he shall be My son. If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the blows of the sons of men. 15 But My mercy shall not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I removed from before you. 16 And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever.”’” 17 According to all these words and according to all this vision, so Nathan spoke to David.

- Nathan obviously viewed this lengthy word as important enough to record verbatim. While God wanted it preserved in Scripture forever, it was no doubt also a powerful encouragement to Solomon, who was not even born yet.
- Think about the amazing promises God makes to David:
 - **God will build David a house.** God said He would build a house for David, meaning a **dynasty**, a line of kings.
 - God will set up the kingdom of David’s son. God says it is that son, Solomon, who will build the house of the Lord, and furthermore, the throne of his kingdom will last forever.
 - *“Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give 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 1:30b-33)*

- God also says (v. 14) that Solomon will be His (adopted) Son.
- Finally, God will chastise him if he commits iniquity, but never completely take His mercy away from him.

David’s Amazed Response (2 Sam. 7:18-24)

18 Then King David went in and sat before the LORD; and he said: “Who am I, O Lord GOD? And what is my house, that You have brought me this far? 19 And yet this was a small thing in Your sight, O Lord GOD; and You have also spoken of Your servant’s house for a great while to come. Is this the manner of man, O Lord GOD? 20 Now what more can David say to You? For You, Lord GOD, know Your servant. 21 For Your word’s sake, and according to Your own heart, You have done all these great things, to make Your servant know them. 22 Therefore You are great, O Lord GOD. For there is none like You, nor is there any God besides You, according to all that we have heard with our ears. 23 And who is like Your people, like Israel, the one nation on the earth whom God went to redeem for Himself as a people, to make for Himself a name—and to do for Yourself great and awesome deeds for Your land—before Your people whom You redeemed for Yourself from Egypt, the nations, and their gods? 24 For You have made Your people Israel Your very own people forever; and You, LORD, have become their God.

- David’s response is one of complete humility, and astonishment.
- He also marvels at God’s undeserved goodness to Israel.
- The New Testament doesn’t alter God’s ultimate purposes for Israel, and Christ will reign on David’s Throne for 1000 years: *“the moon will be disgraced and the sun ashamed; for the LORD of hosts will reign on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem and before His elders, gloriously.”* (Isa. 24:23)

- *“Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.” (Matt. 19:28)*

His Humble Prayer (2 Sam. 7:25-28)

25 “Now, O LORD God, the word which You have spoken concerning Your servant and concerning his house, establish it forever and do as You have said. 26 So let Your name be magnified forever, saying, ‘The LORD of hosts is the God over Israel.’ And let the house of Your servant David be established before You. 27 For You, O LORD of hosts, God of Israel, have revealed this to Your servant, saying, ‘I will build you a house.’ Therefore Your servant has found it in his heart to pray this prayer to You.

28 “And now, O Lord GOD, You are God, and Your words are true, and You have promised this goodness to Your servant. 29 Now therefore, let it please You to bless the house of Your servant, that it may continue before You forever; for You, O Lord GOD, have spoken it, and with Your blessing let the house of Your servant be blessed forever.”

- David wisely prays the Promises of God back to the Lord.
- God’s covenants do not depend on our ability to perform or on our faithfulness in performance. God’s covenants depend on HIS ability to perform, and HIS faithfulness in performance. This will certainly be true of His covenants with Israel: *“...that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. And so all Israel will be saved.... (Romans 9:25b-26a)*

David's Kingdom Expanding In Power and Justice (2 Sam. 8:1-18)

1 After this it came to pass that David attacked the Philistines and subdued them. And

David took Metheg Ammah from the hand of the Philistines. 2 Then he defeated Moab. Forcing them down to the ground, he measured them off with a line. With two lines he measured off those to be put to death, and with one full line those to be kept alive. So the Moabites became David's servants, and brought tribute.

3 David also defeated Hadadezer the son of Rehob, king of Zobah, as he went to recover his territory at the River Euphrates. 4 David took from him one thousand chariots, seven hundred horsemen, and twenty thousand foot soldiers. Also David hamstringed all the chariot horses, except that he spared enough of them for one hundred chariots.

5 When the Syrians of Damascus came to help Hadadezer king of Zobah, David killed twenty-two thousand of the Syrians. 6 Then David put garrisons in Syria of Damascus; and the Syrians became David's servants, and brought tribute. So the LORD preserved David wherever he went. 7 And David took the shields of gold that had belonged to the servants of Hadadezer, and brought them to Jerusalem. 8 Also from Betah and from Berothai, cities of Hadadezer, King David took a large amount of bronze.

9 When Toi king of Hamath heard that David had defeated all the army of Hadadezer, 10 then Toi sent Joram his son to King David, to greet him and bless him, because he had fought against Hadadezer and defeated him (for Hadadezer had been at war with Toi); and Joram brought with him articles of silver, articles of gold, and articles of bronze. 11 King David also dedicated these to the LORD, along with the silver and gold that he had dedicated from all the nations which he had subdued— 12 from Syria, from Moab, from the people of Ammon, from the Philistines, from Amalek, and from the spoil of Hadadezer the son of Rehob, king of Zobah.

13 And David made himself a name when he returned from killing eighteen thousand Syrians in the Valley of Salt. 14 He also put garrisons in Edom; throughout

all Edom he put garrisons, and all the Edomites became David's servants. And the LORD preserved David wherever he went.

15 So David reigned over all Israel; and David administered judgment and justice to all his people. 16 Joab the son of Zeruiah was over the army; Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud was recorder; 17 Zadok the son of Ahitub and Ahimelech the son of Abiathar were the priests; Seraiah was the scribe; 18 Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over both the Cherethites and the Pelethites; and David's sons were chief ministers.

- Chapter 8 shows us how David's kingdom expanded in power and in justice.
- *Metheg Ammah* may signify the city of Gath, which has featured prominently in our story.
- We see mixture in David once again as he preserves horses.
- In later generations, Israel would not exercise power so far to the north.
- David subdued the heathen on every side and ruled Israel with judgment and justice.
- This shows us that God fulfilled His promise to David, and it also foreshadows the future power and glory of the Messiah's Kingdom.



All quotes NKJV except as noted.

New King James Version® Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc.

Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Info for Map below: *Map of the United Kingdom of Israel,*

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Kingdom_of_Israel_1020_map.svg. Map by Regno di

Davide.svg: RobertoReggi12 Tribes of Israel Map.svg: Richardprins12_tribus_de_Israel.svg:

Translated by Kordas12 staemme israels heb.svg: by user:12יִי staemme israels.png: by

user:Janzderivative work: Richardprins [CC-BY-SA-3.0] or GFDL.

