



**Exploring God's Love through the Bible:**  
The Davidic Covenant and the Promise of the Messiah  
Sept 11, 2016

TEXT AND EXHORTATION CONCERNING THE LOVE OF GOD: 2 SAMUEL 7:1-17

God loved David. And David, although flawed and at times very **sinful**, loved God, as we see in the Psalms. But God in His providence chose David, not only to be Israel's second King, but to bless us all. Paul sums it up nicely at Antioch:

*So Paul stood up, and motioning with his hand said: "Men of Israel and you who fear God, listen. The God of this people Israel chose our fathers and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm he led them out of it. And for about forty years he put up with them in the wilderness. And after destroying seven nations in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land as an inheritance. All this took about 450 years. And after that he gave them judges until Samuel the prophet. Then they asked for a king, and God gave them Saul the son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, for forty years. And when he had removed him, he raised up David to be their king, of whom he testified and said, **'I have found in David the son of Jesse a man after my heart, who will do all my will.'** **Of this man's offspring God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus, as he promised.** (Acts 13:16-23)*

HISTORICAL CONTEXT:

- As we continue taking a broad look through Holy Scripture at the love of God, we have arrived in a period of biblical history where the monarchy was established.
- As the time of the Judges was closing, the final judge (1 Sam 7:15) was born: the prophet Samuel (1 Sam 1).
- Samuel was powerful in the Lord and wise. Interestingly, he seemed to expect Israel to continue to be governed by prophets and priests, with God alone as King:

*Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah and said to him, "Behold, you are old and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint for us a king to judge us **like all the nations.**" But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to judge us." And Samuel prayed to the LORD. And the LORD said to Samuel, "Obey the voice of the people in all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, **but they have rejected me from being king over them.** According to all the deeds that they have done, from the day I brought them up out of Egypt even to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are also doing to you. Now then, obey their voice; only you shall solemnly warn them and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them." (1 Sam 8:4-9)*

- Samuel went on to warn the people of the **tyranny** a monarchy would bring (1 Sam 8:10-18). Their answer: "But the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel. And they said, "No! But there shall be a king over us, **that we also may be like all the nations**, and that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles." (1 Sam 8:19-20)
- Importantly, the kingship was birthed in **rebellion**. God however, used it for His own purposes. **Oh the sovereign love and matchless grace of God!**

- The first King of Israel was King Saul (1 Sam 9). Although he started well, Saul's character flaws doomed his reign (1 Sam 10-15). Who can forget God's famous Word to Saul, a Word to which we'd still do well to heed. After failing to obey God in utterly destroying Amalekites, setting up a monument to himself, and refusing to take responsibility for the failure (1 Sam 15)...

*...Samuel said, "Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams. **For rebellion is as the sin of divination** (or witchcraft, KJV), **and presumption is as iniquity and idolatry.** Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, he has also rejected you from being king." (1 Sam 15:22-23)*

- Proving the truth of this Scripture, so sinful did Saul become in his rebellion, he killed the priests of God while pursuing David (1 Sam 22) and he actually went to seek help from a witch (1 Sam 28)!

**Dear friends, this is the corrosive power of sin; it can so deceive as to make you act like a completely different person!**

- After Saul, God chose King David...a simple shepherd boy, to rule over His people:

*And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen these." Then Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here." And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the LORD said, "Arise, anoint him, for this is he." Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up and went to Ramah. (1 Sam 16:10-13)*

- King David led a colorful life, fighting animals (1 Sam 17:34-37), defeating Goliath (1 Sam 17:40-51), being hunted by jealous Saul (1 Sam 18:8-12, ch.19), hiding in caves (1 Sam 22), being allied for a period of time with Israel's enemies (the Philistines, 1 Sam 27,29), fighting many battles, failing miserably with Bathsheba (2 Sam 11-12), going through parent drama to the extreme (2 Sam 13-15), finally turning His kingdom over to Solomon, and of course, writing some of the most beautiful Psalms in history.

#### GOD'S LOVE IN OUR TEXT:

1. First, we can clearly see David's love for God in his desire to build God a house. (vv1-2)
2. God came to Nathan the prophet and affirmed His love for David by stating what He would do for David.
  - He reminded David of his humble beginnings. (v8)
  - He reminded David of His abiding Presence and provision. (v9)
  - He said He would make David's name great. (v9)
  - He would cause His people to dwell in peace. (vv10-11)
  - He promised to make David "a house." This speaks to David's dynasty. (v11)
  - He said He would establish Solomon's Kingdom in steadfast love, and that through him God's house would be built. (vv12-15)
  - He told David that his "house, kingdom, and throne" would be established forever.

3. This last statement in particular speaks to the nature of the *Davidic Covenant*. It was more than a temple or Solomon's rule. It promised the **Messiah**...

#### PREACHING CHRIST IN THE TEXT:

1. In order for a kingdom to be established *forever*, more than ordinary circumstances are required. Forever in this context, means **eternally**.
  - *"The promise that David's "house," "kingdom," and "throne" will be established forever is significant because it shows that the Messiah will come from the lineage of David and that He will establish a kingdom from which He will reign. The covenant is summarized by the words "house," promising a dynasty in the lineage of David; "kingdom," referring to a people who are governed by a king; "throne," emphasizing the authority of the king's rule; and "forever," emphasizing the eternal and unconditional nature of this promise to David and Israel."* --gotquestions.org
2. Scripture is filled with references that the **Christ** would come from the royal house of David. Jesus was called "Son of David."
  - *For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called **Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace**. 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. (Isa 9:6-7)*
  - *"Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when **I will raise up for David a righteous Branch**, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. (Jer 23:5)*
  - *I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. **And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them**. I am the LORD; I have spoken. (Eze 34:22-24)*
  - *And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, "Hosanna to the **Son of David!** Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" (Matt 21:9)*
  - *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)*
  - *"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: 'The words of the holy one, the true one, who has the **key of David**, who opens and no one will shut, who shuts and no one opens. (Rev 3:7)*
3. **Precious friends, this covenant is a statement of God's love**. God would use an institution birthed in rebellion (the monarchy) and a flawed, sinful leader (David) to give the greatest gift ever given (Jesus)!!!

#### EXHORTATION TO THE CHURCH:

Today, we remember the thousands who died in New York and Washington, D.C., on Sept 11, 2001. There of course has been much written and said about this horrific event, and rightly so. We personally believe that every God-honoring attempt should be made to protect the innocent and preserve life: this is the testimony and witness of Jesus.

But let us be true to Scripture: evil exists. And it will until its catalyst (Satan) and fruit (death) is thrown into the Lake of Fire, finally judged by the King of Kings. (Rev 20:10, 14)

Therefore, our ultimate hope (and truly, our only Hope) is in Jesus Christ alone. (Titus 2:13; 1 Pet 1:3)

God's entire plan from the Garden of Eden flows through **Jesus**. Through Him alone, the Messiah...the King, Prophet, and Priest above all, are we saved. David's life, though significant, was ultimately about pushing God's redemptive plan forward, eventually culminating in the birth of the *Son of David*, **Jesus our LORD**. Therefore:

Trust Jesus. Hope in Jesus. Live for Jesus. Preach Jesus. Love Jesus.  
Jesus alone saves.

Perhaps a final exhortation from the Lord Jesus would go well here:

*And he said to me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near. Let the evildoer still do evil, and the filthy still be filthy, and the righteous still do right, and the holy still be holy." "Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates. Outside are the dogs and sorcerers and the sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices falsehood. **"I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."** (Rev 22:10-16)*

Amen.

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**Extra Credit:** Read David's response to God's covenant in 2 Sam 7:18-29 and discuss with your family what you learned and what you want to change in your own walk. Hint: think "posture before God" and "humility." ;)