

THE FOREVER KINGDOM

PREACHING THROUGH THE BIBLE: I SAMUEL II Samuel 7:1-17

I. INTRODUCTION

A. COMPOSITION

1. AUTHORSHIP

- a. Anonymous—no attribution in book itself
- b. Possibly someone compiled chronicles of prophets Nathan and Gad—**II Chr 29:29**
- c. Also used another source—the ‘book of Jasher’—**1:18**

2. DATE

- Probably after Solomon’s death (931)—but before Assyrian invasion (722)

B. SCOPE AND BACKGROUND

1. PERIOD COVERED

- a. From just after Saul’s death (1011)—to just before David’s death (971)
- b. David’s story
 1. Begins in I Samuel 16—ends I Kings 2
 2. David’s reign in Judah—7 ½ years—in Hebron—1011-1004
 3. David’s united reign—33 years—in Jerusalem—1004-971

2. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

a. Beginning of Period

1. Philistine political and economic domination of Israel
2. Defeat and death of Saul and Jonathan at Gilboa
3. David still in exile—defeated Amalekites at Ziklag
4. Divided religious sites
 - Ark of Covenant—at Kiriath-jearim
 - Tabernacle—at Gibeon
5. Civil war—between Judah and rest of Israel over kingship

b. End of Period

1. Philistine pentapolis power broken—Philistines pushed out of Israel

2. United monarchy and religious center in Jerusalem
3. Subjugation of surrounding nations
4. Expanded Kingdom of Israel
 - From the Negev (desert) to the Mediterranean
 - From Gulf of Aqaba—along Jordan River—to Syrian border and Orontes River

C. PURPOSES AND MESSAGE

1. RECORDS MAJOR EVENTS IN DAVID'S REIGN
 - More is known about him than anyone else in the OT
2. SHOWS HOW DAVID CONSOLIDATED AND EXPANDED KINGDOM
3. HIGHLIGHTS IMPORTANCE OF DAVID'S LINE—AND MESSIANIC IMPLICATIONS
4. SHOWS TENSION/STRIFE BETWEEN JUDAH AND REST OF ISRAEL
 - Problem leading to split after death of Solomon
 - I Samuel shows how kingdom was united—II Samuel shows
5. ILLUSTRATES RESULTS OF OBEDIENCE AND DISOBEDIENCE
 - David's obedience (chapters 1-7)—brings blessings (chapters 8-10)
 - David's disobedience (chapters 11-12)—brings judgment (chapters 12-24)

D. ORGANIZATION

1. CHAPTERS 1-4—DAVID'S REIGN IN JUDAH
 - Saul's death—and David's lament
 - David anointed—king of Judah—rules in Hebron 7 ½ years
 - Ishbosheth ('man of shame')—Saul's son—made king of Israel
 - Civil war lasted 2 years
 - David's men defeat Ishbosheth's men
 - Abner defects—and helps David unite Israel
 - Ishbosheth murdered
 - Joab murdered by Abner
2. CHAPTERS 5-10—DAVID UNITES ISRAEL AND SECURES BORDERS
 - David anointed king—over all Israel—ruled 33 years
 - Conquest of Jerusalem
 - Alliance with Tyre—King Hiram

- Conquest of Philistines
- Transport of Ark to Jerusalem
- God's covenant with David
- David defeats enemies—8:1-18

3. CHAPTERS 11-12—DAVID AND BATHSHEBA

- Adultery with Bathsheba
- Murder of Uriah
- Nathan's prophesy and chastisement
- David's repentance
- Death of David's son
- Birth of another son—Solomon

4. CHAPTERS 13-20—DAVID'S FAMILY PROBLEMS

- Incest by Amnon—raped half-sister Tamar—ch 13-14
 - Absalom murders Amnon
- Rebellion and reign of Absalom—ch 15-19
 - Absalom's murder
- Sheba' rebellion—ch 20
- David's restoration

5. CHAPTERS 21-24—CONCLUSION

- Famine and Placation of Gibeonites
- War with Philistines
- Psalms of thanksgiving
- Deeds of David's mighty men
- Census and Plague

E. KEY THEOLOGICAL THEMES AND TEXTS

1. KEY CHAPTERS

- Chapter 7—promise of David's perpetual legacy
- Chapters 11-12—sin brings grave consequences

2. DAVID'S HEART FOR GOD

- Despite his sin—David remained faithful—never fell into idolatry
- Contrasted with many faithless kings who followed him

3. DAVID—A STANDARD BY WHICH LATER KINGS WERE MEASURED

- His wisdom—justice—integrity—courage—compassion—passion for God
- Contrasted with Saul

4. DAVID—A FOREBEAR OF CHRIST—MESSIANIC LINEAGE

5. ISRAEL’S PROSPERITY/TROUBLES—FOLLOW KING’S OBEDIENCE/DISOBEDIENCE

6. GOD’S PROVIDENTIAL DIRECTION OF HISTORY

- a. Like God using Rahab—Ruth—and Hannah
- b. God used unlikely means to perpetuate David’s lineage
 - Michal was restored as David’s wife
 - But she did not produce an heir—and perpetuate Saul’s lineage
 - Instead—God used Bathsheba—to produce Solomon
 - Shows how God overcomes sin to accomplish His will
 - Also shows—no need to secure future by producing an heir through Saul’s lineage

7. GOD’S MERCY AND JUSTICE

- God’s willingness to forgive David and bless his lineage [contrasted with Saul]
- But David must still suffer consequences for his disobedience

8. GENUINE AND REPENTANT WORSHIP—OBEDIENT SACRIFICE

- a. Contrast David’s attitude about sacrifice with that of Saul’s arrogant pride
- b. David’s burnt offering was humble—repentant—and truly sacrificial

II Sam 24:24-25—*However, the king said to Araunah, “No, but I will surely buy it from you for a price, for I will not offer burnt offerings to the LORD my God which cost me nothing.” So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver. David built there an altar to the LORD and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings. Thus the LORD was moved by prayer for the land, and the plague was held back from Israel.*

- c. Like the contrast between Abel’s and Cain’s sacrifices?

F. HISTORICAL NOTES

1. HOW DAVID CONSOLIDATED INTERNAL COMMAND AND CONTROL

- a. Established permanent and central capital
 1. Jerusalem conquered under Joshua—but still controlled by Jebusites
 2. David re-conquered Jerusalem—and made it his capital
 3. Wise move politically

- a. In Benjamite territory (Saul's tribe)—thus getting support of Saul's followers
 - b. Tribes considered it a neutral site—since it was controlled by Jebusites
- 4. Defensively strong
 - a. In mountains—easily defended on three sides
 - b. Small area—12 acres—manageable to defend
- 5. David made it *both* the political *and* religious center of Israel
- b. Subdued Philistines and surrounding nations/tribes
- c. Moved Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem
 - 1. United Israel in site of worship—see **6:1-23**
 - 2. This fulfilled God's prophecy/command in the Torah
 - **Dt 12:1-14**—God said a king would centralize worship at a place He would direct
- d. Established organizational structure and officials
 - 1. Lists given in—**8:15-18** and **20:23-26**
 - 2. Leaders included
 - Commander in chief of army—Joab
 - Leader of Philistine mercenaries—Cherethites and Pelethites
 - Two priests—to lead religious services—Zadok and Ahimilech
 - Two officials responsible for official documents and administrative records
 - Superintendent for foreign labor force

2. HOW DAVID CONDUCTED INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND RULE

a. Military Conquests

- Philistines—subdued Pentapolis
- Moabites and Edomites—southeast
- Syria—cities of Damascus, Zobah and Hamath
- Ammon to the east—and Syria to the north

b. Method of Ruling—and Interacting

- Did not annihilate them
- But ruled over them and collected tribute
- Her even collected tribute from Syria
- Made trade agreements with Phoenicians
- Personal bodyguard were Philistines—Cherethites and Perethites

- One of his army commanders was Ittai—from Goliath’s hometown of Gath

II. BIBLICAL TEXT

II Sam 7:1-17—*1 Now it came about when the king lived in his house, and the LORD had given him rest on every side from all his enemies, 2 that the king said to Nathan the prophet, “See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells within tent curtains.” 3 Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that is in your mind, for the LORD is with you.” 4 But in the same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, saying, 5 “Go and say to My servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD, “Are you the one who should build Me a house to dwell in? 6 For I have not dwelt in a house since the day I brought up the sons of Israel from Egypt, even to this day; but I have been moving about in a tent, even in a tabernacle. 7 Wherever I have gone with all the sons of Israel, did I speak a word with one of the tribes of Israel, which I commanded to shepherd My people Israel, saying, ‘Why have you not built Me a house of cedar? 8 “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, to be ruler over My people Israel. 9 I have been with you wherever you have gone and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make you a great name, like the names of the great men who are on the earth. 10 I will also appoint a place for My people Israel and will plant them, that they may live in their own place and not be disturbed again, nor will the wicked afflict them any more as formerly, 11 even from the day that I commanded judges to be over My people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. The LORD also declares to you that the LORD will make a house for you. 12 When your days are complete and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your descendant after you, who will come forth from you, 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 a father to him and he will be a son to Me; when he commits iniquity, I will correct him with the rod of men and the strokes of the sons of men, 15 but My lovingkindness shall not depart from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. 16 Your house and your kingdom shall endure before Me forever; your throne shall be established forever.”’” 17 In accordance with all these words and all this vision, so Nathan spoke to David.*

III. EXPOSITION

A. BACKGROUND

- HIRAM, KING OF TYRE—HAD BUILT A PALACE FOR DAVID IN JERUSALEM
- BUT THE ARK STILL RESIDED IN JUST A TENT—THE LORD DESERVED MORE

B. DAVID’S INTENTION—AND GOD’S RESPONSE

1. DAVID DESIRED TO BUILD A HOUSE FOR GOD

2. GOD REFUSED TO ALLOW DAVID TO BUILD THE TEMPLE

3. REASONS GOD DID NOT ALLOW THIS

a. Reason in **II Samuel 7**

- God did not need a house
- God had never dwelled in a house—had been with tent in wilderness

b. Reason in **I Chr 22:8-9**

- David was a man of war—who had shed much blood
- God would use a man of peace—his son—to build His house

c. Another possible reason—*implied* in **II Samuel**

1. God knew beforehand David would sin
2. David's disobedience would bring bloodshed and strife throughout his lifetime

II Sam 12:10—*Now, therefore, the sword will never depart from your house, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own.*

C. GOD ESTABLISHED A COVENANT WITH DAVID

1. THE 'DAVIDIC COVENANT'

- a. Not called a 'covenant' in this passage
- b. But later—Scripture identifies it as a 'covenant'

II Chr 21:7—*Yet the LORD was not willing to destroy the house of David because of the covenant which He had made with David, and since He had promised to give a lamp to him and his sons forever.*

Ps 89:3-4—*I have made a covenant with My chosen; I have sworn to David My servant, I will establish your seed forever and build up your throne to all generations."*

2. TERMS OF THE COVENANT

- A **place** for Israel to dwell securely—**vv 10-11**
- A **son** who would build the temple—**vv 12-13**
- An **everlasting dynasty**—**v 13**
- A **father-son relationship** for David with his descendants—**v 14**

D. THE PROMISE KEPT

1. NINE DIFFERENT DYNASTIES RULED [NORTHERN] ISRAEL AFTER SOLOMON
2. ONE CONTINUOUS LINE RULED [SOUTHERN] JUDAH

3. EVEN WHEN THAT ROYAL LINE WAS BROKEN—IT WAS RESUMED BY CHRIST

E. PROPHETIC FULFILLMENT

1. THE MESSIAH WOULD SIT UPON THE THRONE OF DAVID

Is 9:6-7—*For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.*

Is 11:1, 10—*And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots. . . . And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.*

2. JESUS CHRIST FULFILLED THIS PROPHECY

a. In the prophecy of Gabriel to Mary

Lk 1:32-33—*He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end.*

b. In the proclamation of the people

Mt 21:9—*And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the Son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.*

c. In the witness of the Gospel

Mt 1:1—*The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.*

d. In the **eternal victory** achieved by Christ

Rev 1:17-18—*Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades.*

e. In the **eternal** nature of Christ's **kingdom**

1. On earth—the church

Mt 16:17-19—*Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven.*

2. In heaven

Rev 22:5—*And there will no longer be any night; and they will not have need of the light of a lamp nor the light of the sun, because the Lord God will illumine them; and they will reign forever and ever.*

F. CONDITIONAL OR UNCONDITIONAL COVENANT?

1. UNCONDITIONAL

- a. God would *never* leave David's descendants—never remove His presence
- b. Contrasted with Saul—from whom God's Spirit and blessing departed

2. CONDITIONAL

- a. God's temporal blessing of the political nation depended on their obedience
- b. As kings obeyed or disobeyed—the nation prospered or suffered

G. KEY STEP AND LINK IN REDEMPTIVE HISTORY

- 1. CONTINUES THE ABRAHAMIC COVENANT—TO BLESS ALL NATIONS
- 2. GOD WORKED THROUGH THREE MEN—ABRAHAM—DAVID—CHRIST
- 3. REDEMPTIVE THEME—KEY LINK BETWEEN THE OLD AND NEW COVENANTS