



## Lesson 84

# God's Covenant with David

### Story Elements

- **Text:** 2 Samuel 7:1-29
- **Setting:** approx. 1010 B.C.
- **Main Characters:** God, David, and Nathan the prophet
- **Plot:** God establishes a covenant with David that is ultimately fulfilled in the Messiah.
- **Key word(s):** “house”
- **Climax:** *“Go and tell my servant David, Thus saith the LORD, Shalt thou build me an house for me to dwell in?”* (v 5)

### A Good Desire (2 Sam. 7:1-3-7)

- 1) With his throne well established, Jerusalem captured, and his palace built with help from Hiram king of Tyre, David thought it was only proper for God to also have a magnificent living place, saying, *“I dwell in an house of cedar, but the ark of God dwelleth within \_\_\_\_\_”* (in a tent). (v 2)
- 2) David shared his heart with his spiritual advisor, Nathan the prophet. This is the first time Nathan's character appears in the Bible; he will play an important role throughout David's reign.
- 3) Nathan thought David's idea to build a temple for God was a good one that should be pursued (v 3), but God was of a different opinion. He responded to David's desire by asking two questions communicated through Nathan:
  - a) *“Shalt thou build me an house for me to dwell in?”* (v 5). In 1 Chron. 22:8 we see that David was rejected from building the temple because he was a \_\_\_\_\_ who had shed much blood.
  - b) *“Why build ye not me an house of cedar?”* (v 7) Had God ever complained to any of his people that he lacked a proper temple? Of course not. Contrary to David's desire and Nathan's approval, God did not wish David to build him a temple. God is too \_\_\_\_\_ to need a temple.

### A Gracious Covenant (2 Sam. 7:8-17)

- 4) In the same vision with Nathan, God established a new covenant with David, stating:
  - a) There were benefits of this covenant that David would experience: David would be given a “great name” (v 9); Israel would continue to have a home (v 10); David would have rest from his \_\_\_\_\_. (v 11)
  - b) There were benefits of this covenant that would be experienced by future generations: a son who will sit on the throne that will be to God as a son; a kingdom

that will never end; a son who will rule an \_\_\_\_\_ kingdom.

## A Grateful Prayer (2 Samuel 7:18-29)

- 5) David's response to God's gracious covenant was a beautiful prayer of thanksgiving and praise. Notice how David...
- a) ...**marvels at God's grace** by asking three rhetorical questions (vv 18-25; cf John 1:12-14):
    - i) "*Who am I?*" (v 18) Individually, David did nothing too \_\_\_\_\_ the gracious blessings of God, much less the honor to be the recipient of God's gracious covenant and the king through whom the Messiah would come to the world.
    - ii) "*What is my house?*" (v 18) There was nothing about David's family that could have engendered God's \_\_\_\_\_.
    - iii) "*What one nation in earth is like thy people Israel, even like Israel, whom God went to redeem for a people to himself?*" David recognized that God was blessing the nation through himself, but even the nation had no merit to earn God's \_\_\_\_\_ grace. (v 23)
  - b) ...**magnifies God's name** by rejoicing in the sureness of God's \_\_\_\_\_. (vv 26-29)

## Application

- 6) David was honored for his desire to build the temple, but he was prohibited from doing it because he was a man of war (cf 1 Chron 22:8). Here we have a beautiful picture of the church militant versus the church \_\_\_\_\_:
- a) In this life, we battle enemies and expand the borders of the Kingdom of God. Here God is happy to dwell with his people, leading them like he did with the ark and the \_\_\_\_\_. David and his exploits illustrate our spiritual war.
  - b) In the next life, we will enter our rest and dwell in peace at home – no more spiritual war, no more battling sin. Solomon and his reign of peace and prosperity illustrate the saints eternal rest and our permanent \_\_\_\_\_ with God.
- 7) Though Solomon was the immediate fulfillment of the promise of a son who will rule as God's son, the ultimate fulfillment of the Davidic Covenant is found in \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_. (cf Luke 1:31-33)

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## Answers

Key Word(s): house • 1) curtains • 3) a) warrior; b) glorious • 4) a) enemies; b) eternal • 5) a) i) earn; ii) favor; iii) electing; b) promises • 6. triumphant; a) tabernacle; b) dwelling • 7) Jesus Christ