

2 Sam 7

Introduction:

- A. Illus.: The movie, *A Knight's Tale*, is full of exciting scenes of jousting from medieval England. The custom at those tournaments was for a knight's squire to introduce him to the audience before the jousting match. Customarily, it would be a grandiose recitation of his royal lineage, because only the well-born could be knights. The star of this story, however, is a pretender named Ulrich. He doesn't have a drop of royal blood in him! He is not really a royal knight at all, but no one knows that except his team of 'handlers.' His squire Chaucer (a take-off on the English author) comes off as a modern-day promoter and PR man. In one of the deleted scenes on the DVD, Chaucer is introducing his knight. People in the audience smile as he cranks up the hype like a modern-day puffmeister.

*"I cannot look upon my Lord Ulrich for I weep to see his shining face. My Lord is a gift to your eyes for we shall never, ever see his like upon this earth again. I would list his lineage if it served to honor him. Most men here—it's sad, but it's true—they look to their past to prove their worth; they look to the deeds of their fathers. Now Sir Ulrich has great ancestors—make no mistake about that—Sir Chirard von Richbach, Duke Guelph of Saxony, Van Misch IV out of Brunswick—but these great, great men pale into insignificance next to him. **I do not list them to honor him. I list him to honor them!**"*

That was all hype, of course, but I thought of David and his greatest descendant, Jesus. Jesus, the Son of David—the greatest honor God could confer.

- B. The whole business of Israel having a king came up some 1100 years before Jesus was born. The people of Israel were fed up with the corruption of Samuel's sons, but there was another reason. **1 Sam 8** says that all the elders

of Israel came to Samuel and laid it out: *“You are old, and your sons do not follow your ways; now appoint a king to lead us, **such as all the other nations have... a king to lead us and to go out and fight our battles.**”*

Israel had a king, God—the LORD of hosts—and he was offended at their effrontery. Israel was a theocracy, but God let them have their way and gave them the kind of king they’d dreamed of—Saul—who turned out to be a 40-year disappointment, a man who, when the pressure was on, took things into his own hands instead of trusting God.

- C. So God chose for Israel a far better king—one they’d have never identified. The seventh son of a shepherd—David. God chose David because while *“people look at the outward appearance, the LORD looks at the heart,”* and David was a man *“after God’s own heart.”* He loved God and he wanted what God wanted.

But David had to wait. He hid out for years from the murderous Saul. Finally Saul died and after seven more years **David united the twelve tribes of Israel.** Then he **conquered Jerusalem** and made it his capital city. Then, he **brought the Ark of God’s Covenant to Mt. Zion,** the highest place in Jerusalem. David danced before the Lord, trumpets sounded, and he offered sacrifices to God. Then *“he blessed the people in the name of the LORD Almighty.”*

That’s the kind of king Israel needed!

- D. Turn to **2 Sam 7.** It troubled David that he had a palace but that God’s presence was still in the tent of the tabernacle so he proposed to build a house for God. But God turned the tables and made a history-changing covenant with David, simply because he loved him. And because God loves his people. He loves you and this story of his covenant with David is the story of his love for us as well.
- E. **1 Sam 7:8-16...** That is the first expression of God’s covenant with David, and that is where Israel first got an inkling that God would someday send them the Messiah.

F. **Christmas is a season for rejoicing that Jesus Christ is the Son God promised to King David.** This covenant is a treasure chest, not only for David, but for us.

I. **DAVID'S OWN FLESH AND BLOOD WILL REIGN FOREVER (v.12)**

- A. For a long time, there were descendants of David reigning, at least over a fragment of Israel, but eventually they were all carried into captivity and Israel never again had a king. They carefully kept track of genealogies, tracking his descendants, but there was no king. They anticipated a day when somehow God would identify one of them, as he had David. The prophet Micah told them that he would be born in Bethlehem, as David had been. His descendants would be carefully documented to be sure that he was of the house and line of David. Israel would hold a great conclave and coronation, with people filling the streets shouting *"God saves! Hosanna to the Son of David."* And then they would rise up, a great and terrible army under the sword of their new King, and their enemies would be crushed once and for all.
- B. There's a spiritual that mourns, *"Sweet little Jesus boy... we didn't know it was you."* But Mary, descended from David, had no doubt because the angel told her, *"He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."* [Lk 1:32-33] The shepherds knew because the angel told them. The wise men knew because they saw the star signaling the birth of the Jew's king.
- C. Yet here was the Son of David born in the dirty hay of a barn, only to go down from there, dying with the life bled out of him, rejected by the nation he'd come to rule. The only evidence of his identity the mocking sign over his head on the cross, *"This is the King of the Jews."* Yet as David himself prophesied in **Ps.16**, God would not

“abandon [him] to the realm of the dead.” [Acts 2:24-28] Jesus rose from the dead and now reigns in heaven. Think of it! A man who is David’s own flesh and blood—a king with David’s DNA—is actually reigning over all that God has made right now in heaven’s highest place!

- D. Jesus is never known in the Bible as the son of Joseph, nor even as the son of Mary. He is always *the Son of David*. Even though a thousand years separated them. From the first verse of the New Testament: *“This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David, the son of Abraham.”* All the way to the very end, in **Rev. 22:16**, *“I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star.”*

Look at **v.14** where God says, *“I will be his father and he will be my son.”* I’m sure David took that to mean that God would be *like* a father to David’s sons. And indeed he was, and to all of Israel. But when Jesus was born he was literally the son of God *and* the son of David, through Mary.

II. THE SON OF DAVID WOULD HAVE GOD AS HIS FATHER! (v.14)

- A. The second person of the Trinity, the Son, has existed forever. He is called the Son because he *issues* from the Father, not because he comes after the Father.
- B. But when Jesus was born of the virgin Mary, he also became the Son of God by human birth. God was not only his Father in all eternity, but also his Father in time. The second person of the Trinity is eternal. Jesus had a birthday, and he had a Father.
- C. Remember when Jesus was baptized and a voice from heaven said, *“This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”* [Matt 3:17] Listen to the description we have in **Heb. 1:1-6....**

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in

these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"?

And again, when God brings his firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him."

- D. When Jesus was born no one could imagine a higher title than 'Son of David.' But true to his covenant with David, God *"exalted [Jesus] to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name. That at the name of Jesus, every knee should bow in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."* [Phil 2:9-11]

David's desire had been to build a house for God—a temple. But God turned the tables and covenanted with him to build a house—an everlasting dynasty—for David. **2 Sam 7:11**, *"The LORD declares to you that the LORD himself will establish a house for you."* God did this not once, but twice, in two different ways.

III. GOD ESTABLISHED A HOUSE FOR DAVID, TWICE OVER

- A. The first way was what we have described, that David's heir, Jesus the Son of David, reigns now and forever over his people. The house of David—the dynasty—continues, even now 3000 years later, and it has just begun.
- B. The second way turns the phrase a different direction. Remember that David wanted to build a house for the

LORD—a temple as an earthly place where God’s glory could dwell. God permitted David to plan that temple and his son Solomon built it. But David’s greater Son, Jesus, has also built a temple to house the glory of God. **Eph 2:22** says, “*you are being built together to become a dwelling for God’s Spirit.*” Jesus, by his blood, has rendered us holy, and by his Spirit, he dwells within each and all of us who have given him our lives. We are the temple of God, the temple David could not begin to imagine. A temple built on the foundation of the prophets and apostles, rising golden and holy, as the eternal dwelling of the LORD.

Remember that all this talk of a king started when Israel wanted a king like other nations had, “***a king to lead us and to go out and fight our battles.***”

IV. THE SON OF DAVID WILL CONQUER EVERY ENEMY AND BRING US PEACE

- A. It is what God promised David in **1 Sam 7:10-11a...** In the years after this great covenant, David meditated often on this promise, and understood that the greatest accomplishment of the Anointed One who would come would be defeating the intractable enemies of God and his people. Listen to what David wrote in **Ps. 2:1-9...** Listen to **Ps. 110:1-7...**
- B. We seldom grasp how terrible the enemies are—how deeply rebellious whole nations are to the rule of God, how the entire world economic system comes down the buying and selling of the souls of men and women, how pervasive the lies and pride of Satan shot through every society and social strata, nor how the unseen powers in spiritual realms war to own all that belongs to God.
- C. True to his nature, God seeks to save the lost. That is why the Son of David was born—to seek and to save the lost, to proclaim the good news that anyone can repent and be saved, that God is not willing that any should perish but all should come to repentance. Jesus said he came as a

ransom for many, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Every disciple is commissioned to take the good news of Jesus into all the world.

- D. But the day of God's wrath is coming, and the Son of David will bring all God's enemies—and ours—down. At the end of all the final turmoil, the judgments and cataclysms, **Rev. 19:11-16** records:

I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war. ... Coming out of his mouth is a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter." He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

- E. Yet still one more enemy remains—death itself. **1 Cor 15:25-26** says, "For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death." For those of us who trust Christ, death has lost its sting, but one day death will lose its life. Death will be buried and forgotten. **Rev 21** gives us this great assurance of the day when all things are finished, "They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." [Rev 21:3-4]

Conclusion

Isaiah wrote more eloquently of the coming Messiah than any other prophet. He said in **Is. 9:6-7**

*For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,*

*Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Of the greatness of his government and peace
there will be no end.*

***He will reign on David's throne
and over his kingdom,
establishing and upholding it
with justice and righteousness
from that time on and forever.***

*The zeal of the Lord Almighty
will accomplish this.* [Is 9:6-7]

In the last letter Paul ever wrote—2 Timothy—he said,
*“Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from
David. This is my gospel...”* [2 Tim 2:8]

Illus.: In the wonderful short opera, *Amahl and the Night
Visitors*, the magi on their journey to find the king, stop at the
hovel of a beggar woman and her crippled son. They tell her of
their quest: *“The child we seek holds the seas and the winds on his
palm; has the moon and stars at his feet; and before him the eagle
is gentle and the lion is meek.”* In the night, her poverty heavy
upon her, she tries to steal their gold and is caught red-handed.

After a ruckus and then a painful silence, one king tells her to
keep the gold because the Child they seek doesn't really need it.
“No, wait,” she cries, *“take back your gold. For such a King I have
waited all my life. And if I weren't so poor, I would send a gift of
my own to such a child.”*

***“For such a King I have waited all my life.” We wait no more.
“Joy to the world! The Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King.”***