

Sunday June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018  
The Word of God  
A Survey of the Bible – Part 7E  
'His Special People'

1). Ac 13:17 *"The God of this people Israel chose our fathers, and exalted the people when they dwelt as strangers in the land of Egypt, and with an uplifted arm He brought them out of it. 18 "Now for a time of about forty years He put up with their ways in the wilderness. 19 "And when He had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, He distributed their land to them by allotment. 20 "After that He gave them judges for about four hundred and fifty years, until Samuel the prophet. 21 "And afterward they asked for a king; so God gave them Saul the son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, for forty years. 22 "And when He had removed him, He raised up for them David as king, to whom also He gave testimony and said, 'I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My own heart, who will do all My will.' 23 "From this man's seed, according to the promise, God raised up for Israel a Savior--Jesus—*

In the Book of Acts Paul gives to the 'Men of Israel' in Antioch a brief outline history of the Jewish people, taking them from the nation's deliverance from Egypt to Jesus the Christ.

a). And we can see that he draws attention to the lineage of David, 'this man's seed' through whom the Savior, Jesus has come.

b). And we see that he tells them that this is 'according to the promise' – a promise that had been given to David because he did all the will of God. By no means a sinless man, but a man after the Lord's own heart – and we had seen this exemplified in David's attitude to Saul, the man who sought David's life, the king whom David was to replace - 1Sa 24:6 *And he said to his men, "The LORD forbid that I should do this thing to my master, the LORD'S anointed, to stretch out my hand against him, seeing he is the anointed of the LORD."*

Knowing that God had appointed Saul as king, David knew that God alone would be the One to remove Saul, and this he left in God's hands.

c). Perhaps this is why David would write - Ps 119:93 ¶ *I will never forget Your precepts, For by them You have given me life.*

d). Now, the promise to which Paul referred is found in God's words through Nathan the prophet to David, in response to David's desire to build God a house - 2Sa 7:5 *"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, 11 "since the time that I commanded judges to be over My people Israel, and have caused you to rest from all your enemies. 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.***

That which God spoke through Nathan not only foretold events concerning David's son Solomon, but also looked prophetically beyond the days of Solomon to One greater than Solomon, to a time that even now is still yet future.

e). And that the Lord was speaking prophetically concerning a future time, beyond Solomon, is something that David understood - 2Sa 7:18 ¶ *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.*

Solomon did of course build the House for the Lord in Jerusalem, but that Temple was destroyed; Solomon's Kingdom, after his death, during the reign of his son Rehoboam, was divided because of Solomon's and his son's disobedience. The 10 northern tribes separated themselves to form the Northern Kingdom called Israel and the 2 southern tribes formed the kingdom of Judah, but there came a time beyond which neither kingdom continued to exist.

f). And although the Lord gave David rest from his enemies and there was peace during the reign of Solomon that which God promised in 2 Samuel 7:10 has not yet come to pass, still awaiting the Millennial Kingdom.

2). The significance of it being Solomon and not David who built the House for the Lord is in the type it gives to us - 1Ch 22:7 *And David said to Solomon: "My son, as for me, it was in my mind to build a house to the name of the LORD my God; 8 "**but the word of the LORD came to me, saying, 'You have shed much blood and have made great wars; you shall not build a house for My name, because you have shed much blood on the earth in My sight.** 9 'Behold, a son shall be born to you, who shall be a man of rest; and I will give him rest from all his enemies all around. His name shall be Solomon [Lit. peaceful, rest, safety], for I will give peace and quietness to Israel in his days. 10 'He shall build a house for My name, and he shall be My son, and I will be his Father; and I will establish the throne of his kingdom over Israel forever.'*

In v8 we see that David 'shed much blood' and 'made great wars' and because of this he was not to build the Lord's House – and that pictured here is a future time of great wars and much blood coming before a time of peace, rest and safety. Which brings us to the Great Tribulation and the eventual destruction of Gentile world power, leading into the Millennial Kingdom, personified in Solomon.

a). And the Millennial Temple, which Solomon's Temple foreshadows, for obvious reasons, cannot be built before the beginning of the Kingdom Age.

b). It will be Jesus, the greater Son of David, who will build the Millennial Temple, a Temple which will be filled with the glory of God, God once again

dwelling in the midst of His people, fulfilling the Feast of Tabernacles, the 7<sup>th</sup> of the 7 feasts given to Israel, taking us to the 7<sup>th</sup> Day.

c). Solomon then, building the House for God, with a kingdom at rest from their enemies forms the type of Christ and the Millennial Kingdom when that which we saw in 2 Samuel 7:10 will be brought to pass.

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d). And if we go to Matthew's genealogy in Matthew Chapter 1 we will see that Joseph, the husband of Mary, the Lord's earthly father, is directly descended from Solomon giving regal legitimacy to Jesus.

e). And if we go to Luke's genealogy in Luke Chapter 3 we see that Mary is directly descended from David's son Nathan [not the prophet], giving the blood line to Jesus.

f). Putting these 2 together we can see both David's and Solomon's thrones 'established forever'.

3). As Solomon's Temple was dedicated so the glory of the Lord filled it and the Lord spoke to Solomon - 2Ch 7:1 ¶ *When Solomon had finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the LORD filled the temple. 2 And the priests could not enter the house of the LORD, because the glory of the LORD had filled the LORD'S house. 3 When all the children of Israel saw how the fire came down, and the glory of the LORD on the temple, they bowed their faces to the ground on the pavement, and worshiped and praised the LORD, saying: "For He is good, For His mercy endures forever." 4 Then the king and all the people offered sacrifices before the LORD.....11 Thus Solomon finished the house of the LORD and the king's house; and Solomon successfully accomplished all that came into his heart to make in the house of the LORD and in his own house. 12 ¶ Then the LORD appeared to Solomon by night, and said to him: "I have heard your prayer, and have chosen this place for Myself as a house of sacrifice. 13 "When I shut up heaven and there is no rain, or command the locusts to devour the land, or send pestilence among My people, 14 "if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.*

The Theocracy had begun we will remember when the glory of the Lord filled the Tabernacle in the wilderness in the days of Moses – and that same glory,

the very presence of God, then moved to Solomon's Temple, which we have just read about in the first 4 verses of 2 Chronicles 7.

a). As we move down these verses to v13 we find the Lord talking to Solomon of a time when He will, 'shut up heaven and there is no rain', a time of devouring locusts and pestilence, judgments which could only be in response to Israel's disobedience and unfaithfulness.

b). And along with the certainty of God's judgment upon disobedience, that will surely come, is the promise of what God will do if His people will humble themselves and pray and 'turn from their wicked ways'.

c). And implicit in this, spoken during the kingdom of peace and rest, is the disobedience and unfaithfulness on the part of the nation that will only be resolved through national repentance. Which makes clear that Solomon's kingdom is just the type, not the fulfillment of that which is promised.

d). Even though Solomon's kingdom was characterized by rest from their enemies and his reign was the most magnificent and spectacular that had ever been seen and Solomon was considered the wisest man whoever lived, it was still only a shadow of what awaits in the Millennial Kingdom under Christ.

e). But, despite a good beginning Solomon ended by doing exactly that which God had told Moses no king was to do - 2Ch 9:24 *Each man brought his present: articles of silver and gold, garments, armor, spices, horses, and mules, at a set rate year by year. 25 Solomon had four thousand stalls for horses and chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen whom he stationed in the chariot cities and with the king at Jerusalem. 26 So he reigned over all the kings from the River to the land of the Philistines, as far as the border of Egypt. 27 The king made silver as common in Jerusalem as stones, and he made cedar trees as abundant as the sycamores which are in the lowland. 28 And they brought horses to Solomon from Egypt and from all lands.*

We might recall what God had said to Moses about this - De 17:16 *"But he shall not multiply horses for himself, nor cause the people to return to Egypt to multiply horses, for the LORD has said to you, 'You shall not return that way again.'*

And Solomon did not stop at just horses - 1Ki 11:1 ¶ *But King Solomon loved many foreign women, as well as the daughter of Pharaoh: women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians, and Hittites- 2 from the nations of whom the LORD had said to the children of Israel, "You shall not intermarry*

*with them, nor they with you. Surely they will turn away your hearts after their gods." Solomon clung to these in love. 3 And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines; and his wives turned away his heart. 4 For it was so, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned his heart after other gods; and his heart was not loyal to the LORD his God, as was the heart of his father David. 5 For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. 6 Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and did not fully follow the LORD, as did his father David.*

*De 17:17 "Neither shall he multiply wives for himself, lest his heart turn away; nor shall he greatly multiply silver and gold for himself. 18 "Also it shall be, when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write for himself a copy of this law in a book, from the one before the priests, the Levites. 19 "And it shall be with him, and he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God and be careful to observe all the words of this law and these statutes....."*

And what we see here with Solomon turning away from the Lord because of his wives foreshadows Israel's continuing relationship with the Gentile nations, that which God calls harlotry, which has turned them away from the Lord, from which they have yet to repent.

f). And so, because of Solomon's sin and the sin of Solomon's son, the kingdom was divided in the days of Rehoboam – 1Ki 11:11 *Therefore the LORD said to Solomon, "Because you have done this, and have not kept My covenant and My statutes, which I have commanded you, I will surely tear the kingdom away from you and give it to your servant. 12 "Nevertheless I will not do it in your days, for the sake of your father David; I will tear it out of the hand of your son. 13 "However I will not tear away the whole kingdom; I will give one tribe to your son for the sake of my servant David, and for the sake of Jerusalem which I have chosen."*

2Ch 12:1 ¶ *Now it came to pass, when Rehoboam had established the kingdom and had strengthened himself, that he forsook the law of the LORD, and all Israel along with him.*

g). And even though the southern kingdom of Judah was generally more faithful than northern Israel, both came to a point beyond which God would

not let them go further - Jer 25:3 *"From the thirteenth year of Josiah the son of Amon, king of Judah, even to this day, this is the twenty-third year in which the word of the LORD has come to me; and I have spoken to you, rising early and speaking, but you have not listened. 4 "And the LORD has sent to you all His servants the prophets, rising early and sending them, but you have not listened nor inclined your ear to hear. 5 "They said, 'Repent now everyone of his evil way and his evil doings, and dwell in the land that the LORD has given to you and your fathers forever and ever. 6 'Do not go after other gods to serve them and worship them, and do not provoke Me to anger with the works of your hands; and I will not harm you.' 7 "Yet you have not listened to Me," says the LORD, "that you might provoke Me to anger with the works of your hands to your own hurt.*

And the way that God had determined to deal with His people, to bring them to repentance, was to remove them from their land and scatter them among the Gentile nations through captivity.

h). The northern kingdom of Israel was taken captive first by the Assyrian empire and the southern kingdom of Judah by the Babylonian empire, which also conquered the Assyrians - Jer 25:8 ¶ *"Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Because you have not heard My words, 9 'behold, I will send and take all the families of the north,' says the LORD, 'and Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, My servant, and will bring them against this land, against its inhabitants, and against these nations all around, and will utterly destroy them, and make them an astonishment, a hissing, and perpetual desolations. 10 'Moreover I will take from them the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the sound of the millstones and the light of the lamp. 11 'And this whole land shall be a desolation and an astonishment, and these nations **shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.** 12 'Then it will come to pass, when seventy years are completed, that I will punish the king of Babylon and that nation, the land of the Chaldeans, for their iniquity,' says the LORD; 'and I will make it a perpetual desolation.*

As we read these verses there are 2 things we will note – firstly that which the king of Babylon was to inflict upon the Jewish people is exactly in line with what God had said to Solomon in the verses we read from 2 Chronicles 7 and secondly, that there was a specific time placed on this captivity, 70 years.

i). And these are significant because they show that God will be faithful to what He has set out in His word and will act completely in accordance with

what He told the Jewish people in Leviticus Chapter 26 and repeated in Deuteronomy Chapter 28.

j). Which of itself proves the veracity of God's word for us as we can see this in action in Jewish history from the captivity even to the present day.

k). And also, as we have seen in the numerous types we have looked at in the course of this study beginning with the flood of Noah, God will not allow the persecution of His people to go on indefinitely – there is a terminal point seen pictured in the 70 years which will bring His people to the place where they will humble themselves and pray and turn from their wicked ways so that He will hear from heaven and heal their land.

l). All of this then foreshadowing events surrounding the last king of Babylon, the Antichrist.

4). It was during the days of Daniel the prophet while in captivity in Babylon that Ezekiel, also in captivity, saw in a vision the glory of the Lord depart from the Temple built by Solomon - *Eze 10:18 Then the glory of the LORD departed from the threshold of the temple and stood over the cherubim. 19 And the cherubim lifted their wings and mounted up from the earth in my sight. When they went out, the wheels were beside them; and they stood at the door of the east gate of the LORD'S house, and the glory of the God of Israel was above them.*

Solomon's Temple was destroyed, the house that had been built for God to dwell in was no more, and the glory of the Lord had left and will not return until the day when it will fill the Millennial Temple that the One greater than Solomon will build.

a). Zerubbabel did return to Jerusalem to begin rebuilding the Temple following the captivity, but the glory of God never returned.

b). And it was Zerubbabel's Temple which had been remodeled and extensively expanded by Herod the Great that was in existence during the Lord's earthly ministry, but a Temple apart from the glory of God and apart from the Theocracy.

c). And we only ever see the Lord ministering in the outer courts of the Temple, never going into the Temple itself.

*Mt 24:1 ¶ Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple. 2 And Jesus said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down."*

And as we know Herod's Temple, the whole Temple complex that the disciples showed to the Lord, was destroyed in 70 AD and no Jewish Temple has existed in Jerusalem from that day to this.

d). But let's note that Jesus told His disciples, 'not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down', which would encompass the whole Temple complex He had been shown – however, the Western Wall, also known as 'The Wailing Wall', part of the retaining wall for Herod's Temple complex is still there, one stone left upon another – this would suggest that Jesus spoke not only of 70 AD, but also a time beyond that date that is still to be fulfilled when not even 'The Wailing Wall' will remain; anticipating the total destruction of Jerusalem at the hands of Antichrist.

e). It is impossible to imagine the emotion experienced by Ezekiel as he witnessed the presence of God leave Solomon's Temple, bringing the Theocracy to an end and beginning the times of the Gentiles, but God, in His mercy, also gave to Ezekiel incredible detail concerning the Temple to be constructed in the 7<sup>th</sup> Day, also allowing him to see the return of the Glory of the Lord to that Temple in that Day – Eze 43:1 ¶ *Afterward he brought me to the gate, the gate that faces toward the east. 2 And behold, the glory of the God of Israel came from the way of the east. His voice was like the sound of many waters; and the earth shone with His glory. 3 It was like the appearance of the vision which I saw-like the vision which I saw when I came to destroy the city. The visions were like the vision which I saw by the River Chebar; and I fell on my face. 4 And the glory of the LORD came into the temple by way of the gate which faces toward the east. 5 The Spirit lifted me up and brought me into the inner court; and behold, the glory of the LORD filled the temple. 6 Then I heard Him speaking to me from the temple, while a man stood beside me. 7 ¶ And He said to me, "Son of man, this is the place of My throne and the place of the soles of My feet, where I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel forever.....*

O Glorious day!

We will continue next time – if the Lord is willing.