

CREATE A CLEAN HEART FOR ME
UNIT 11 • SESSION 3

DAVID

THE FAITHFUL KING

MAIN POINT

Jesus will reign as King forever.

2 SAMUEL 7:1-7 • DAVID SEEKS TO MAKE A HOUSE FOR GOD

1 When the king had settled into his palace and the LORD had given him rest on every side from all his enemies, **2** the king said to the prophet Nathan, “Look, I am living in a cedar house while the ark of God sits inside tent curtains.” **3** So Nathan told the king, “Go and do all that is on your mind, for the LORD is with you.” **4** But that night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: **5** “Go to my servant David and say, ‘This is what the LORD says: Are you to build me a house to dwell in? **6** From the time I brought the Israelites out of Egypt until today I have not dwelt in a house; instead, I have been moving around with a tent as my dwelling. **7** In all my journeys with all the Israelites, have I ever spoken a word to one of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, asking: Why haven’t you built me a house of cedar?’”

2 SAMUEL 7:8-16 • DAVID IS PROMISED A HOUSE FROM GOD

8 “So now this is what you are to say to my servant David: ‘This is what the LORD of Armies says: I took you from the pasture, from tending the flock, to be ruler over my people Israel. **9** I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have destroyed all your enemies before you. I will make a great name for you like that of the greatest on the earth . . . “The LORD declares to you: The LORD himself will make a house for you. **12** When your time comes and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up after you your descendant, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. **13** He is the one who will build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. **14** I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will discipline him with a rod of men and blows from mortals. **15** But my faithful love will never leave him as it did when I removed it from Saul, whom I removed from before you. **16** Your house and kingdom will endure before me forever, and your throne will be established forever.”

2 SAMUEL 7:18-24 • DAVID EXALTS THE GRACE OF GOD

18 Then King David went in, sat in the LORD’s presence, and said, Who am I, Lord GOD, and what is my house that you have brought me this far? **19** What you have done so far was a little thing to you, Lord GOD, for you have also spoken about your servant’s house in the distant future. And this is a revelation for mankind, Lord GOD . . . There is no one like you, and there is no God besides you, as all we have heard confirms. **23** And who is like your people Israel? God came to one nation on earth in order to redeem a people for himself, to make a name for himself, and to perform for them great and awesome acts . . . You established your people Israel to be your own people forever, and you, Lord, have become their God.

INTRO OPTION 1

CITY COUNCIL

SUPPLIES LIST

NO SUPPLIES NEEDED.

Have students come up with an ideal, ruling council of four people. They would be in charge of guiding and governing a city. Have students write down and describe what fictional four people they would put on the council and what responsibilities each member on the council would have in their roles. For example, one person could be the visionary leader, one person could handle the logistics, and one person could run the errands. Then have them discuss how each person on the council would carry out these actions in an ideal way. In today's session, we will learn God promised that He would provide a king who would rule His people perfectly without end. God fulfilled this promise by sending Jesus as one of David's descendants.

INTRO OPTION 2

FAITHFUL

SUPPLIES LIST

NO SUPPLIES NEEDED.

Have students determine what being faithful to something or someone (a team, band, club) looks like in their life. Then have them share their thoughts with the people around them and discuss why it is important that we are faithful to the things we say we will be faithful to. They could even share examples of things they have committed to in their lives. In today's session, we will learn that God promised that He would provide a king who would rule His people perfectly without end. God fulfilled this promise by sending Jesus as one of David's descendants.



1. DAVID SEEKS TO MAKE A HOUSE FOR GOD

READ 2 SAMUEL 7:1-7

WHAT DID DAVID WANT TO DO FOR GOD AND WHY?

When David's kingdom was finally secured, he decided to build a temple for the Lord. He was bothered by the fact that his house was nicer than the Lord's. David looked at what God had done for him and felt compelled to give back to God. But no one can outgive God—not even the king.

HOW DID GOD RESPOND TO DAVID'S IDEA?

God came to Nathan and instructed him to tell David, “Thanks, but no thanks.” God said He'd been in the tent of meeting since the Exodus and never asked any of the judges to build a temple. Rather than David building a house for God, God was going to build something for David.

2. DAVID IS PROMISED A HOUSE FROM GOD

READ 2 SAMUEL 7:8-16

God didn't want David to build him a house. Instead, God wanted to establish David's house as an eternal dynasty. The covenant applied to David's immediate heir, Solomon. However, there are elements that even Solomon could not fulfill himself. So in this section, let's go back through verses 12-15 and try to discern how the covenant applies to Solomon but is fulfilled in Jesus.

HOW DO VERSES 12-15 APPLY TO SOLOMON AND THE KINGS THAT CAME AFTER HIM?

Solomon was the son of David who took the throne when David died. God did establish his kingdom. In fact, under his reign, the nation of Israel was bigger and wealthier than at any other point in Israel's history. He built a temple for God in Jerusalem, and Solomon's kingdom was the pinnacle of Jewish history before Christ. Solomon had a close relationship with God, but he wasn't perfect.

He and the kings who came after him sinned greatly. God warned that He would discipline them through other men. As a direct result, God sent the Babylonians to discipline them “with the rod of men” (2 Sam. 7:14). But God remembered His servant David. God still loved the Israelites through the exile and reminded them that He would fulfill his good plans for them (see Jer. 29:11).



2 SAMUEL 7:1-7

7:1-3. “The mention of David’s ‘palace’ in 7:1 assumes knowledge of the capture of Jerusalem (5:6–9) and the building of a royal palace with Phoenician help (5:11). The statement that Yahweh had given David rest from all the enemies around him assumes David’s success at driving the Philistines out of Israelite territory (5:17–25). David’s complaint that ‘the ark of God remains in a tent’ (7:2) recalls the ark’s arrival into Jerusalem and its deposition in a temporary tent (6:1–23). Thus, the previous chapters have been preparing us for this moment in the extended narrative. With these sentences we have arrived at a critical juncture in 2 Samuel.”¹⁹

7:4-7. “Yahweh reverses the plan. The characteristic ‘word of the Lord came to’ . . . is the formal announcement of prophetic oracle . . . Will David hear Nathan’s prophetic voice any differently from how Saul heard Samuel’s voice? Will David refuse to hear the divine oracle as Saul did, or will he submit to Yahweh’s will? This chapter, more than any other, answers these questions irrevocably: David is not like Saul.”²⁰

2 SAMUEL 7:8-16

7:8-16. “The significance of the eternal covenant between the Lord and David for the New Testament writers cannot be overemphasized. These words played an essential preparatory role in developing the messianic expectations that were fulfilled in Jesus . . . The Lord’s words recorded here arguably play the single most significant role of any Scripture found in the Old Testament in shaping the Christian understanding of Jesus.”²¹



BIG QUESTION

COULD ONE MAN HAVE FULFILLED PROPHECIES BY CHANCE?

The odds of one man fulfilling 15 prophecies was between $1/10^{80}$ and $1/10^{62.5}$. “A random chance of 1 in 10^{50} or less is considered to be scientifically impossible . . . it would have been scientifically impossible for Jesus of Nazareth to fulfill these 15 prophecies by random chance. There are over 300 references to the Messiah in the O.T. that were fulfilled by Jesus . . . Forty-eight of the key prophecies were selected and the probability of one person fulfilling all 48 was calculated to be 1 chance out of 13 trillion . . . it is mathematically impossible that one person could fulfill all of these prophecies by chance. The mathematics point to the fact that someone had to guide history over the last 4000 years. God as revealed in the Bible is the only logical choice.”¹⁸



SCRIPTURE READING

MAIN POINT

Jesus will reign as King forever.

HOW DOES JESUS FULFILL THE PROMISES TO DAVID IN THESE VERSES?

Fulfilling verse 12, Jesus was the son of David who would reign on David's throne forever (see Luke 1:31-33). Fulfilling verse 13, Jesus builds the eternal temple of God through the church (see Eph. 2:19-22; 1 Pet. 2:4-5). Fulfilling verse 14, He is the eternal Son of God (see John 5:18; Heb. 1:1-2). Though he was sinless, God treated Him as a sinner at the cross. He became sin for us at the cross (see 2 Cor. 5:21) and was beaten with the rod of men (see Isa. 53:3-6). But God's steadfast love for the Son did not depart from Him. God raised Him from the dead and exalted Him, establishing Christ's kingdom forever (see Phil 2:8-9). Check out these references ahead of time and call on students to read a few of them as you demonstrate Jesus's fulfillment of this covenant to your group.

God kept all His promises by fulfilling the conditions Himself through Jesus. Through Jesus, Abraham blesses all nations and has descendants as numerous as the stars, the Law of Moses is fulfilled, and David has a son who reigns forever. Jesus fulfilled the conditions of every covenant and extends the promises of those covenants to humanity in the gospel. As Paul wrote to the Gentile church in Corinth, "For all the promises of God find their Yes in him" (2 Cor. 1:20). He was able to do so because of His unique identity as both Son of God and son of David.

3. DAVID EXALTS THE GRACE OF GOD

READ 2 SAMUEL 7:18-24

WHAT WAS DAVID'S RESPONSE TO GOD'S PROMISE?

David was overcome with gratitude for all that God had promised to do. He'd initiated this temple idea in light of what God had already done, but looking ahead to what God was promising, David called what God had done so far "a little thing" (2 Sam. 7:19). We should be thankful for the things God has done for us, but imagine all that we have to look forward to. God saved us so that "in the coming ages he might display the immeasurable riches of his grace" (Eph. 2:7). The best is truly still to come for those who belong to Jesus.

WHAT SHOULD BE OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE?

We do not deserve the kindness God has shown in Jesus. Like David, God's grace ought to humble us. It should lead us to worship. As David said, "This is why you are great, Lord God. There is no one like you, and there is no God besides you" (2 Sam. 7:22).



7:8-16. “The divine declarations proclaimed here through the prophet Nathan are foundational for seven major New Testament teachings about Jesus: that he is (1) the son of David (cf. Matt 1:1; Acts 13:22–23; Rom 1:3; 2 Tim 2:8; Rev 22:16, etc.); (2) one who would rise from the dead (cf. Acts 2:30; 13:23); (3) the builder of the house for God (cf. John 2:19–22; Heb 3:3–4, etc.); (4) the possessor of a throne (cf. Heb 1:8; Rev 3:21, etc.); (5) the possessor of an eternal kingdom (cf. 1 Cor 15:24–25; Eph 5:5; Heb 1:8; 2 Pet 1:11, etc.); (6) the son of God (cf. Mark 1:1; John 20:31; Acts 9:20; Heb 4:14; Rev 2:18, etc.); and (7) the product of an immaculate conception, since he had God as his father (cf. Luke 1:32–35).”²²

7:8-16. “For the New Testament Christian community, [verse 12] apparently was viewed as proof that Jesus was indeed the Messiah; God did indeed ‘raise up’ Jesus (cf. Acts 2:30; 13:23), thus legitimizing him as the messianic son of David . . . The New Testament does not deny that some aspects of the prophetic revelation . . . referred to Solomon (cf. Acts 7:47). But for the New Testament writers, the primary application of this verse was to Jesus, the ultimate ‘son of David’ (e.g., Matt 1:1).”²³

7:8-16. “When a covenant is conditional and yet is also certain, you can be sure God himself will intervene to fulfill the conditions.”²⁴

2 SAMUEL 7:18-24

7:18-24. “He rightly understands that this promise to establish a permanent Davidic dynasty is related to God’s great saving acts of old . . . This important promise to David came to be understood in biblical thought as a covenant on a par with the covenants to Abraham and Moses.”²⁵



ESSENTIAL DOCTRINE

GOD IS FAITHFUL

God’s faithfulness means He keeps His word and always fulfills His promises (see 1 Cor. 1:9; 2 Tim. 2:13; 1 Pet. 4:19). God’s faithfulness is demonstrated in His fulfillment of the promises He made to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The apostle Paul linked the attribute of “faithful” to God’s coming through on His word: “He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it” (1 Thess. 5:24). We reflect God by keeping the promises we make to Him and to others.

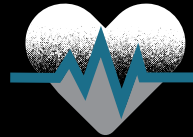


CHRIST CONNECTION

God promised David that future kings of Israel would come from his family and that his kingdom would endure forever. God fulfilled this promise by sending Jesus as one of David's descendants. All of history is driving toward the day when Jesus, the Son of David, will be recognized as the King whose kingdom is without end.



HEAD



HEART



HANDS

WHAT IS SOMETHING “ON YOUR MIND” (2 SAM. 7:3) TO DO FOR THE LORD?

It was in David’s mind to build a house for the Lord. He would not live to see that dream come to pass in his lifetime, but he made all the preparations for Solomon to complete the temple. Discuss something that you would like to do for the Lord. It could be immediate or a long term goal.

WHAT HAS GOD DONE FOR YOU THAT YOU ARE THANKFUL FOR?

Take a moment to remember and give thanks for the many ways God has shown you kindness and mercy. We do not deserve anything good from the Lord, and yet He has been good to us. His goodness and mercy have followed us all the days of our lives (see Ps. 23:6). Praise Him with thanksgiving by sharing some specific things He has done in your life.

HOW SHOULD CHRIST’S ETERNAL KINGDOM MOTIVATE OBEDIENCE TO HIM IN THE PRESENT?

The Kingship of Jesus guarantees a secure future. We never have to worry about His kingdom coming to ruin, being overthrown, or being conquered. We have received a kingdom that cannot be shaken (see Heb. 12:18). We will reign with Him forever (see 2 Tim 2:12). No matter how bad it gets here, this is not the end. May we persevere in the hope and assurance that Christ is King forever.