

## HANDLING PEACE & PROSPERITY

2 SAMUEL 7 | ERIC SIMPSON | AUGUST 4, 2019

*2 Samuel 7:1-2*

<sup>1</sup> After the king was settled in his palace and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, <sup>2</sup> he said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am, living in a palace of cedar, while the ark of God remains in a tent."

Questions for seasons of prosperity & peace...

- What am I thinking about when I don't have to think about anything?
- Who am I surrounding myself with?

Who you surround yourself with affects who you become.

- Will I live reactively to God's initiating work all around me?

Sometimes our grand plans for God end up distracting us away from His grand plans for us.

house (Hebrew = bayith) = a mechanical structure or an organic dynasty

- When was the last time I let myself be stopped by God?

"David sat. This may be the single most critical act that David ever did, the action that put him out of action...When David sat down before God, it was the farthest thing from passivity and resignation; it was prayer. It was entering into the presence of God, becoming aware of God's word, trading in his plans for God's plans, letting his enthusiasm for being a king with the authority and strength to do something for God be replaced with the willingness to become a king who would represent truly the sovereignty of God the high King."

— Eugene Peterson

*2 Samuel 7:18-19*

<sup>18</sup> Then King David went in and sat before the LORD, and he said: "Who am I, O Sovereign LORD, and what is my family, that you have brought me this far? <sup>19</sup> And as if this were not enough in your sight, O Sovereign LORD, you have also spoken about the future of the house of your servant. Is this your usual way of dealing with man, O Sovereign LORD?"

"I pray only when I'm in trouble. But I'm in trouble all the time so I pray all the time."

— Jewish Rabbi