

WHEN GOD SAYS NO
2 SAM 7
“LIFE OF DAVID SERIES”
Sunday July 28th 2019 AM Service
Satilla Baptist Church
Wray, GA
Pastor William Pope
www.satillachurch.com
pastor@satillachurch.com

I. INTRODUCTION

- a. Do you have a “dream” that is unfulfilled?
- b. Is there something that you have always wanted in life but have never received it?
- c. Not something that would be described as “sinful” or “bad”, but something “good”, “decent”, even “Godly”, but yet it seems that God has indeed said no and that dream goes unfulfilled in your life.
- d. David is going to experience a time in his life when he has a dream, a good dream of something that he wants to do for God and God says “No David. That is not my plan for you”. In this chapter we can learn why God sometimes says “no” to desires that we have and like David, we can learn how to respond in a proper way that allows us to continue on with our life, being fulfilled even when God says no.

II. DAVID’S DREAM (1-3)

a. A Good Dream

- i. David had been given peace by the Lord on all sides
 - 1. He had domestic peace
 - 2. He had foreign peace
- ii. His dream was to do something good for the Lord

b. A Generous Dream

- i. David’s dream was one that would cost him much labor and money, but he was willing to pay the price. His dream was a very generous one.

c. A Godly Dream

- i. David’s dream was not only good and generous, but even Godly. He wanted to build a Temple! He wanted to honor God with this dream! How could God say anything but yes to such a good, generous and Godly desire?
- ii. His dream was even given the go ahead by God’s prophet, Nathan (v.3)
 - 1. This is the first time the prophet Nathan is mentioned in the Bible and he will figure prominently in the life of David from here on out.
 - 2. Nathan, not seeking God, but simply taking the dream David had at face value, tells David to go ahead because God is with him.

III. DAVID’S DENIAL (4-17)

a. A Firm Denial (4-7)

- i. (1 Chronicles 17:4-6)
- ii. God speaks to Nathan and plainly tells him that David shall not be able to fulfill his good, generous, Godly dream. There is no “well maybe” or “if you do this”. The answer is a firm “no”.

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- iii. Just because something is good and even Godly does not mean that it is God's will for us.
- b. **A Fascinating Denial (7-17)** This denial is fascinating because God in his denial makes a covenant with David. **There is a great lesson here, that for the child of God, a “no” from God can hold a greater blessing than if we had received what we originally wanted!** In God's denial to David, David found the following:
 - i. **God's Past Provisions to David (8-9)**
 - ii. **God's Future Promises to David (10-17)**
 - 1. Known as the Davidic Covenant
 - a. There are at least 5 irrevocable, unconditional covenants made by God with man in the Bible, This is the 4th of the 5
 - i. Noahic Covenant (Gen 9:8-17)
 - ii. Abrahamic Covenant (Gen 15:12-21)
 - iii. Levitical or Priestly Covenant (Num 3:1-18)
 - iv. Davidic Covenant (here)
 - v. New Covenant (Jer 31:31-34 and in the New Testament)
 - 2. What a denial! In God's denial David receives an everlasting covenant with God! **Even God's “no's” are better than the world's “yes's”!**
- c. Example:
 - i. *In Scotland a family by the name of Clark had a dream: husband and wife with their nine children wanted to immigrate to the United States. To make that dream a reality, they struggled, scrimped, and saved. Finally they managed to accumulate enough money and obtain all the paperwork they needed to take the trip and begin a new life in a new land. Ship reservations were made and the family was ecstatic. Then, as often happens, tragedy struck. Seven days before they were to leave the youngest of the children, a little boy, was bitten by a dog. The bite wasn't serious; the doctor stitched the lad up in no time at all. The tragedy was the doctor also had to hang a yellow sign on the Clark's front door. The yellow sign warned everybody to stay away: there was a possibility, a very small chance, that the boy had contracted rabies from the bite of the unknown dog. Their ship was to sail in one week, the family was quarantined for two. They would have to stay behind as their ship, and their dreams, sailed into the sunset. The father, outraged at what he felt was the unjust, unfair hand that he had been dealt, went down to the pier*

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to stare as the ship set out. Furious at God, frustrated with his son; he cried and he cursed. He stomped home in a foul mood. He stayed that way, too. Then only a few days after his vessel had left port he got word that on April 15th the very ship which was to have brought them to a new life, had been sunk. The Titanic had gone down. As it disappeared, it had taken with it the lives of over 1,500 passengers. Hearing that news, Mr. Clark's attitude was instantly transformed. Excitedly, enthusiastically, eagerly, he hugged his son. Plainly, powerfully, and prayerfully, he thanked his God. Their lives had been spared. Their tragedy had been turned into a triumph¹

- ii. When we turn our dreams over to God we can trust that His plans are best.

IV. DAVID'S DEVOTION (18-29)

a. Acknowledged God's Sovereign Nature (18-24)

i. Recognized His own Weaknesses (18-20a)

- 1. “Who am I?”
- 2. “What more can David say to you?”

ii. Recognized God's Wisdom (20b-21)

- 1. “You know your servant.”

iii. Rehearsed God's Works (22-24)

b. Accepted God's Sovereign Plan (25-29)

- i. We can commit ourselves to God's sovereignty as David did, accepting the “No's” in our lives and trusting God to work things out for His Glory and our benefit.
- ii. *27 Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God. 28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. Romans 8:27-28 (NKJV)*
- iii. *11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Jer 29:11 (NKJV)*

V. CONCLUSION

- a. When God says no it can be devastating. But if we like David will listen to what God has to say to us and commit our life to Him, we can acknowledge that God is Sovereign and that His ways are better than our ways.

¹ <http://www.lutheranhour.org/stories/stories04/fromtragtotrium.htm>

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VI. Poem by Martha Snell Nicholson:²

Treasures

*One by one He took them from me,
All the things I valued most,
Until I was empty-handed;
Every glittering toy was lost.*

*And I walked earth's highways, grieving.
In my rags and poverty.
Till I heard His voice inviting,
"Lift your empty hands to Me!"*

*So I held my hands toward heaven,
And He filled them with a store
Of His own transcendent riches,
Till they could contain no more.*

*And at last I comprehended
With my stupid mind and dull,
That God COULD not pour His riches
Into hands already full!*

-Martha Snell Nicholson

² <http://www.mercydrops.com/Snell.htm>