

## Old Union Baptist Ministers School

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### "THE HEIR TO DAVID'S THRONE"

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#### Scripture Lesson - 2 Samuel 7:8-17

**Introduction** - My subject selection for this year, follows much prayer and meditation. I chose other subjects, and discarded them, because they were not the right one. Finally, this subject, "The Heir To David's Throne" consumed my thoughts and my study. There may be some who will disagree with some of the things which I will say. But I assure you that my lesson is not intended to cause controversy, but rather to enlighten us, as students of the Word of God, and to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ.

It is my prayer that the lesson will, at least, be interesting to the older preachers, and helpful to the younger ones. I need your prayers!

All subjects require, rightly dividing the Word of Truth. **This subject is especially so!** In rightly dividing the Word of Truth, each portion must be applied in it's proper place. Like a puzzle, whose parts must fit perfectly, for the picture to be right; even so, the scriptures must fit perfectly, for the interpretation to be right.

Scriptures, with reference to "The Heir To David's Throne" must be interpreted in the same manner as the promise to Abraham, where it says, "*In thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.*" (Genesis 17:7) For an interpretation of that promise see Galatians 3:16. The natural seed of Abraham (Isaac) was not the fulfillment of that promise, nor was he the one in whom all nations of the earth would be blessed. The seed was Christ! Neither was the natural seed of David (Solomon) the fulfillment of the promised heir to the throne of David. That seed was also Christ!

Both of these promises, were Messianic prophecies! Only one person could fulfill the promises which were made to both Abraham and David. That one person is Christ, for he is a descendent of both. (Matthew 1:1)

Many people mis-interpret prophecy, especially where the terms, "last days" or "latter times" are used. The assumption, too many times, is that these terms are with reference to the "end time" days. (and some times they are) There are times though, when it seems to me, that events are "created" to comply with a mis-interpreted prophecy; and even sometimes, prophecies that have already been fulfilled.

Some "Bible scholars" openly advocate, that God's first plan to establish a kingdom failed. It failed, according to them, because the Jewish nation rejected Jesus as the promised Messiah: and so, the kingdom, with Jesus as king, had to be postponed, for the time being.

This brought about God's second plan. This so-called failure made way for an interim period in which God turned to the Gentiles and established what is known as the church.

Then, according to them, later on, at the end of the church age, God's first plan will be completed. Brethren, God has never had a second plan! God's first plan was not foiled by the unbelief of the Jews, who rejected His Son. It was all according to his purpose.

*"Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world."* (Acts 15:18)

The Apostle James, said, *"Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name. And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is written, after this will I return, and build again the tabernacle of David which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up: that the residue of men might seek the Lord, and all the Gentiles upon whom my name is called, saith the Lord who doeth all these things."* (Acts 15:14-17) James was quoting from Amos 9:11, and in my opinion, this prophecy, is often mis-interpreted.

The Tabernacle of David is a poetical description of the Throne of David, and A throne is a symbol of a kingdom. In the quotation from Amos 9:11, the word tabernacle comes from a Hebrew word CUK KAH, pronounced, soo kaw, and means a hut; booth; tent. (Temporary dwelling) The same word tabernacle in Acts 15:16, in the Greek, is SKENE, pronounced skay nay, and means tent; cloth hut. The primary word that SKENE came from is SKIA, pronounced, skee ha, and means, a shadow. So the tabernacle of David was a temporary house and would fall down.

The "Tabernacle of David" did fall down. It fell down at the time when the physical descendants of David ceased to occupy the Jewish throne. The last one being Zedekiah, King of Judah, whose rule ended when Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon besieged them and they went into captivity, about 590 B.C.

The, building again, of the "Tabernacle of David" that had fallen down, was in a spiritual sense, and began to take place when Christ Jesus, the Son of David, introduced the gospel dispensation, and set up the church kingdom. He began to reign on the throne of his father David, just as the angel announced that he would.

The prophets had prophesied that, *"... the God of heaven shall set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever."* (Daniel 2:44) In announcing the coming of the Messiah, John the Baptists, said, *"... the kingdom of heaven is at hand."* (Matthew 3:1) Jesus acknowledged that he had received a kingdom, for he said to the disciples, (his church) *"And I appoint unto you a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me, that ye may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom,..."* (Luke 22:29-30) And when *"... Jesus Christ, before Pontius Pilate, witnessed a good confession ..."* (1 Timothy 6:13) He said, *"... my kingdom is not of this world ..."* (not of the political kind). When asked if he was a king, Jesus confirmed that he was. (John 18:33-37)

So, the establishing of the church kingdom, and the calling of a people from among the Gentiles was according to the foreknowledge and purpose of the Lord, *"who doeth all these things"*.

Just as the establishment of National Israel, with all of the temporal promises, were preparatory to the establishment of "Spiritual Israel": Even so, the "Tabernacle of David" or "Throne of David" was preparatory to the establishment of the Church, which is the "House of God" and which is also his "Spiritual Kingdom".

It is interesting to note another "Messianic Prophecy", made by Jacob when he blessed Judah. *"The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall be the gathering of the people."* (Genesis 49:10) A "Sceptre" was a rod symbolizing authority, and "Shiloh" another word for "Messiah".

After the last king of Israel, the northern kingdom, the genealogy of those ten tribes were lost. However, after the last king of Judah, the genealogies were preserved, so that both, Matthew and Luke, could show that Jesus Christ was of the seed of Abraham, and of the tribe of Judah, and a royal descendant of David. (Matthew 1:1-17 and Luke 3:21-38)

#### OTHER MESSIANIC PROPHECIES

*"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulders; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace, there shall be no end, upon the throne of his father David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth forever. The zeal of the Lord will perform this."* (Isaiah 9:6-7)

*"And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots; And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. And make him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins."* (Isaiah 11:1-5)

Jesus identified himself as the "... root and offspring of David and the bright and morning star." (Revelations 22:16)

Before Jesus was born, the angel of the Lord appeared unto Mary, and said, *"Behold thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be called great, and shall be called the son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever: and of his Kingdom there shall be no end."* (Luke 1:31-33)

The prophet said the Spirit of the Lord would be upon the Messiah: So, he possessed the fullness of the Holy Spirit. (John 3:34) When the beloved Apostle John saw the "Heir to

David's Throne", he saw him as *"...a lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth".*

(Revelation 5:6) The "seven horns" refer to the "complete and full authority" he possessed, and the "seven eyes" are the seven Spirits, or the "fullness and totality" of the Holy Spirit. All of the Holy Spirit's gifts and graces were upon him, as Paul said, *"For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily."* (Colossians 2:9)

The prophet mentions, the spirit of wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, knowledge, fear, and righteous judgment. (Isaiah 11:2-4)

God had made a promise to David, *"And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build an house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his father, and he shall be my son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men: But my mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I put away before thee. And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established forever before thee; thy kingdom shall be established forever."* (2 Samuel 7:12-16) (partial fulfillment in Solomon; total fulfillment in Christ)

Now David, in addition to being a great king, was a "great prophet". He spoke many Messianic prophecies. In some of David's prophecies, it seems, that they were being spoken about himself. (Psalms 16:8-11) And in others, his son Solomon, (Kings 2:10-12). But, on the Day of Pentecost, when Peter stood up to preach, he said, that those prophecies, spoken by David, concerning the resurrection were not about himself. And, the prophecy about one who would sit upon his throne was not about Solomon. Those prophecies were with reference to Christ. (Acts 2:22-36).

It is also evident, that the "peaceable kingdom", where the wolf and the lamb, the leopard and the kid, the young lion and the calf, all dwell together, and where a little child shall feed them, (Isaiah 11:6-9) found it's fulfillment in the "spiritual kingdom of Jesus Christ."

Jesus taught Peter, that "God is no respecter of persons", and that those who had been considered unclean by the Jews, should not be discriminated against. (Acts 11:1-15)

The Gospel of the Lord Jesus is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. In the "spiritual kingdom of Christ", the church, *"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond of free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus."* (Galatians 3:28)

Notice Isaiah 11:10, *"And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign [banner] of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious."*