

CALVARY CHAPEL OF PHILADELPHIA

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
3RD-5TH GRADE
TEACHER'S PACKET

SUNDAY MORNING

Study 12

The Davidic Covenant



The Davidic Covenant

The Objective is the key concept for this week's lesson. It should be the main focus of the study.

These are the key verses that you will find helpful in teaching your study this week. The "Main passage" is the basis of the study, where the other verses support the objective of the lesson.

There is a memory verse for the students that relates to every study. If a student can memorize the verse for the following week you may give them a prize from the "reward box" found on your cart.

An introductory activity or question that will settle the class, draw their attention to the study and prepare their hearts for God's Word.

Objective To show that the Davidic covenant looked forward to Jesus, the everlasting King, and invite the students to make Him their King.

Key Verses

2 Samuel 7:1-17—Main Teaching Passage

1 Chronicles 22:8-10

Matthew 1:1-17

Memory Verse - 2 Timothy 2:8

"Always remember that Jesus Christ, a descendant of King David, was raised from the dead. This is the Good News I preach."

Hook

Review last week's memory verse: Joshua 1:6

Ask the kids if there is something they own that they would be afraid to lose. It could be a stuffed animal, picture, toy, video game, or something else. Ask if their parents ever took it away as a punishment.

In today's story, King David had something that was very important to him: his kingship. God was going to make a promise to David that he didn't have to worry about it being taken away.

What does the Bible say? This is where we will read a passage or series of passages that teach on the subject of the day.

BOOK

The kingdom of David has entered into a time of peace. No enemies are troubling him, yet David is restless. He sits enthroned in a beautiful palace while the Ark of the Covenant sits in a tent, and it was on his heart to do something about it. He told the prophet Nathan about his desire to build God a temple, and Nathan told him to whatever was on his heart.

Later that night, the word of the LORD came to Nathan and told him that it was not actually His desire that David should build Him a house. In 1 Chronicles 22:8-10 we read that this was because David was a man of war, and God wanted a man of peace to build the temple. However, that was not to say that the Lord was displeased with David. To the contrary, in response to David's desire to bless the Lord, the Lord made him a promise. Rather than David building Him a house, the Lord would build David a house. By this, He did not mean a building of wood or stone. In the Bible, a person's "house" can refer to their family. God was promising to make David and his descendants great and to give David's family an everlasting kingship. If he or his descendants sinned (which happened a lot), God would punish them, but He would not take away the kingdom from his family forever (as He had done with Saul). When Nathan returned and told David this promise, his immediate response was to worship.

The interpretation/exegesis of the passage. What does this passage mean? How does this passage apply to my life?

LOOK

Before David, Israel had a king named Saul. Saul's heart was not right with the Lord, and he disobeyed God on a number of occasions. As a result, the Lord took the kingdom of Israel away from Saul's family and gave it to David instead. No doubt David was grateful for this, but perhaps he wondered whether he was one mistake away from losing his kingdom like Saul did. When God made this promise to him (and later, as David sinned), it must have been a great comfort. The Lord was not going to take the kingdom from David's family the way He did to Saul. When David or his descendants sinned, they would face punishment, but the promise of an eternal kingship would never be taken away.

For years, David's family ruled as kings in Israel. Some of his descendants followed the Lord and were blessed. Others turned away from the Lord and were punished. Yet even when a king disobeyed God, his son was still able to be king after him. This continued for 400 years, but then something shocking happened. The Lord allowed Babylon to conquer Judah, and there was no longer a king in Israel. Perhaps some

LOOK (Continued)

thought this meant God had broken His promise. After all, David's family was no longer ruling Israel! But as we've seen all year, God always keeps His promises, and God's promise to David was actually something much bigger and better than an earthly kingship.

After almost 600 years without a son of David ruling in Israel, a Child was born to David's family. He wasn't born in a palace, but in a manger (a feeding trough for animals) in David's hometown of Bethlehem. That's right! Matthew 1:1-17 tells us that Jesus was a descendant of David! The eternal kingship promised to David was not an earthly one, but a heavenly one. Jesus came to be King not just over Israel, but over the whole world. He didn't do this by leading an army to conquer the world, but by dying on the cross and rising again to save us from our sins. One day, He is going to return to earth to set up His kingdom, and then He will reign forever as our King.

One day, everyone will see and know that Jesus is King, but right now there are many who don't recognize His rule. We all have a choice to make. Will we follow and obey Jesus as our King, or will we reject His kingship and live our own way? The first way we acknowledge and own Him as King is by asking Him to forgive our sins and be our Lord (which is another way to say "King") and Savior. Then, we serve Him as King by living for Him and obeying the commands He gives us in Scripture. If you haven't made the decision before, make Jesus your King today!

What is my response to this passage of Scripture? How should my life change according to what this passage teaches me? What are the practical things I can do throughout the week to make this true in my life?

TOOK

As a class, memorize 2 Timothy 2:8.

Present the Gospel and give the students the opportunity to make Jesus their King. Ask the students, "If Jesus is our King, how should we live when we're at home? School? With our friends?"

Pray: Thank God for sending Jesus to be our everlasting King. Ask Him to help you serve and obey King Jesus.

Family Questions: What are ways that we can obey King Jesus?

FURTHER STUDY

Commentary on 2 Samuel 7 by David Guzik

2 Samuel 7 - God's Covenant with David

A. David proposes to build God a permanent house.

1. (1-3) Nathan's premature advice to David.

Now it came to pass when the king was dwelling in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies all around, that the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells inside tent curtains." Then Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that *is* in your heart, for the LORD *is* with you."

a. **The LORD had given him rest from all his enemies all around:** This leads us to believe that the events of 2 Samuel 7 happened after the wars of conquest described in 2 Samuel 8. This section is placed before the war accounts in the text to show its greater importance.

b. **I dwell in a house of cedar:** Cedar wood was especially valued. This meant that David lived in an expensive, beautiful home. When he remembered that **the ark of God dwells inside tent curtains**, the contrast bothered him. David was troubled by the thought that he lived in a nicer house than the ark of the covenant.

i. **A house of cedar:** "It was a remarkable contrast to the shelter of Adullam's cave." (Meyer)

ii. Without saying the specific words, David told Nathan that he wanted to build a *temple* to replace the *tabernacle*. When Israel was in the wilderness more than 400 years before this, God commanded Moses to build a tent of meeting according to a specific pattern (Exodus 25:8-9). God never asked for a permanent building to replace the tent, but now David wanted to do this for God.

iii. The tent of meeting - also known as the tabernacle - was perfectly suited to Israel in the wilderness because they constantly moved. Now that Israel was securely in the land and the ark of the covenant was in Jerusalem (2 Samuel 6:17), David thought it would be better and more appropriate to build a temple to replace the tabernacle.

c. **Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you:** Nathan said this to David because it seemed good and reasonable. What could be wrong with David building a temple?

i. **All that is in your heart** shows that David's heart was filled with this question: "What can I do for God?" He was so filled with gratitude and concern for God's glory that he wanted to do something special for God.

2. (4-7) God's response to David's offer.

But it happened that night that the word of the LORD came to Nathan, saying, "Go and tell My servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: "Would you build a house for Me to dwell in? 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. 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?' " "

a. **That night that the word of the LORD came to Nathan:** Nathan's response to David was presumptuous. He answered according to human judgment and common sense, but before he heard the **word of the LORD**.

i. "It is of the utmost importance that we should ever test our desires, even the highest and holiest of them, by His will. Work, excellent in itself, should never be undertaken, save at the express command of God. The passing of time will always vindicate the wisdom of the Divine will." (Morgan)

b. **Would you build a house for Me to dwell in?** God seemed honored and "surprised" that David offered to build Him a house. It was as if God said to David, "You want to build Me a house? No one ever offered to do that before, and I never commanded anyone to do it."

i. David wanted to do more than God commanded. This is a wonderful place to be in our relationship with God. Most of us are so stuck in the thinking, "How little can I do and still please the LORD?" that we never really want to do *more* than God commands.

ii. "Though the Lord refused to David the realization of his wish, he did it in a most gracious manner. He did not put the idea away from him in anger or disdain, as though David had cherished an unworthy desire; but he honored his servant even in the non-acceptance of his offer." (Spurgeon)

c. **Would you build a house:** David now learned that God didn't want him to build the temple, but David didn't respond by doing *nothing*. According to 1 Chronicles 29:2-9, David gathered all the materials for building the temple so that Solomon could build a glorious house for God.

i. "If you cannot have what you hoped, do not sit down in despair and allow the energies of your life to run to waste; but arise, and gird yourself to help others to achieve. If you may not build, you may gather materials for him that shall. If you may not go down the mine, you can hold the ropes." (Meyer)

B. God proposes to build David a permanent house.

1. (8-9) God reminds David what He has done for him.

"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. 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." ' ' "

a. **I took you from the sheepfold, from following the sheep, to be ruler over My people:** God took David from the pasture to the throne.

b. **I have been with you wherever you have gone:** God protected David from all his enemies.

c. **Have made you a great name:** God made David's name great in all the earth.

2. (10-11) God promises two things to David.

"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, 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."

a. **I will appoint a place for My people Israel:** God promised David that under his reign, He would establish a permanent and secure Israel. God promised this first because He knew that David, being a godly shepherd, was first concerned about the welfare of his people.

b. **He will make you a house:** God promised David that He would build *him* a house in the sense of establishing a dynasty for the house of David. This was an enduring legacy for David long after his death.

i. David wanted to build God a temple. God said, "Thank you David, but no thanks. Let Me build you a **house** instead." This was a greater promise than David's offer to God, because David's "house" (dynasty) would last longer and be more glorious than the temple David wanted to build.

ii. God honored what David gave Him, even though he only gave it to God in his sincere intention. There are some things that we *want* to give God but are prevented from giving. In these cases God receives the *intention* as the *gift*.

iii. God said "No" to David's offer because David was a man of war, and God wanted a man of peace to build His temple. 1 Chronicles 22:8-10 explains this: *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 . . . a son shall be born to you, who shall be a man of rest . . . He shall be build a house for My name.*

iv. The explanation to David recorded in 1 Chronicles 22:8 came years afterwards. We can surmise that for many years David did not know the exact reason why God didn't want him to build the temple. "It would have wounded David needlessly to have been told this at the time . . . Meanwhile David possessed his soul in patience, and said to himself, 'God has a reason; I cannot understand it, but it is well.' " (Meyer)

3. (12-17) God details His promise of a house for David.

"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. He shall build a 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 commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the blows of the sons of men. But My mercy shall not depart from him, as I took *it* from Saul, whom I removed from before you. And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever." According to all these words and according to all this vision, so Nathan spoke to David.

a. **I will set up your seed after you:** In this, God specifically promised a hereditary monarchy for the house of David. It was important for God to repeat this promise specifically, because there had never yet been a king succeeded by his son in Israel.

i. "The family of Saul became *totally extinct*; the family of David remained till the incarnation." (Clarke)

ii. This great promise that God made to David had only a *future* fulfillment. David would only benefit *in his day* from the promise through faith. If David had a "what's-in-it-for-me-right-now" attitude, the promise would mean nothing to him.

iii. "The joy which filled David's bosom was a spiritual one, because he knew that Jesus would come of his

race, and that an everlasting kingdom would be set up in his person, and in him should the Gentiles trust." (Spurgeon)

b. **He shall build a house for My name:** Though David would not build a temple for God, David's descendent would.

c. **I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever:** The family of David did rule over Israel for more than four centuries but was eventually removed because of evil added upon evil. Yet out of the "stump" of Jesse, God raised up a new branch that will reign for ever and ever (Isaiah 11:1-2).

d. **I will be his Father, and he shall be My son. If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him:** This descendent of David will enjoy a special relationship with God. If he sins, God will not reject him. Instead, God will **chas-**
ten him without rejecting him.

e. **Your throne shall be established forever:** God promised David that the reign of his dynasty would last forever.

i. Each of these great promises was *partially* fulfilled in Solomon, David's son and successor to his throne.

- Solomon ruled on David's throne.
- God's mercies never departed from Solomon, though he sinned.
- Solomon built God a magnificent house.

ii. But the prophets foretold a greater fulfillment of these promises.

• *Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, that I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; a King shall reign and prosper, and execute righteousness in the earth. . . Now this is His name by which He will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.* (Jeremiah 23:5-6)

• *For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. . . Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it . . . from that time forward, even forever.* (Isaiah 9:6-7)

• *And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.* (Luke 1:31-33)

iii. God's promise of a house for David is completely fulfilled in Jesus Christ.

- Jesus does reign and will reign on David's throne forever.
- The Father's mercies never departed from Jesus, even when He was made sin for us.
- Jesus is building the Father a magnificent house (Hebrews 3:3-6) in the sense that we are God's temple (1 Peter 2:5) and the church is God's new house.