

Prophecy Through the Bible - History

Specific provisions of the Davidic Covenant in 2 Sam Ch 7

As a reminder, last week we discussed and read the Biblical account that lays out what we call the Davidic Covenant, i.e. *The Covenant between God and David*. It is a covenant that:

- **Is Unconditional** – God gave him the covenant promises with no requirement from David to be obedient to Him or do anything. It is totally dependent on the faithfulness of God, therefore, it is unconditional
- God promised to **make David's name great**. This has certainly come to pass. The Psalms, the heroic battle between David and Goliath. The following of God in the midst of a terrible situation with Saul, and the statues and songs. David is the bigger than life King of Israel
- God also promised that **through David's descendant line would come the Messiah of Israel**, through the tribe of Judah
- The **Kingdom and House of David would last forever**. This is to be accomplished in the Millennial Kingdom where Jesus will reign from the throne of David.
- God's promises to David **re-affirm the Land Covenant to Israel**

Read Isa 9:6-7 This is one of the great prophecies of the OT but we usually focus on it at Christmas time. It is so much more.

⁶ *For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.*

And he will be called

*Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

⁷ *Of the greatness of his government and peace
there will be no end.*

He will reign on David's throne

and over his kingdom,

establishing and upholding it

with justice and righteousness

from that time on and forever.

The zeal of the LORD Almighty

will accomplish this.

These promises are clearly **a work of God and not man...** *"the zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this"*
(v7)

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Read Ps 89:28-37

The entire Psalm is an exposition of the Davidic Covenant

- ²⁸ *I will maintain my love to him forever,
and my covenant with him will never fail.*
- ²⁹ *I will establish his line forever, I will establish his line forever,
his throne as long as the heavens endure.*
- ³⁰ *“If his sons forsake my law
and do not follow my statutes,*
- ³¹ *if they violate my decrees
and fail to keep my commands,*
- ³² *I will punish their sin with the rod,
their iniquity with flogging;*
- ³³ *but I will not take my love from him,
nor will I ever betray my faithfulness.*
- ³⁴ *I will not violate my covenant
or alter what my lips have uttered.*
- ³⁵ *Once for all, I have sworn by my holiness—
and I will not lie to David—*
- ³⁶ *that his line will continue forever
and his throne endure before me like the sun;*
- ³⁷ *it will be established forever like the moon,
the faithful witness in the sky.”*

I want to read another set of verses from **Jeremiah**, which is a little out of sequence but it fits so well here, I believe it is important to discuss it now.

In **Jeremiah 30:1-9** the discussion is about the restoration of Israel. At this time there were two kingdoms, the Northern 10 tribes formed the Northern Kingdom with its capitol Samaria, the Southern Kingdom was the tribes of Judah and Benjamin and their capitol was Jerusalem. The Northern Kingdom was called Israel, and the Southern Kingdom was called Judah

This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: ² “This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: ‘Write in a book all the words I have spoken to you. ³ The days are coming,’ declares the LORD, ‘when I will bring my people Israel and Judah back from captivity and restore them to the land I gave their ancestors to possess,’ says the LORD.”

⁴ *These are the words the LORD spoke concerning Israel and Judah: ⁵ “This is what the LORD says:*

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*“Cries of fear are heard—
terror, not peace.*

⁶ *Ask and see:*

Can a man bear children?

Then why do I see every strong man

*with his hands on his stomach like a woman in labor,
every face turned deathly pale?*

⁷ *How awful that day will be!*

No other will be like it.

*It will be a time of trouble for Jacob,
but he will be saved out of it.*

⁸ *“In that day,’ declares the LORD Almighty,*

*‘I will break the yoke off their necks
and will tear off their bonds;*

no longer will foreigners enslave them.

⁹ *Instead, they will serve the LORD their God*

and David their king,

whom I will raise up for them.

These verses mention several items which are important to consider here. When David’s ancestor comes to rule, He will rule a combined kingdom of Israel and Judah (v10-11). This group of Jews will be brought back from captivity from all around the world to the Promised Land. When this happens God will free the people from the yokes of slavery and captivity, but the time will be tough and awful to endure. God will save them out of it.

What does all this mean? It means that God will bring His people back to the land of promise. They will be freed and the land will prosper under them, but it will be a time of “Jacobs Trouble” and it will be an awful time for them...but God will save them out of it. In the midst of the problems, God will deliver His people to safety. It brings up another interesting item...David himself will be “raised” up to reign with Messiah.

In 1948, God brought the combined state of Israel back into existence. This is unheard of, but from all over the world Jews came to the Promised Land. They would be free and not live in fear of the hatred of men. It has prospered, but not without strife, conflict, war and hatred being kindled against Israel. God has delivered them from many attacks that were overwhelming in power, but for the God of Israel who has defeated all those who come against her. Remember the Abrahamic promise of God. “I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you”. It has come alive before our very eyes, if we are awake to see it.

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These promises are God's eternal promise to Israel and to David. They WILL BE FULFILLED, and many are being fulfilled today. The promises were made hundreds or thousands of years ago, but we are seeing fulfillment today with our own eyes.

Back to David- We know the history of David. He took the married Bathsheba as his wife and because she got pregnant, schemed to make her husband think it was his child, but he could not, so he had Uriah killed on the battlefield by leaving him vulnerable to attack. God punished David and Bathsheba and their son died. This all occurs in 2 Sam Ch 12.

Birth of Solomon (Shlomo)

One of the important understandings learned from David here is about realizing your own sin, taking responsibility for it, repenting to God and moving on with life. When the son died David was told and the servants feared he would be inconsolable and angry, but he was not.

2 Sam 12:23 When asked by his servants why he was not inconsolable ²² *He answered, "While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept. I thought, 'Who knows? The LORD may be gracious to me and let the child live.'* ²³ *But now that he is dead, why should I go on fasting? Can I bring him back again? I will go to him, but he will not return to me."*

This last verse confirms that when children die, they go to heaven because David could not have his son back on earth, but He will go to him (in death in Heaven).

After consoling Bathsheba for the death of this son, she conceived another son who was born and they called him Solomon.

Solomon grew in wisdom and stature, but David had other sons by other wives. In 2 Samuel Ch 12-18 we see the story of Absalom, one of David's sons, who killed another of his sons for raping Absalom's sister Tamar. This created a huge friction as you can imagine in the "family" and caused a large problem with Absalom deceiving his father and declaring himself King, and trying to kill David. As I mentioned last week the book, "A Tale of Three Kings" it does a deep dive on the motivations of Saul, David, and Absalom.

Absalom comes to battle and dies an inglorious death and the rebellion is crushed. David returns to Jerusalem and remains King until his old age. As he lay dying however one of his other sons begins to declare himself the new King, even though David had promised Bathsheba it would be Solomon. Lots of intrigue but David declares Solomon King of Israel, gives him the charge to obey the Lord and then dies and is buried in the City of David.

One other interesting sidelight

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In 2 Samuel Chapter 24, David angers the Lord by taking a census of all the fighting men in Israel. The Lord saw it as not trusting God but depending on himself and his own resources. David realizes his error and asks the Lord for forgiveness, and is forgiven but punished by a plague. Interesting dialog and lessons...

¹⁵ So the LORD sent a plague on Israel from that morning until the end of the time designated, and seventy thousand of the people from Dan to Beersheba died. ¹⁶ When the angel stretched out his hand to destroy Jerusalem, the LORD relented concerning the disaster and said to the angel who was afflicting the people, "Enough! Withdraw your hand." The angel of the LORD was then at the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite.

¹⁷ When David saw the angel who was striking down the people, he said to the LORD, "I have sinned; I, the shepherd have done wrong. These are but sheep. What have they done? Let your hand fall on me and my family."

David Builds an Altar

¹⁸ On that day Gad went to David and said to him, "Go up and build an altar to the LORD on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite." ¹⁹ So David went up, as the LORD had commanded through Gad. ²⁰ When Araunah looked and saw the king and his officials coming toward him, he went out and bowed down before the king with his face to the ground.

²¹ Araunah said, "Why has my lord the king come to his servant?"

"To buy your threshing floor," David answered, "so I can build an altar to the LORD, that the plague on the people may be stopped." (This becomes the Temple Mount)

²² Araunah said to David, "Let my lord the king take whatever he wishes and offer it up. Here are oxen for the burnt offering, and here are threshing sledges and ox yokes for the wood. ²³ Your Majesty, Araunah gives all this to the king." Araunah also said to him, "May the LORD your God accept you."

²⁴ But the king replied to Araunah, "No, I insist on paying you for it. I will not sacrifice to the LORD my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing."

Net: God not only gave the land to Israel, but David actually purchased the specific piece of property that became the Temple Mount where all the future temples will be built. Not only does Israel have the God promise of the Land, but the actual purchased "title deed". This is a huge topic raging in Israel right now among those Jews who want to take the Temple Mount back from the Arabs.

This takes us through Samuel and into **1 Kings Chapter 2**.

Solomon as King of Israel