

Theme: When God graciously promised to bless David and his house, David responded in prayer with humility, praise, thanksgiving, and bold faith.

I. Intro - Declaration of Independence

- A. July 1776 gathering of Continental Congress
- B. A few men gathered and wrote the Declaration of Independence
- C. In many ways marked a new epoch in Western Civilization - building on old, but a new phase
- D. Today's text is like that - one of the most important moments in Samuel and all of Scripture
- E. What is happening? Why is it important? We will take two weeks to cover this important passage.

II. David's Desire - Build A House For Yahweh

- A. David the King at rest

After **the king** was settled in his palace and the Lord had given him **rest** from all his enemies around him, ²he said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am, living in a palace of cedar, while the ark of God remains in a tent."
³ Nathan replied to **the king**, "Whatever you have in mind, go ahead and do it, for the Lord is with you." 2 Samuel 7:1-3

 - 1. The king - 3 times (he is 'the king' in Hebrew)
 - 2. David is at rest - victorious and secure
 - 3. David is the secure king over Israel, with no threats
- B. David's desire - to build a house for Yahweh
 - 1. V2 - David wants to build a house for Yahweh
 - 2. V3 - Nathan agrees

- a. Yahweh is with David - so why not?
- b. David has a house - why is the Ark in a tent?
- c. Monarch's usually did this for their gods
- d. God had indicated He would give rest, then the permanent place for the Ark would be established

But you will cross the Jordan and settle in the land the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance, and **he will give you rest from all your enemies around you so that you will live in safety. 11 Then to the place the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his Name — there you are to bring everything I command you:** your burnt offerings and sacrifices, your tithes and special gifts, and all the choice possessions you have vowed to the Lord. Deuteronomy 12:10-11

 - 1. God promised rest - and they had it
 - 2. The permanent place for worship would be established
 - 3. So it makes sense to do it now

III. Yahweh's Word of Promise - The Davidic Covenant

- A. The Word of the Lord comes

That night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, saying: ⁵ "Go and tell my servant David, 'This is what the Lord says: Are you the one to build me a house to dwell in? 2 Samuel 7:4-5

 - 1. All had made sense - but now the word of the Lord
 - 2. God's answer - not now, and not you
 - 3. We need God's Word of guidance, for His ways are not our ways, and His timing is often different than ours.

4. This is a test - will David listen and obey?
5. Here we see a key difference between David and Saul. When the prophet came, Saul interrupted and disobeyed, but David humbly listens and obeys

B. God's covenant promise to David

1. God promises to make David's name great

I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. **Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men of the earth.** 2 Samuel 7:9

- a. David had wanted to build a house to make Yahweh's Name great, but God will make David's name great!
- b. David will not be some soon forgotten local warlord - his name will reverberate down the corridors of time
- c. David became the king by which all other rulers of Judah were measured
- d. Jesus is the Son of David, the Great King - into eternity!
 "I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. **I am the Root and the Offspring of David**, and the bright Morning Star." Revelation 22:16

2. God promises to build a house for David!

The Lord declares to you that the Lord himself will establish a house for you: 2 Samuel 7:11

- a. Hebrew word 'house' occurs 15 times in chapter
- b. David was in his house (v1) and wanted to build a house for God (v5) - but God will build a house for David!

3. God will build a Davidic dynasty (house wordplay) When your days are over and you rest with your fathers, **I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom.** ¹³ He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and **I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.** 2 Samuel 7:12–13

- a. God promises David his son will sit on his throne
- b. David is beginning a dynasty
- c. This dynasty will not last for a generation or two - forever!
- d. This is a huge contrast with Saul
 But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. ¹⁶ Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever." 2 Samuel 7:15–16
 1. Saul's 'dynasty' lasted one generation!
 2. David's dynasty will last forever!
 3. And sons of David did rule in Jerusalem for over 400 years - unheard of at that time!
- e. We will look at the fulfillment of this more next week

4. God will allow David's son to build the Temple

He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 2 Samuel 7:13

- a. The son that reigns after David will build the house for God
- b. Solomon is the one who builds the magnificent Temple for God

- c. David's family will build the house for God - but only after God builds David's house! This is always the way of the Gospel - God graciously acts in our behalf before we do anything for Him.

IV. David's Prayer of Response

A. David responds to God's promise in prayer

Then King David went in and sat before the LORD, and he said.... 2 Samuel 7:18

1. David responds to God's promises in prayer
2. The first way for believers to respond to God's work and promise is in prayer. This should be our native impulse.

B. David's prayer is full of humility

"Who am I, O Sovereign LORD, and what is my family, that you have brought me this far? ¹⁹ 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? 2 Samuel 7:18-19

1. David is dumbstruck and humbled, so he begins his prayer with deep humility
2. Who is he and who is his family that God should condescend to care for him and make such covenant promises?
3. David is humble throughout the prayer
"What more can David say to you? For you know your **servant**, O Sovereign LORD. ²¹ For the sake of your word and according to your will, you have done this great thing and made it known to your **servant**. 2 Samuel 7:20-21

- a. David refers to himself as God's servant 10x in this prayer!
- b. Before others, he may be the king, but before Yahweh, he is but a humble servant

4. David recognizes God is the Sovereign Lord

"What more can David say to you? For you know your servant, **O Sovereign LORD**. ²¹ For the sake of your word and according to your will, you have done this great thing and made it known to your servant. 2 Samuel 7:20-21

- a. David refers to God as Sovereign Lord 7 times in this prayer!
- b. The path to true humility is not focusing on trying to humble myself, but rather seeing and speaking the greatness of God.

C. David's prayer is full of praise

How great you are, O Sovereign LORD! There is no one like you, and there is no God but you, as we have heard with our own ears. 2 Samuel 7:22

1. David then begins to praise God for Who He is
2. True prayer is built on praise to God for Who He is - His character, power, and uniqueness.

D. David's prayer is full of thanksgiving

And who is like your people Israel — the one nation on earth that God went out to redeem as a people for himself, and to make a name for himself, and to perform great and awesome wonders by driving out nations and their gods from before your people, whom you redeemed from Egypt? ²⁴ You have established your people Israel as your very own forever, and you, O LORD, have become their God. 2 Samuel 7:23-24

1. David's praise turns to thanksgiving for what God has done in redeeming Israel
2. He reflects on God's purposes in redeeming Israel and how God has fulfilled His covenant promises to Israel - to be their God and they His people
3. True Gospel-centered prayer is fueled by thanksgiving for God's redemptive work in making us His own.

E. David's prayer claims the covenant promises of God
 And now, LORD God, keep forever the promise you have made concerning your servant and his house. Do as you promised, ²⁶ so that your name will be great forever. Then men will say, 'The LORD Almighty is God over Israel!' And the house of your servant David will be established before you. 2 Samuel 7:25-26

1. David's prayer finally turns to claiming the promises of God. The promise has now become a prayer.
2. The promise of God now becomes the focus - he mentions his 'house' 7x in the prayer, 5 from this point! - vv18,19,25,26,27,29 (2 times)
3. In prayer, David is bold to say "Do as You have promised" because he knows that God is faithful to keep His Word of Promise.
4. David wants the Lord to fulfill His Word - so that God's Name would be magnified and His fame would spread.
5. David has this confidence and boldness in prayer because of the faithfulness of God - not because of his own righteousness

O Sovereign LORD, you are God! Your words are trustworthy, and you have promised these good things to your servant. 2 Samuel 7:28

- a. Our confidence in prayer is not based on our righteousness but God's.
- b. The success of our prayer is not based on our character but God's; not on our faith but on God's faithfulness.

V. Applying the Word

A. How do I respond to God's work & promises in my life?

1. God is directly active in each of our lives
2. God has made astounding promises in His Word
3. How do I respond to God's work in my life?
 - a. God's plan is often very different than mine
 - b. What do I do when God's will is different than my own? Do I act like Saul or David?
 - c. Do I submit to God's plans, or stubbornly cling to my own?
 - d. Do I realize He is the Sovereign Lord and I am but a servant?
 - e. Do I know His works in my life are always for my best?
4. How do I respond to God's promises?
 - a. God has made incredible promises in His Word
 - b. He is always working to work everything to my good
 - c. How am I responding to God's gracious promises?
 1. Do I respond in humility, saying "Who am I?"

2. Do I respond with praise and thanks, for Who God is and all He has already done?
3. Do I boldly cling to and claim God's promises in prayer?

B. Responding to God's work and promises in prayer

The Davidic Covenant

2 Samuel 7/ 1 Chronicles 17

July 29, 2018

Prayer

Deuteronomy 1:11

Teaching keywords: covenant; biblical characters; prayer; praise; God's character

May the LORD, the God of your fathers, increase you a thousand times and bless you as he has promised! Deut 1:11

¹ After the king was settled in his palace and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ² he said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am, living in a palace of cedar, while the ark of God remains in a tent." ³ Nathan replied to the king, "Whatever you have in mind, go ahead and do it, for the LORD is with you." ⁴ That night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, saying: ⁵ "Go and tell my servant David, 'This is what the LORD says: Are you the one to build me a house to dwell in?' ⁶ I have not dwelt in a house from the day I brought the Israelites up out of Egypt to this day. I have been moving from place to place with a tent as my dwelling. ⁷ Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, did I ever say to any of their rulers whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, 'Why have you not built me a house of cedar?'" ⁸ "Now then, tell my servant David, 'This is what the LORD Almighty says: I took you from the pasture and from following the flock to be ruler over my people Israel. ⁹ I have been with you

wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men of the earth. ¹⁰ And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people will not oppress them anymore, as they did at the beginning ¹¹ and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies. "The LORD declares to you that the LORD himself will establish a house for you: ¹² When your days are over and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³ He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴ I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with the rod of men, with floggings inflicted by men. ¹⁵ But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. ¹⁶ Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever." ¹⁷ Nathan reported to David all the words of this entire revelation. ¹⁸ 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? ¹⁹ 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? ²⁰ "What more can David say to you? For you know your servant, O Sovereign LORD. ²¹ For the sake of your word and according to your will, you have done this great thing and made it known to your servant. ²² "How great you are, O Sovereign LORD! There is no one like you, and there is no God but you, as we have heard

with our own ears.²³ And who is like your people Israel — the one nation on earth that God went out to redeem as a people for himself, and to make a name for himself, and to perform great and awesome wonders by driving out nations and their gods from before your people, whom you redeemed from Egypt?²⁴ You have established your people Israel as your very own forever, and you, O LORD, have become their God.²⁵ “And now, LORD God, keep forever the promise you have made concerning your servant and his house. Do as you promised,²⁶ so that your name will be great forever. Then men will say, ‘The LORD Almighty is God over Israel!’ And the house of your servant David will be established before you.²⁷ “O LORD Almighty, God of Israel, you have revealed this to your servant, saying, ‘I will build a house for you.’ So your servant has found courage to offer you this prayer.²⁸ O Sovereign LORD, you are God! Your words are trustworthy, and you have promised these good things to your servant.²⁹ Now be pleased to bless the house of your servant, that it may continue forever in your sight; for you, O Sovereign LORD, have spoken, and with your blessing the house of your servant will be blessed forever.” 2 Samuel 7:1–29