

Study #12

2 Samuel 7:1–8:18

Text:

- v. 1 After the king was settled in his palace and the lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him,
- v. 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.”
- v. 3 Nathan replied to the king, “Whatever you have in mind, go ahead and do it, for the Lord is with you.”
- v. 4 That night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, saying:
- v. 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?’
- v. 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.
- v. 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.”
- v. 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.
- v. 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.
- v. 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
- v. 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:
- v. 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.
- v. 13 He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.
- v. 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.
- v. 15 But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it

- away from Saul, whom I removed from before you.
- v. 16 Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.”
- v. 17 Nathan reported to David all the words of this entire revelation.
- v.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?
- v. 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?
- v. 20 “What more can David say to you? For you know your servant, O Sovereign Lord.
- v. 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.
- v. 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.
- v. 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?
- v. 24 You have established your people Israel as your very own forever, and you, O Lord, have become their God.
- v. 25 “And now, Lord God, keep forever the promise you have made concerning your servant and his house. Do as you have promised,
- v. 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.
- v 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.
- v. 28 O Sovereign Lord, you are God! Your words are trustworthy, and you have given this good promise to you servant.
- v. 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.”
- 8:v. 1 In the course of time, David defeated the Philistines and subdued them, and he took Metheg Ammah from the control of the Philistines.
- v. 2 David also defeated Moabites. He made them lie down on the ground and measured them off with a length of cord. Every two lengths of

- them were put to death, and the third length was allowed to live. So the Moabites became subject to David and brought tribute.
- v. 3 Moreover, David fought Hadadezer son of Rehob, king of Zobah, when he went to restore his control along the Euphrates River.
 - v. 4 David captured a thousand of his chariots, seven thousand charioteers and twenty thousand foot soldiers. He hamstringed all but a hundred of the chariot horses.
 - v. 5 When the Arameans of Damascus came to help Hadadezer king of Zobah, David struck down twenty-two thousand of them.
 - v. 6 He put garrisons in the Aramean kingdom of Damascus, and the Arameans became subject to him and brought tribute. The Lord gave David victory everywhere he went.
 - v. 7 David took the gold shields that belonged to the officers of Hadadezer and brought them to Jerusalem. From Tebah and Berothai, towns that belonged to Hadadezer, King David took a great quantity of bronze.
 - v. 9 When Tou King of Hamath heard that David had defeated the entire army of Hadadezer,
 - v. 10 he sent his son Joram to King David to greet him and congratulate him on his victory in battle over Hadadezer, who had been at war with Tou. Joram brought with him articles of silver and gold and bronze.
 - v. 11 King David dedicated these articles to the Lord, as he had done with the silver and gold from all the nations he had subdued:
 - v. 12 Edom and Moab, the Ammonites and the Philistines, and Amalek. He also dedicated the plunder taken from Hadadezer son of Rehob, king of Zobah.
 - v. 13 And David became famous after he returned from striking down eighteen thousand Edomites in the Valley of Salt.
 - v. 14 He put garrisons throughout Edom, and all the Edomites became subject to David. The Lord gave David victory everywhere he went.
 - v. 15 David reigned over Israel, doing what was just and right for all his people.
 - v. 16 Joab son of Zeruiah was over the army, Jehoshaphat son of Ahilud was recorder;
 - v. 17 Zadok son of Ahitub and Ahimelech son of Abiathar were priests
Seraiah was secretary;
 - v. 18 Benaiah son of Jehoiada was over the Kerethites and Pelethites; and David's sons were royal advisers.

Introduction:

Sometimes we don't get our wishes. God apparently turns us down. Why? Is God deaf? Doesn't he care? God sometimes refuses our requests because he does care and because he has other plans. There are no cardboard characters in the Bible. Every personality in Scripture

faced the same ambitions and anxieties as anyone alive today. Some wanted to escape pressures; others wanted to build monuments so that they would be remembered. Some grew so sour and depressed that they wanted to quit everything, even life itself. All face problems, disappointment, illness and death. There are a number of Biblical characters who pleaded that God would go along with their plans. Each learned to accept God's no and to be grateful for it. The prayer of an unknown Confederate soldier hints at what this means:

“I asked God for strength that I might achieve;
I was made weak that I might learn humbly to obey.
I asked for health that I might do greater things;
I was given infirmity that I might do better things.
I asked for riches that I might be happy;
I was given poverty that I might be wise.
I asked for power that I might have the praise of men;
I was given weakness that I might feel the need of God.
I asked for all things that I might enjoy life;
I was given life that I might enjoy all things.
I got nothing I asked for but everything I had hoped for.
Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were answered.
I am among all men most richly blessed.

Genesis 17:18,19

(Abraham got a no....)

“And Abraham said to God, ‘O that Ishmael might live before thee.’ But God said, ‘No but Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac, and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant for his descendants after him.’”

1 Kings 19:4-9

(Elijah got a no.....)

“But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a juniper tree. And he requested for himself that he might die, and said, ‘It is enough now, O Lord. Take my life for I am not better than my fathers.’ And he lay down and slept under a juniper tree; and behold there was an angel touching him, and he said to him, ‘Arise, eat.’ And he looked and behold, there was at his head a bread cake baked on hot stones and a jar of water. So he ate and drank and lay down again. And the angel of the lord came again a second time and touched him and said, ‘Arise, eat, because the journey is too great for you.’ So he arose and ate and drank and went on the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horab, the mountain of God. Then he came there to a cave and lodged there, and

behold, the word of the Lord came to him and he said to him, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?'"

Luke 22:41,42

(Jesus got a no....)

"And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and he knelt down and began to pray, saying, 'Father, if thou art willing, remover this cup from me, yet not my will but thine be done.'"

"Father, thy will be done" is a shout of trust. The Father's plan, God's rule, the Almighty's work will be carried out, Jesus affirmed. And in his case, Jesus acknowledged that this entailed total and absolute surrender to the needs of others.

2 Cor. 12:7-10

(Paul got a no....)

"And because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, to keep me from exalting myself. Concerning this, I entreated the Lord three times, that it might depart from me. And he has said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.' Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore, I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong."

Cherishing his plans for a great house for God, King David prepared to transfer his dreams to the drawing board. Everyone, even the prophet Nathan agreed that David's temple was a noble undertaking. Not long after, Nathan returned with word that God turned down the proposal to build the temple.

Stan Kotterel in his book No Mountain Too High says, "Then came graduation for the class of 1966. I wanted to make it a great event. What spare time I had I spent walking around the campus and the town picking up soft drink bottles. The grocery store paid 3 cents a bottle. I wanted to give my parents a special night with a dinner that spared no expense. Then I wanted them to attend graduation ceremonies with me. With great enthusiasm I reserved a table at one of the best restaurants in Bowling Green. Everything was set. I knew they'd enjoy every minute. At least two weeks before graduation I had written home telling them that I had a special dinner planned. I wrote once after that, again mentioning the dinner before

going to graduation ceremonies. But I didn't hear from my parents. That didn't surprise me but I assumed they'd be there in plenty of time to eat. I waited around all afternoon but they still didn't come. Finally at 7:00 p.m. I called home. It was at least an hour and a half drive, so I got no answer, it would at least assure me they were on the way. After the second ring, my mother picked up the phone. My heart sank and I hardly knew how to speak to her. 'This is Stan. Aren't you coming to my graduation?' 'No, son,' she said and hesitated. 'Guess we're not.' 'But I planned - -' 'Your daddy's too tired. He's already gone to bed. I know we talked a little more, but I don't remember anything after hearing those words, 'Your daddy's too tired. He's already gone to bed.' 'But I worked so hard getting ready for this!' I kept saying. 'I know you're disappointed,' she said, 'and I'm disappointed too.' 'But Mama!' 'Like I said, son, you're daddy's just so tired.' I never even considered asking Mama why she hadn't come. According to our Kentucky code, it was unthinkable for women folks to be seen without their men folks. Mother had no choice."

As we come now to chapter 7, we could call this chapter Disappointment or Discouragement or "When God Says No."

(David gets a no.....)

There is a principle that should override every contemplation and thought at this point; and that thought is: YOU NEVER HAVE TO FORCE THE FATHER'S PLAN.

Proverbs 3:5,6

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight."

Psalms 37:1-9

"Fret not yourselves because of evildoers. Be not envious toward wrongdoers, for they will wither quickly like the grass and fade like the green herb. Trust in the Lord and do good. Dwell in the land and cultivate faithfulness. Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust also in him, and he will do it. And he will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your judgment as the noon day. Rest in the Lord and wait patiently for him. Fret not yourself because of him who prospers in his way, because of the man who carried out wicked schemes. Cease from anger and forsake wrath. Fret not yourself; it leads on to evildoing. For evil doers will be cut off, but those who wait for the Lord, they will inherit the land."

“The Death of a Dream” would also be another title for this chapter, or we could call it “The Chapter of the /covenant.”

The message of the Bible from this point on rests upon the Davidic covenant that is recorded here in this 7th chapter.

- (1. Saul's & Jonah's Banner
2. Hebron king over Judah
3. Is. &
4. King- wash. D.C.- Whitehouse, Ark of God
5. Michal- live everyday with this!!)

The New Testament opens with the words, “The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David.” The promises God made to David on this occasion are to be fulfilled even yet in a future time when Jesus Christ will sit upon the throne of his father David.

Chap. 7:v. 1

- After the king was settled in his palace and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him,
- v. 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.”

Hiram, the king of Tiro, had sent his workmen, and they had built for David a cedar palace in the city of Jerusalem. David had been king for about 15 years, (probably about 45!) and he had subdued all of Israel's enemies, and he was at rest at home.

(David wanted to do something for God!)

Evidently, David was sitting one day in his lovely home thinking about all that God had done for him, and he didn't feel right about having such a grand house and God only having a tent. He wanted to build God a house. This may have been a dream of his for a long time.

He maybe felt that he was giving God a second place and himself first place. Giving God second place is a common practice with most of us. Too bad we don't have David's conscience about it.

We give God money if there is any left over. We give him leftovers of our time also. “I just don't have time.” What a common excuse. Where does our time go? Do we really lack time for God?

Psalm 116:12

“What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits toward me?”

David says, "I'll build him a permanent house."

So he calls Nathan, and Nathan thinks it's a super idea also. Nathan was wrong there, a prophet that was wrong, but he answered as a man and not as a messenger from God. David's plans sounded good to Nathan. What would be better than a house for God, and he would have a big part in that house.

I imagine I would have said the same thing: "Yes terrific idea! Go ahead!" Maybe when we are really quick to agree to an idea, that should be a warning to wait and ask God about it.

Although David's heart was right for thinking of it, God had another man in mind to build his house.

Pink points out, "How often has success been the ruination of those who have experienced it. How often worldly advancement has been followed by the deterioration of a person spiritually."

Smith points out, "David is exercised by the thought that Yahweh has only a tent while the king himself dwells in a house. He lays this before Nathan with the evident purpose of building a temple if the prophet should approve. The latter at first consents, but afterwards is directed to veto the plan. But the message is accomplished with the promise on God's part to build David a house, that is, to establish his dynasty forever. The conclusion of the account gives David's prayer of gratitude, which becomes a prayer of intercession for Israel."

Theodore Pep points out, "By this time David had been king some fifteen years. With the help of the Lord he had subdued all of the Israel's enemies."

Young points out, "Have you ever committed yourself to the Lord and after time of prayer and waiting on him had a vision about something that you should do. You begin to dream a worthy dream, maybe even a holy dream. You feel that this idea is of God and not blind ambition, but as you put this dream into reality, God says no. God's no can come through another person, through a roadblock in circumstances. It can come in many shapes or forms, but that no halts the reality of your dream. How do you handle that no when it comes into your life? Look at the circumstances. Israel was at peace. During this time of tranquility, David could sit back and think about his accomplishments. David had Nathan at his side. While David was with Nathan, the prophet and man of God, he had a vision. He wanted to build the temple. He had built his own house, 'I have a lovely house of cedar, and now

I have a dream - -that the ark will not live in a tent but in a beautiful temple. I want to build a place for the people to worship.”

1 Samuel 15:12

“And Samuel rose early in the morning to meet Saul, and it was told Samuel saying, ‘Saul came to Carmel, and behold, he set up a monument for himself, then turned and proceeded down to Gilgal.’”

(Part of his dream was Jerusalem-Palace-Ark-Temple)

Luis Palau points out, “What a contrast to David. Do you know what David lived for all his life? To build a monument, but it wasn’t one for himself. Remember what it was? The temple; and all his life David never made money for himself, never grabbed for riches, never appropriated anything. His one big dream in life was to build a temple for the ark of the Lord. He would lie awake at night and think about it. It was his deepest-felt desire. Though what was Saul’s desire? To build a monument for himself. What kind of monument are you building? What will your children see when you’ve made your exit from the scene? A monument to yourself, a self-serving life that catered to your own desires and your own ego? The landscape is dotted with those sorts of monuments.”

Carl Laney points out, “This chapter marks a climax, his defeat of the Philistines, the entry of the ark - - all lead up to the promise of God that his royal house will be permanently established.”

Gulston points out, “Josephus recaptures the scene with an engaging quaintness in the following paraphrase of the Biblical narrative:

‘Now when the king saw that his affairs grew better almost every day by the will of God, he thought he should offend him if while he himself continued in houses made of cedar such as were of a great height and had the most curious works of architecture in them, he should overlook the ark while it was laid in the tabernacle and was desirous to build a temple to God.’”

v. 3 Nathan replied to the king, “Whatever you have in mind, go ahead and do it, for the Lord is with you.”

Nathan has such confidence in the spiritual discernment of the king that he assumes that whatever he has in his mind he can go ahead and do it. The reason for this is because the Lord is with him.”

(Assume, anticipate without consultation)

O how easy it is when we have walked with the Lord for some time to use our own wisdom instead of asking the Lord for wisdom with regard to proposals and opportunities that come our way. May God teach us to walk with him in a totally dependent fashion, allowing him to lead and to direct, and to learn not to lean unto our own understanding in things.

Nathan is probably caught between a rock and a hard place here too because he wanted to say the thing that would be agreeable to the king, and stay in his good graces.

(absence of David inquired of the Lord...Bring the ephod)

v. 4 That night the word of the Lord came to Natha, saying:

(Lord left a message on Nathan's answering machine)

You can almost see Nathan laying down to sleep, and the Lord speaking, "Nathan, I want to talk to you." Nathan's trembling reply was probably similar to that of Samuel in his youth when he said, "Speak, Lord, for thy servant heareth." (Lord just cleared his voice and Nathan knew something was up, Speak Lord!!) (Got him on his beeper while he was making his prophetic rounds.)

(This is what the Lord says: for the record)

v. 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?'"

The Lord begins his message to David with a question: "Are you then one to build me a house to dwell in?"

1 Chron. 17:4

"Go and tell David, my servant, thus says the Lord, 'You shall not build a house for me to dwell in.'"

1 Chron. 22:7-12

"And David said to Solomon, 'My son, I had intended to build a house to the name of the Lord my God. But the word of the Lord came to me saying, 'You have shed much blood and have waged great wars. You shall not build a house to my name because you have shed so much blood on the earth before me. Behold, a son shall be born to you, who shall be a man of rest, and I will give him rest from all his enemies on every side, for his name shall be Solomon, and I will give peace and quiet to Israel in his days. He shall build a house for my name, and he shall be my son, and I will be his Father, and I will establish the

throne of his kingdom over Israel forever.” Now my son, the Lord be with you, that you may be successful and build the house of the Lord your God just as he has spoken concerning you, only the Lord give you discretion and understanding and give you charge over Israel so that you may keep the law of the Lord your God.”

- v. 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.

David, a house doesn't fit with the present plan. I have been moving from place to place, and so a tent has been adequate to this point.

- v. 7 Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, did I ever say anything to any of their rulers whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”

The Lord asks David a very pointed question that relates to the past history of the nation. David, can you remember that I ever said anything to the rulers of my people, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”

God refused David's offer to build him a house, but he adds to his refusal such a wonderful revelation that David forgets to be disappointed. Why did God not allow David to build the temple? He just says no. It's a loving but firm refusal.

God is not going to allow him to build a house of worship, but God was pleased with his intentions and the attitudes of David's heart. David is a man after the heart of God.

1 Kings 8:18ff

“Now it was in the heart of my father David to build a house for the name of the Lord, the God of Israel. But the Lord said to my father David, ‘Because it was in your heart to build a house for my name, you did well that it was in your heart. Nevertheless, you shall not build that house, but your son, who shall be born to you, he shall build the house for my name.’ Now the Lord has fulfilled his word which he spoke, for I have risen in place of my father David and sit on the throne of Israel as the Lord promised and have built the house for the name of the Lord, the God of Israel.”

David Livingstone wanted to be a missionary to China, but God sent him to Africa, and this is his comment: “I'd rather be in the heart of Africa and in the will of God, than out of the will of God sitting on the throne of England.”

David is certainly not a complainer here in this situation, but willing to trust God that he knew what was best.

Someone told a story about a large department store that was honoring its one-millionth customer. When the customer walked into the store, the question was asked, "Why are you here today?" And the response was, "I'm on my way to the complaint department."

Winter points out, "God knows what's best for us. The things that God did for David were much better for him than would have been the glory he achieved by building the temple. The fact that the house of David was established as the ruling house as long as the kingdom stood was a much greater blessing. When God refuses our requests, he always has something better in mind for us."

It's an inviolable principle that when God says no, it always obligates him to a better plan.

Henry Pipkin felt that God was calling him to be a missionary to China. He prayed and studied through high school, college, graduate school and seminary. He learned the language and the dialects, and finally he was appointed and went to China. On the day he landed, the Boxer Rebellion began. He was in China for only an hour or two and was killed. He never won a person to Jesus Christ in that land. He never helped one person on that mission field. He never preached one sermon. Now the world would say of Missionary Pipkin, he didn't do anything for God. But I have a feeling that when we get to heaven and those books are opened, we will see Henry Pipkin's name in glowing reports. There will be hundreds of thousands of people whom he touched for the Lord Jesus Christ. I think that Pipkin would say, "Look, Father, I failed. I got myself killed when I landed on the mission field. I didn't do all of this." Then God will answer, "Ah, but you had it in your heart to do it. You were ready, you were motivated. Therefore you are credited with being a great man of God in China."

Jorden says, "When God says no to a successful man, it is part of his plan for that man's life. Every successful man should learn his lesson."

Mackintosh states, "When the psalmist inquires, 'What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits?' the answer is, 'I will take the cup of salvation.' The way to render to God is to take yet more largely from his bounteous hand. To be a thankful, unquestioning recipient of grace glorifies God far more than all we could render unto him."

F. B. Meyer says, “if you cannot have what you hoped, do not sit down in despair and allow the energies of your life to run waste, but arise and gird yourself to help others to achieve. You may not build you may not go down the mine you can hold the ropes.”

Heslop in his Sermon Seeds from the Psalms says, “I lay my head to rest on the bosom of omnipotence. While I can keep hold of this, it shall be a fine day, whether it rains, hails or shines.

Habakkuk 3:17-19

“Even though the fig trees are all destroyed, and there is neither blossom left no fruit, and though the olive crops all fail and the fields lie in barren, even if the flocks die in the fields and the cattle barns are empty, yet I will rejoice in the Lord. I will be happy in God of my salvation. The Lord God is my strength, and he will give me the speed of a deer and bring me safely over the mountains.”

Evidently David had been thinking that inasmuch as God had made him king of Israel, he had brought him to the highest possible point and could do no greater thing for him. He was wanting to build a temple in gratitude. God revealed to David what he had done in the past was like nothing in comparison with what he would do in the future.

(You think what the Lord's done so far is great, just wait until you see the future! It'll pop your eyes out and blow you socks off!!)

1 Cor. 2:9

“But just as it is written, things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, and which have not entered the heart of man all the God has prepared for those who love him.”

John 2:10

“And he said to him, ‘Every man serves the good wine first, and when men have drunk freely, then that which is poorer. You have kept the good wine until now.’”

We are going to be saying to the Lord when we step into his presence, “You have saved the best until now.”

v. 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.’”

The Lord is now revealing to David his plan and his purpose by speaking of what has already transpired in the past: "I took you from the pasture and from following the flock," and my reasons for doing that, my purpose in view was so you would be ruler over my people Israel.

v. 9 I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you.

In the past the Lord has been faithful to David in that David has had the blessed privilege of having the Lord's presence and power with him. The Lord has blessed all of his endeavors and cut off all of his enemies from before him.

The rest of verse 9 turns to the present:

(Present & Future)

"Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men of the earth.

In these verse we are going to now consider the DAVIDIC COVENANT. It is God's unconditional eternal promises made to David. With the little word "now" we recognize that God is turning from the past and looking toward the present and the future. Whereas in the past, he has experienced the Lord's presence and power, now he is going to have a place. God is going to build him a house.

There are five things that stand out in this covenant:

1. The first statement by the Lord in promise to David is here in verse 9: **I WILL MAKE YOUR NAME GREAT LIKE THE NAMES OF THE GREATEST MEN OF THE EARTH.**

Genesis 12:1-3

"Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go forth from your country and from your relatives, and from your father's house to the land which I will show you, and I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you and make you name great, and so you shall be a blessing. And I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'

He took David out of the sheep fields and made him one of the greatest kings of the earth. Now he allows David to look into the future, and here David is going to see stretching out before him such a series of blessings as he never dreamed possible.

Here is a principle for us: However much he may have done for us already, we may be sure that it is nothing compared with what he will yet do. We are yet to be perfectly conformed to the image of Christ, to be presented faultless before God's throne without spot or wrinkle or any such thing. We are to reign with Christ, being heirs and joint heirs with him of all God's riches and glory.

David was wanting to do something great for God, and God was wanting to do something far greater for David.

Has God ever said no to you? Did you ever have a dream of serving God in some great and glorious way and then you ended up chained to a desk or diapers. We can learn a lot from David's response to God's refusal.

J. Vernon McGee points out, "God says to Nathan, 'You go tell David that I will make him a house.' David said, 'I want to build God a house.' God says, 'David, you can't do it you're hands are bloody. You can't build a house, but I know the desires in your heart. I will give you credit for building me a house, and I will build you a house.' Isn't that just like the Lord? You can't outdo the Lord."

- v. 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.

Whereas the first promise in the covenant is "I will make your name great,"

2. The second one is I WILL PROVIDE A PLACE FOR MY PEOPLE.

Genesis 15:18

"On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt as far as the great river, the river Euphrates."

Genesis 17:7

"And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your descendants after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant to be God to you and to your descendants after you. And I will give to you and to your descendants after you the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan for an everlasting possession, and I

will be their God.” “Wicked people will not oppress them anymore as they did at the beginning.”

v. 11 and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel.

3. The third promise in the covenant is I WILL PLANT THEM.

I will make you name great.

I will provide a place for my people.

I will plant them.

They won't be oppressed anymore. They won't have people coming against them to take them out of the land. “I'm going to plant them in this land and place that I have provided.”

The rest of verse 11 gives us the 4th and 5th promises:

“I will also give you rest from all your enemies.”

4. In the 4th promise the Lord tells David, I AM GOING TO GIVE YOU REST FROM ALL YOUR ENEMIES.

chap. 7:1

“After the king was settled in his palace and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him.”

Matt. 11:28-30

“Come to me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you shall find rest for you souls, for my yoke is easy and my load is light.”

The rest of verse 11 gives you the 5th promise:

“The Lord declares to you that the Lord himself will establish a house for you.”

5. The fifth promise then is: HE WILL ESTABLISH A HOUSE FOY YOU. (instead of you building one for him)

1 Chron. 17:10

“Even from the day that I commanded judges to be over my people Israel, and I will subdue all your enemies moreover, I tell you that the Lord will build a house for you.”

- v. 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.

With the little word “when” we now have God’s timing in the fulfillment of this unconditional eternal covenant which he is making with David at this time. It will be after David’s death, God will raise up David’s offspring to succeed him. And then he will establish his kingdom.

David, you are just a little ahead of schedule is all. And so my restraint and my no at this time is in view of a better time and a better plan.

There is going to be some house-building around here, but I’m not going to be the one who is going to do it. And it won’t be a house of cedar, either. There is a time coming when my house shall be build, but this is not the time.

David, during your tenure of service, there are five things that I am going to do:

1. I’ll make your name great.
2. I will provide a place for my people.
3. I will plant them.
4. I will give you rest.
5. I will establish a house.

- v. 13 He is the on who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

You see, David, we’re going to build a house, but it’s going to be your son, not you, who’s going to carry on these promises of the kingdom and build the house that you have thought of.

- v. 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.

- v. 15 but my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you.

Winter points out, “God promised to build a house for David. Since David already had a building in which to live, this reference can only be fact that his family is to be established as a royal family. David wanted to build God a

house out of stone and wood. He was not given this privilege, but God was to build him a house that would live for generations. Saul's house had been deposed. His family was not allowed to continue to rule over Israel. David's house was to be established as the ruling family in Israel."

Laney points out, "There are at least five prophetic implications of God's promises to David in 2 Sam. 7. They are:

1. Israel must be preserved as a nation.
2. Israel must be brought back to their land.
3. David's son Jesus the Messiah must return to rule over the covenanted kingdom.
4. A literal earthly kingdom for Israel must be instituted over which Christ will reign.
5. The kingdom must become an eternal kingdom, since God's promise to David was unconditional.

The future fulfillment of those events is certain."

v. 16 Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever." (Romans 8:28, 1Cor. 13:11,12)

Wow! What a promise! What a plan!

Isaiah 7:13,14

"Then he said, 'Listen, now, O house of David: Is it too slight a thing for you to try the patience of men, that you will try the patience of my God as well. Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call his name Immanuel."

Isaiah 9:6,7

"For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us, and the government will rest on his shoulders, and his name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. There will be no end to the increase of his government or of peace on the throne of David and over his kingdom to establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness from then on and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of Hosts will accomplish this."

Jeremiah 23:5

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord when I shall raise up for David a righteous branch, and he will reign as king and act wisely and do justice and righteousness in the land.”

Psalm 45:6

“Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever; a scepter of brightness is the scepter of thy kingdom.”

Psalm 72:1-4

“Give the king thy judgments, O God, and thy righteousness to the king’s son. May he judge thy people with righteousness and thine afflicted with justice. Let the mountain bring peace to the people, and the hills in righteousness. May he vindicate the afflicted of the people, save the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor.”

Psalm 72:18,19

“Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, who alone works wonders, and blessed be his glorious name forever; and may the whole earth be filled with his glory. Amen, amen.”

Psalm 89:1-4

“I will sing of the lovingkindness of the Lord forever, to all generations I will make known thy faithfulness with my mouth. For I have said, Lovingkindness will be built up forever. In the heavens thou wilt establish thy faithfulness. I have made a covenant with my chosen. I have sworn to David, my servant. I will establish your seed forever and build up your throne to all generations.”

Psalm 89:20-29

“I have found David, my servant. With my holy oil I have anointed him, with whom my hand will be established. My arm also will strengthen him. The enemy will not deceive him, nor the son of wickedness afflict him. But I shall crush his adversaries before him, and strike those who hate him. And my faithfulness and my lovingkindness will be with him, and in my name his horn will be exalted. I shall also set his hand on the sea, and his right hand on the rivers. He will cry to me, Thou art my Father, my God and the Rock of my salvation. I also shall make him my firstborn, the highest of the kings of the earth. My lovingkindness I will keep for him forever, and

my covenant shall be confirmed to him. So I will establish his descendants forever, and his throne as the days of heaven.”

Psalm 89:33-37

“But I will not break off my lovingkindness from him, nor deal falsely in my faithfulness. My covenant I will not violate, nor will I alter the utterance of my lips. Once I have sworn by my holiness, I will not lie to David. He descendants shall endure forever, and his throne as the sun before me. It shall be established forever like the moon and the witness in the sky is faithful.”

v. 17 Nathan reported to David all the words of this entire revelation.

(Nathan hangs up the phone and calls David. Need to see you in the morning... Hold up on all those things we talked about.)

Nathan now immediately makes an appointment with David, gets together with him, and gives him word-for-word the revelation from the Lord.

In response to this overwhelming revelation from the Lord, David goes to speak with the Lord himself:

v. 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?”

(Boy! God this really ticks me off that you threw a wrench in my plans)
(Leaving Nathan: David goes to the tent)

David now goes in and sits before the Lord. Here he sees things differently from when he sat in his own house, and he just praises God, praying that his will should be done.

Seven times David speaks to the Lord and says, “O SOVEREIGN LORD.”

“Who am I, what is my family, that you have brought me this far?”

How do you respond to the DEATH OF A DREAM? When your most cherished ambition is shattered by a financial reversal, or a physical problem, or an unexpected change of plans? What is your reaction? David responded with GRATITUDE INSTEAD OF GRUMBLING, and PRAISE INSTEAD

OF POUTING. He thanks God and reaffirms God's right to veto David's plans.

In this whole episode we find David is the same unspoiled, humble man that he was when he was a boy. Remember when Saul offered Merab in marriage to David, he said, "Who am I, and what is my life or my father's family in Israel, that I should be son-in-law to the king." Now David is king over all Israel, important, powerful. We find him saying again, "Who am I, O Lord, and what is my house, that you have brought me this far."

Winter points out, "As long as there was a kingdom in Jerusalem, there was a son of David to sit upon the throne. Twenty kings ruled in Jerusalem, and each of them was a direct descendant of David. Since Jesus Christ sits on the right hand of the Father yet today, he rules the spiritual kingdom of Israel as a direct descendant of David."

Why did David sit before the Lord? David's gratitude for all the blessings of God just simply overwhelmed him.

Gehrke points out, "Though David's royal proposal had been ruined, he is so overwhelmed by the magnificent counterproposal the Lord held out before him, that he goes to the modest, now antique, tent; and bowing low before the Lord, worships and adores him. David's is a wonderful prayer, so full of praise of God that he cannot find words enough to magnify him adequately. He accepts the promise in genuine faith, knowing that the Lord's purpose is stretched far beyond his dealings with himself personally. The promise is, the king says, indeed typical. The Lord always condescends to aid the poor. He graciously makes his saving presence known in the world of men."

v. 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?

Wow what a question! "Is this your usual way of dealing with a man, O Sovereign Lord?" The answer is Yes! Yes! Yes!

(This is unreal!! I can't believe this!!)
(Jacob said: It's enough)

John 10:10

"I am come, that they might have life, and have it more abundantly."

(He meets all your needs. My cup is running over. Joy unspeakable and full of glory...)

Ephesians 3:20

“Now to him who is able to do exceeding abundantly, beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us.”

v. 20 “What more can David say to you? For you know your servant, O Sovereign Lord.”

Now David has a third question: “What more can I say to you?” I’m just so overwhelmed in humble gratitude for all that you’ve done.

Question #1: Who am I and what is my family, that you’ve brought me this far.

Question #2: Is this your usual way of dealing with man?

Question #3: What more can I say to you, for you know your servant, O Sovereign Lord.

1 Chron. 29:1,2

“Then king David said to the entire assembly, ‘My son Solomon, whom alone God has chosen, is still young and inexperienced, and the work is great, for the temple is not for man, but for the Lord God. Now with all my ability, I have provided for the house of my God, the gold for the things of gold, and the silver for the things of silver, and the bronze for the things of bronze, the iron for the things of iron, and the wood for the things of wood, onyx stones and inlaid stones, stones of antimonies and stones of various colors, and all kinds of precious stones and alabaster in abundance. And moreover in my delight in the house of my God, the treasure I have of gold and silver I give to the house of my God over and above all that I have already provided for the holy temple.’”

(When God says “no” you rise up and pave the way for when God says “yes”)

David immediately got busy and gave himself wholeheartedly to the job of gathering the materials for the temple after his refusal of God for him to build the temple.

(So many of life's great accomplishments are the results of un-named heroes who stayed by the stuff)

Instead of sulking he worked hard to prepare the materials for someone else. If you can't build, you can gather the materials. If you can't go, maybe you can send someone else.

How you respond to God's no is really important. You can sulk or see God bless David so much. He was so overwhelmed with God's goodness that he forgot to be mad about his own plans and desires. He sat before the Lord and said, "This is unreal. This is not how men deal with another." No, this is not how men behave, but God gives. He deals with us when we are totally unworthy, lifts us up, saves us from sin's penalty, saves us from sin's power, and finally will set us up in heaven with Christ.

How long has it been since you sat before the Lord absolutely overwhelmed with God's goodness, especially when God has just said no to us about something.

David was speechless in verse 20. "What more can I say?" Wonder why he used his name there? Ever hear a child do that? Maybe David became like a little child again under the overwhelming grace of God. Maybe that is what we need to do. We are so cold and our love of God is so pitiful.

Redpath points out, "As David sat in the presence of the Lord, thinking of God's goodness in spite of his negative answer, he said, 'And what can David say more unto thee? For thou, O Lord God, knowest thy servant. When a little child is in real need, she will say, 'Mommy, Mary Ann has such a bad pain.' She won't say I have a pain but will use her own name. Have you noticed how children do that? 'Daddy, Johnny wants to go for a walk with you.' Of course, they grow out of it very quickly but that is characteristic of the little child. 'What can David say more unto thee?' As this man faced a negative answer, as he sat down before the Lord and worshipped in the recognition of God's goodness until he was speechless, he became as a little child before the presence of the Lord. I am sure that is one reason why God said no - - just to make him like that. Has he done that for you? And when God has said no to the ambition of your life, to closer to his heart and shows you that every need of your soul is met by his promises. He wants to teach you in the face of his negative answer to learn to make your own every possible promise in the book."

- v. 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.

Here David puts the focus on the positive rather than the negative. This is what we have to do when we get a no to our plans, that the no means that what he is getting ready to do is for the sake of his word and it is according to his will that he has done the great thing he has done. For David, he recognizes that it is more important for God's word and God's will to prevail rather than David's way.

“You have done this great thing and made it known to your servant.”

When God says no to some desire in his heart, remember that his plan is much better. Maybe you have dreamed of some life work that you have been unable to accomplish because you have a family of kids to care for. Maybe God's plan is for you to prepare one of your kids to do the work and do it better than you ever could. That is just one example. I am sure you can relate many more if you really think about it. Just be sure and get God's mind about everything.

- v. 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.

Psalm 8:1-4

“O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is thy name in all the earth, who has displayed the splendor above the heavens. From the mouth of infants and nursing babes thou has established strength, because of thine adversaries to make the enemy and the revengeful cease. When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; what is man that thou dost take thought of him? and the son of man, that thou dost care for him?”

(O! Lord my God when I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds thy hands have made....)

David says, How great you are, O Sovereign Lord! Then he says, There's no one like you, and there's no God but you.

- v. 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?

David asks another question as he turns focus away from God and what he has done to the people he has chosen. "And who is like your people Israel?" David then speaks of what God did in the three-fold sense:

1. He went out to redeem as a people for himself.
 2. He went out to make a name for himself.
 3. He went out to perform great and awesome wonders by driving out nations and their gods from before your people.
- v. 24 You have established your people Israel as your very own forever, and you, O Lord, have become their God.

Because of the Lord's statements in verse 16, 'your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever,' David now speaks of the fact that God has established his people Israel as his very own forever.

Genesis 17:7

"And I will established my covenant between me and you and your descendants after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant to be God to you and to you descendants after you."

- v. 25 "And now, Lord God, keep forever the promise you have made concerning your servant and his house. Do as you promised.

Now that David has praised the Lord who he is and what he has done for him individually and for the nation Israel, he now turns to petition; and in this 25th verse he says, "Lord God, keep forever the promise you have made concerning your servant and his house. Do as you promised..."

How much the Lord loves for us to claim the promises of the Book and to beseech him in accordance with those promises which he has made. What a delight it is for our Father to fulfill those promises in his own good time and accordance with his faithful character.

"Standing on the promises of Christ my King,
Through eternal ages let his praises ring.
Glory in the highest I will shout and sing,
Standing on the promises of God.

Standing on the promises that cannot fail,
When the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
By the living Word of God I shall prevail
Standing on the promises of God.”

Habakkuk 2:3

“But these things I plan won’t happen right away. Slowly, steadily, surely the time approaches when the vision will be fulfilled. If it seems slow, do not despair, for these things will surely come to pass; just be patient. They will not overdue a single day.”

- v. 26 so that your name will be great forever. Then men will say, ‘The Lord Almighty is God over Israel.’ And the house of you servant David will be established before you.

The reason for the petition to ask the Lord to keep his promise to David is so that the Lord’s name will be great, and men will say, “The Lord Almighty is God over Israel!”

- v. 27 “O Lord Almighty, God of Israel, you have revealed this to your servant, saying, ‘I will build a house for you.’ So you servant has found courage to offer you this prayer.

Lord, you have opened my eyes and I have seen wondrous things from you. I have seen that there is going to be some house-building around here, but I’m not going to be doing it. You are; and it won’t be a house of cedar, either.

Because of this revelation, your servant has found courage to offer you this prayer.

- v. 28 O Sovereign Lord, you are God! Your words are trustworthy, and you have given this good promise to your servant.

David once again arrives at that point where he says, “You are God and your words are trustworthy,” and on top of all that, “You’ve given a good promise to your servant.”

- v. 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.”

All we can say at this point is, What a magnificent prayer that comes from the lips of a man after God's own heart in response to the covenant which the Lord makes with David her in chapter 7.

Psalm 2:6

“But as for me, I have installed my king upon Zion, my holy mountain.”

Psalm 9:10

“And those who know thy name will put their trust in thee; for thou, O Lord, hast not forsaken those who seek thee.”

Psalm 10:16,17

“The Lord is king forever and ever; nations have perished from his land. O Lord, thou hast heard the desire of the humble; thou wilt strengthen their heart; thou wilt incline thine ear.”

Psalm 20:2,7

“May he send you help from the sanctuary and support you from Zion. Some boast in chariots and some in horses, but we will boast in the name of the Lord our God.”

Psalm 21:

“O Lord, in thy strength the king will be glad, and in thy salvation how greatly he will rejoice! Thou hast given him his heart's desire, and thou hast not withheld the request of his lips. For thou dost meet him with the blessings of good things; thou dost set a crown of fine gold on his head. He asked life of thee, thou dost give it to him, length of days forever and ever. His glory is great through thy salvation, splendor and majesty thou dost place upon him. For thou dost make him most blessed forever; thou dost make him joyful with gladness in thy presence. For the king trust in the Lord, and through the lovingkindness of the Most High he will not be shaken. Your hand will find out all your enemies; your right hand will find out those who hate you. You will make them as a fiery oven in the time of your anger; the Lord will swallow them up in his wrath, and fire will devour them. Their offspring thou wilt destroy from the earth, and their descendants from among the sons of men. Though they intended evil against thee, and devised a plot, they indeed will not succeed. For thou wilt make them turn their back; thou wilt aim with thy bowstrings at their faces.

Be thou exalted, O Lord, in thy strength; we will sing and praise thy power.”

Psalm 44:4-8

“Thou art my King, O God;
Command victories for Jacob.
Through Thee we will push back our adversaries;
Through Thy name we will trample down those who rise up against us.
For I will not trust in my bow,
Nor will I trust my sword to save me.
But Thou hast saved us from our adversaries,
And thou hast put to shame those who hate us.
In God we have boasted all day long,
And we will give thanks to Thy name forever.”

Psalm 18:1-3

“I love Thee, O Lord, my strength.
The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer,
My God, my rock, in whom, I take refuge;
My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.
I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised,
And I am saved from my enemies.”

Psalm 18:16-19

“He sent from on high, He took me;
He drew me out of many waters.
He delivered me from my strong enemy,
And from those who hated me, for they were too mighty for me.
They confronted me in the day of my calamity,
But the Lord was my stay.
He brought me forth also into a broad place
He rescued me, because He delighted in me.”

Psalm 18:46-50

“The Lord lives, and blessed be my rock;
And exalted be the God of my salvation,
The God who executes vengeance for me,
And subdues peoples under me.
He delivers me from my enemies;
Surely Thou dost lift me above those who rise up against me;

Thou dost rescue me from the violent man.
Therefore I will give thanks to Thee among the nations, O Lord,
And I will sing praises to Thy name.
He gives great deliverance to His king,
And shows lovingkindness to his anointed,
To David and his descendants forever.”

Psalm 60:12

“Through God we shall do valiantly, and it is he who will tread down our adversaries.”

Psalm 68:19,20

“Blessed be the lord who daily bears our burden; the God who is our salvation. God is to us a god of deliverances, and to God the Lord belong escapes from death.”

Psalm 68:35

“O God, thou art awesome from thy sanctuary. The God of Israel himself gives strength and power to the people. Blessed be God!”

Psalm 110:1,2

“The Lord says to my Lord: Sit at my right hand, until I make thine enemies a footstool for thy feet. The Lord will stretch forth thy strong scepter from Zion, saying, ‘Rule in the midst of thine enemies.’”

2 Cor. 2:14

“But thanks be to God who always leads us in his triumph in Christ.”

After the PROMISES AND PRAYERS of chap. 7, it's time to sing:

“Lead on, O King Eternal, the day of march has come.
Henceforth in fields of conquest your tent shall be our home.
Through days of preparation your grace has made us strong,
And now, O King Eternal, we lift our battle song.”

“Stand up, stand up for Jesus, ye soldiers of the cross;

Lift high his royal banner, it must not suffer loss.
From vict'ry unto vict'ry his army shall he lead,
Till ev'ry foe is vanquished, and Christ is Lord indeed.

“Stand up, stand up for Jesus, stand in his strength alone;
The arm of flesh will fail you, ye dare not rust your own.
Put on the gospel armor, wash piece put on with prayer;
Where duty calls, or danger, be never wanting there.”

We turn now in our study of David to chapter 8. There are recorded in this chapter 7 significant victories given by the Lord to David and his armies.

- v. 1 In the course of time, David defeated the Philistines and subdued them, and he took Metheg Ammah from the control of the Philistines.
- 1. We are now going to see David on a WINNING STREAK, and the first major project of his kingdom was to free the nation from the domination of the Philistines. “Metheg Ammah” means “bride of the metropolis” or “mother city.” This is probably another term for the city of Gath.

This region is about 25 miles southwest from the city of Jerusalem.

- v. 2 David also defeated the Moabites. He made them lie down on the ground and measured them off with a length of cord. Every two lengths of them were put to death, and the third length was allowed to live. So the Moabites became subject to David and brought tribute.
- 2. Victory #2 for David and his men is coming from the hands of the Moabites.

This is the region about 50 miles southeast as the crow flies from the city of Jerusalem. This is the area of David's roots. This is where he took his parents to be protected during the pursuits of Saul in his earlier life. This is also the home of his great-grand-mother Ruth. She was a resident of Moab before coming with Naomi to Bethlehem.

Vos points out, “Now the focus of attention shifts southeastward to Moab. Whatever friendly relations had existed between David and the Moabites, they had evaporated. After defeating them, David used the well-known tactic for dealing with enemies notorious for their atrocities: He made them all lie down on the ground and passed a measuring line over them, putting to death 2/3 of them. Ancient Jewish commentators state that David's actions were a result of their having massacred his parents and family.”

- v. 3 Moreover, David fought Hadadezer son of Rehob, king of Zobah, when he went to restore his control along the Euphrates River.
- 3. Victory #3 comes at the hands of Hadadezer king of Zobah. Zobah is a territory 70 miles north of Jerusalem, pushing close to the northern boundaries where the Euphrates Rivers flows.
- v. 4 David captured a thousand of his chariots, seven thousand charioteers and twenty thousand foot soldiers. He hamstrung all but a hundred of the chariot horses.

Paul Jorden says, “In 2 Samuel 8:4 we read that David hamstrung the chariot horses belonging to Hadadezer’s armies. To hamstring is to cut the Achilles tendon. This removes the power and the push-off of the hindlegs. The horses would not be totally crippled, but would lose power in the legs. They would be useful for farming but no longer good for battle.”

- v. 5 When the Arameans of Damascus came to help Hadadezer king of Zobah, David struck down twenty-two thousand of them.
- 4. The 4th victims of David’s string of victories is the Arameans of Damascus. The Arameans were about 55-60 miles north of Jerusalem; and so in the region they came to the assistance of Hadadezer, and David put them to flight as well.
- v. 6 He put garrisons in the Aramean kingdom of Damascus, and the Arameans become subject to him and brought tribute. The Lord gave David victory everywhere he went.

It reminds us of chap. 7:1

“After the king was settled in his palace, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him...”

Now here in verse 6 we read:

“The Lord gave David victory everywhere he went.”

“From victory unto victory his army shall he lead”

- v. 7 David took the gold shields that belonged to the officers of Hadadezer and brought them to Jerusalem.

- v. 8 From Tebah and Berothai, towns that belonged to Hadadezer, King David took a great quantity of bronze.

(Developed a mining operation!!)

They were short of metal in the south, and so from these towns of Tebah and Berothai, which were about 67 miles to the north of Jerusalem, David mined a great quantity of bronze.

- v. 9 When Tou king of Hamath heard that David had defeated the entire army of Hadadezer.
- v. 10 he sent his son Joram to King David to greet him and congratulate him on his victory in battle over Hadadezer, who had been at war with Tou. Joram brought with him articles of silver and gold and bronze.

The king of Hamath, who is located about 105 miles north, had been at battle with Hadadezer, and so he is very grateful to David for the victory because this gets him out of kettle of fish as well.

He sends his son to congratulate David and to greet him over the victory, and then he sends him silver and gold and bronze articles.

- v. 11 King David dedicated these articles to the Lord, as he had done with the silver and gold from all the nations he had subdued:

David always took the precious spoils of war and dedicated them to the Lord from what we read here.

- v. 12 Edom and Moab, the Ammonites and the Philistines, and Amalek. He also dedicated the plunder taken from Hadadezer son of Rehob, king of Zobah.

- 5. Now we learn that the 5th victory for David was recorded over the Edomites. Edom is located about 40 miles southeast of Jerusalem, and so we have now moved to a geographical location on the other extremity to the southeast.

“Edom and Moab, the Ammonites”

- 6. Victory #6 came over the Ammonites. They are located about 25 miles east of Jerusalem.

“and the Philistines, and Amalek.”

7. The 7th victory is over the Amalekites. David had had an encounter with them back at Ziklag, just prior to becoming king over Judah. This region is located about 30 miles southwest of the city of Jerusalem.

“He also dedicated the plunder taken from Hadadezer, son of Rehob, king of Zobah.

- v. 13 And David became famous after he returned from striking down eighteen thousand Edomites in the Valley of Salt.

(Ticker tape parade, T.V. shows, media coverage)

Just as David had become initially famous when he struck down Goliath the giant from Gath, and the people began to sing “Saul has slain his thousands, but David his tens of thousands,” I am sure now once again that old tune probably hit the top of the charts, as David came back from a tremendous victory over the Edomites.

- v. 14 He put garrisons throughout Edom, and all the Edomites became subject to David. The Lord gave David victory everywhere he went.

He never lost a war so far in all that is recorded here.

This is the third time a significant phrase like this occurs in this particular study:

1. chap. 7:1 - The Lord had given him rest from all of his enemies around him.
 2. chap. 8:6 - The Lord gave David victory everywhere he went.
 3. chap. 8:14 – The Lord gave David victory everywhere he went.
- v. 15 David reigned over all Israel, doing what was just and right for all his people.

David was not only famous as a result of his victories, but his administration was one of being just and right, as he reigned over all of Israel.

- v. 16 Joab son of Zeruah was over the army;...

(First one to get into Jerusalem)

Joab is David's nephew, the son of David's sister Zeruah. His responsibility was the military of the kingdom.

“Jehoshaphat son of Ahilud was recorder;...”

This means he was the historian, the superintendent of the annals of the kingdom. It was his responsibility to record events as they occurred, especially as they related to the kingdom.

He kept the records.

v. 17 Zadok son of Ahitub and Ahimelech son of Abiathar were priests...

Now we turn to the religious part of the administration. We have Zadok and Ahimelech as the priests.

(The chaplains of the house and senate!!)

Davis has an interesting remark along this line: “David had two priests over the land, Zadok and Ahimelech. The appointment of Ahimelech as one of the priests is interesting, for he was the son of Abiathar, the only one to escape Saul's senseless massacre of the priests of Nob. Some scholars have felt that that appointment of Ahimelech to the high priesthood was to repay a debt to him or to salve a troubled conscience over the lie that caused the slaughter. However, this is not so indicated in the text.”

“Seraiah was secretary;”

Somebody had to keep up with the correspondence and the minutes of the meetings, and so Seraiah had this responsibility.

v. 18 Benaiah son of Jehoiada was over the Kerethites and Pelethites; and David's sons were royal advisers.

Benaiah son of Jehoiada was over the Kerethites. The Kerethites were the executioners, those who carried out the mandates of the kingdom on capital punishment. The Pelethites were public couriers. It was their responsibility to convey the king's mandates to those who held places of office in the government. They were not like the Wingtip Couriers who had their 'happy Hondas' to fly around town delivering their messages. They had to put in their miles each week because each of them were ultra-marathoners.

“David's sons were royal advisers.”

David had the cabinet functioning among his sons. His design here was to keep the kingdom in the family.

Conclusion

What are some of the lessons that we can learn from this particular study?

- Lesson #1: Sometimes our plans do not fit into God's eternal purpose.
- Lesson #2: We must not assume because a man is spiritual that he will always discern the Lord's mind.
- Lesson #3: God's no always obligates him to a better plan.
- Lesson #4: David's thoughts were good, but just a little bit ahead of schedule.
- Lesson #5: David is overwhelmed with God's goodness when he knows His ultimate purpose.
- Lesson #6: God always does exceeding abundant above all we can ask or think.
- Lesson #7: The Lord delights for us to PLEAD THE PROMISES IN PRAYER.
- Lesson #8: The Lord provides the strength for the battle and the ultimate victory as we are willing to trust him.

Psalm 66:9-12

“Who keeps us in life, and does not allow our feet to slip. For Thou hast tried us, O God; Thou hast refined us as silver is refined. Thou didst bring us into the net, Thou didst lay an oppressive burden upon our loins. Thou didst make men ride over our heads; We went through fire and through water; yet Thou didst bring us out into a place of abundance.”

Psalm 139:17

“How precious also are thy thoughts to me, O God, how vast is the sum of them.”

Psalm 143:4-6

“Therefore my spirit is overwhelmed within me; my heart is appalled within me. I remember the days of old; I meditate on all thy doings; I muse on the work of thy hands. I stretch out my hands to thee; my soul longs for thee, as a parched land.”

“Come, Holy Spirit, come!
Let thy bright beams arise;
Dispel thy sorrow from our minds,
The darkness from our eyes.

Convince us of our sin,
Then lead to Jesus’ blood,
And to our wondering view reveal
The secret love of God.

Revive our drooping faith,
Our doubts and fears remove,
And kindle in our breasts the flame
Of never-dying love.

Show us that loving Man
That rules the courts of bliss,
The Lord of Hosts, the Mighty God,
Th’ Eternal Prince of Peace.

‘Tis thine to cleanse the heart,
To sanctify the soul,
To pour fresh life in every part,
And new-create the whole.

Dwell, therefore, in our hearts,
Our minds from bondage free;
Then shall we know, and praise, and love,
The Father, Son, and Thee.

Amen.”

Copyright © 2017 by Bible Teaching Resources by Don Anderson Ministries. The author's lecture notes incorporate quoted, paraphrased and summarized material from a variety of sources, all of which have been appropriately credited to the best of our ability. Quotations particularly reside within the realm of fair use. It is the nature of lecture notes to contain references that may prove difficult to accurately attribute. Any use of material without proper citation is unintentional.