

STUDIES IN THE LIFE OF DAVID

PART II

STUDY NUMBER TWELVE - 2 Samuel 7:1-8:18

William P. Barker wrote a book called *When God Says No*.

In the book, this is what he says:

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.

Have you gotten a No?

Are you getting a No?

You're in awful good company if you get a No. There are some incredible experiences in the Scripture of people who have God say No to them.

Genesis 17:18,19

(Abraham got a no.)

“And Abraham said to God, ‘O that Ishmael might live before You.’ 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?’”

David gets a No today.

You can call this the “Death of the Dream” if you want to.

David is all ready to put his dreams on the drawing board.

God is going to turn down the proposal.

How do you handle those kind of situations during your life? When it seems like God is bugging you instead of blessing you?

When it seems like God is standing in the way of the very thing that you think would make you very happy.

David gets a No.

It is a disappointment.

It is a discouragement.

When God says No it hurts.

We need to realize one big principle that we studied last week,

“You don’t ever try to force the will of God.”

The obstacles that are there in your life could very well be restraining because God is saying No.

So, honor it and don’t try to push your way through it.

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

- ¹ Do not fret because of evil men
or be envious of those who do wrong;**
- ² for like the grass they will soon wither,
like green plants they will soon die away.**
- ³ Trust in the LORD and do good;
dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.**
- ⁴ Delight yourself in the LORD
and he will give you the desires of your heart.**
- ⁵ Commit your way to the LORD ;
trust in him and he will do this:**
- ⁶ He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn,
the justice of your cause like the noonday sun.**
- ⁷ Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him;
do not fret when men succeed in their ways,
when they carry out their wicked schemes.**
- ⁸ Refrain from anger and turn from wrath;
do not fret-it leads only to evil.**
- ⁹ For evil men will be cut off,**

but those who hope in the LORD will inherit the land.

Last week it all fell together for David.

It was really neat, because David was finally anointed king over the whole country, all twelve tribes.

Thirty-seven and a half years of age, God finally fulfills his dream. We saw David march from becoming king over all of Israel up the city of Jerusalem and he got his Washington, DC.

After he got his Washington, DC, Hiram the king of Tyre sent many people down to build David a fabulous palace.

The last thing David did was to bring the ark of God to the city of Jerusalem and put it in the tent.

There is one more thing that David really wanted to do before he died, and that one more thing was to be build a beautiful temple for the ark to be housed. And that is his dream today. Watch it unfold.

David is probably about 45 years of age.

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He has been king over all of Israel about 7 ½ years, 15 years total when you consider the time he has been in Hebron.

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.”

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 may of 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.

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

What is Nathan thinking? “I ain't no dummy!
Build a temple around here and I'm going to be

the beneficiary of this.
I'm a prophet, I'm one of the pros here.
It's a great idea David.
You're past track record has been super!
Man, everything you've done, the Lord's been with you. Go for it!"

Now can we pause for just a moment?
Here is a prophet of God speaking as a messenger and not a man of God.
And he is not speaking correctly.

How many times have you heard someone's proposal and said: "Wow! That's a great idea! Go do it!"
And you don't pray about it.
You don't think it through.

You see, here, Nathan makes a mistake.
Nathan really fouls it up. He in essence is saying: "You know, whatever you have on your mind, go ahead and do it."

Now, what is missing in chapter 7 to this point?

Our favorite phrase. "David inquired of the Lord." Nobody is talking to the Lord yet about this idea.

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?"

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

When you read the Chronicles record it sounds a little different:

1 Chronicles 17:4

“Go and tell David, my servant, thus says the Lord, ‘You shall not build a house for me to dwell in.’”

It is a complete turndown.

Then 1 Chronicles 22 gives you the reason:

1 Chronicles 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.”

In other words, “You are a man of war, you have shed the blood of men in war. You are not qualified in My perspective to build this temple.”

But the Lord goes on to give several reasons here.

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?”

Now, here is an incredible principle.

When God says “No” [to your proposal], it always obligates Him to a better plan.

You can count on that.

When God says “No” it always obligates Him to a better plan.

You are going to get to see it here in the rest of these verses. Just wait and let the Lord work!

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.”

He is revealing to David His plan.

“This is what I did in the past for you, David. I have been with you wherever you have gone and I have cut off all your enemies from before you.

I made you shepherd over my people Israel.

I have protected you.

I have delivered you from all these enemies.

I have been faithful.

But I want to tell you something, David, you have not seen nothing yet!”

Notice in verse 9 the little word “now.”

We move from history to the present and the future.

At that point we are now ready to consider what is called the Davidic covenant.

God in the Bible obligates Himself in a covenant relationship to certain choice individuals.

To Abraham, to Noah, to David.

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And He has obligated Himself to us.

He obligated Himself to Moses with a conditional covenant.

In other words, “this is what I’ll do for you if you do this.”

And nobody has ever entered into the blessings of the conditional covenant of Moses because to break one law you have broken it all.

So blessings of the Mosiac covenant are conditioned on obedience.

The difference between the Abrahamic and the Davidic covenant is that they are both unconditional. It is God saying:

“This is what I am going to do! I am committing Myself to you and you have no obligation but to receive it!”

The covenant of your eternal salvation is an unconditional, eternal covenant. When Jesus Christ died on Calvary,

He provided the benefits of that covenant by saying:

“Here! Take it! It is conditioned on no obedience.

It is conditioned on no human works.

It is conditioned on faith only to take the gift. And it is yours!

With the Abrahamic covenant, God was the One who alone walked between the pieces of the sacrifice and said: “I’m going to do this!”

And to David today He says: “This is what I am going to do for you and it does not make

any difference what you do or don't do."
And thank God for that.

Because in two studies from now David is going to make a big mess. And that big mess does not obligate or disrupt or destroy the principles and the promises of the covenant we look at today.

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."

The little word "now," is the beginning of the promise.
Now, I will make your name great.
This is the same promise give to Abraham in Genesis 12.

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.'"

Did God do it for Abraham?

Well, he has three religions that call Him Father. Mohammadism, Judiasm, and Christianity.

Did God do it for David?

Just walk into the city of Jerusalem and see the star of David flying, and the name David everywhere, and kids all over the place called David.

Yes, one of the greatest names on earth.

From verse 9 through the rest of the covenant there are five promises.

Those five promises are really great.

Let us look at them.

How many times do we have to learn that what God has done already only guarantees that He is going to do more in the future than He did in the past.

That is the way God is.

God is always on the giving end and He always outdoes us.

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.

The second promise 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.’”

The land is an eternal possession according to Genesis 17:7-8.

Genesis 17:7-8

“I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you. ⁸ The whole land of Canaan, where you are now an alien, I will give as an everlasting possession to you and your descendants after you; and I will be their God.”

So he is going to provide a place for them.

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.

v. 11 and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel. I AM GOING TO GIVE YOU REST

FROM ALL YOUR ENEMIES. The Lord declares to you that the Lord himself will establish a house for you.”

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

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

The end of verse 11 gives us the 5th promise:

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

(instead of you building one for him)

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.

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. My “No” at this time is in view of a better time and a better plan.

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 one [Solomon] who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

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.

What I would like to do for about 2 seconds is to show you that just because of those promises in the covenant, there are five prophetic realizations that have to come about.

1. Israel has to be preserved as a nation.
They are there in the land and they

- have to be to fulfill this.
2. They have to be brought back to their land in mass. They are on the way back.
 3. David's son Jesus the Messiah has to sit on the throne in the city of Jerusalem to fulfill these promises of the kingdom.
 4. A literal earthly kingdom has to be set up to fulfill this. Because it hasn't been done yet.
 5. The kingdom will be an eternal kingdom, it will never end.

Just to fulfill these promises, all that has to happen is for the return of Jesus.

v. 16 Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.”

Wow! What a promise! What a plan!

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?”

David goes to the tent and he sits before the Lord. This is one of the most magnificent, beautiful prayers in all of the Word of God.

He has just received a “No.”

He has just had a wrench thrown into his plans. Watch how a man after God's own heart handles a turn down.

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

He says “O Sovereign Lord” 7 times here in this prayer. He is still humble.

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

GRATTITUDE INSTEAD OF GRUMBLING, and PRAISE INSTEAD OF POUTING.

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

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?

“This is unreal,” David says. “I can’t believe it!”

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.

There are three questions here:

Question #1: I am so overwhelmed, 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.

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.

How you respond to God’s “No” is really important. You can sulk or see God bless David so much.

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.

David, recognizes that it is more important for God’s word and God’s will to prevail rather than David’s way.

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 promised.**”

**Remember Your promise Lord!
This is so great!
Do it!**

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.

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.

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.

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.”

Chapter 8 is a statement of a seven victories that David has over his enemies, plus an introduction to the administration.

Chapter 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.

1. The Philistines

God said that they would be driven out of the land, and they have been.

What is “Metheg Ammah”? That word in the Hebrew means the “bride of the metropolis,” it is the mother city.

What is the mother city of the Philistines?

Well it is the home of Goliath. It is Gath.

Twenty-five miles straight southwest from the city of Jerusalem is the city of Gath.

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 also the home of his great-grand-mother Ruth.

She was a resident of Moab

before coming with Naomi to Bethlehem.

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 hamstringed all but a hundred of the chariot horses.

He hacked their Achilles tendon, that means you have no power to step off.

This meant that these horses could be used as farm animals but they could no longer

be used to pull the chariots and be used in war.

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.

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.

Notice in verse 6 we read:

“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.

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

Sixty-seven miles north in these two twin towns, he develops a mining operation to get the metals that he needs to forge the weapons of war.

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:

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

Verse 12 gives you the last three victories:

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. The 5th victory for David was recorded over the Edomites. Edom is located about 40 miles southeast of Jerusalem.

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. This region is located about 30 miles southwest of the city of Jerusalem.

He whipped them all.

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

Now he is really famous!

Eighteen thousand Edomites.

Ticker tape parade.

TV talk shows.

Media coverage.

David is a household name.

He has become famous because of what he has done.

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

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.

Now just a little look at the persons in his administration.

v. 16 Joab son of Zeruiah was over the army; Jehoshaphat son of Ahilud was recorder.

Joab his nephew is now the commander over the military forces.

Jehoshaphat son of Ahilud was recorder.

This means he is the historian.

He records the events as they occurred of the kingdom. He kept the records.

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

Now we turn to the religious part of the administration.

We have Zadok and Ahimelech as the priests.

Seraiah was secretary. You have to have somebody record the minutes and answer the phone and take care of all the correspondence.”

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

The Kerethites were the executioners.
Jehoiada was over the guys who administered capital punishment, executioners in the kingdom.

The Pelethites were the ultra-marathoners.
They were the couriers.
They carried the messages throughout the kingdom, from the king to the place,
since they did not have a post office
or a pony express.

David's sons were the royal advisors.
His cabinet, he keeps it in the family.

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.

Nathan is speaking off the cuff here and he is wrong.

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.

Lessons Learned In The Life of David

PART II

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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:

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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 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 promised these good things 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."

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 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.

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 wherever he went.

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.

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 wherever he went.

v.15 David reigned over all 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.

QUESTIONS:

- 1. Read 2 Samuel 7:1-8:18 several times and in your own words outline what is happening in the life of David.**
- 2. How does David compare his residence with the residence of the ark of God in verse 2?**
- 3. What is the prophet's response to David in verse 3?**

4. What does the Lord promise to David in verses 11-16?
5. How does David respond to the Lord in his prayer in verses 18-29?
6. What is David's request in verse 29?
7. Outline David's battles and victories in chapter 8.
8. What does David do with the spoils of war according to verse 11?
9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?
10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

Lessons Learned In The Life Of David:

STUDY NUMBER TWELVE - 2 Samuel 7:1-8:18

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.