

## The Bible From 20,000 Feet Part 37 2 Samuel ch. 7 – 11, 1 Chronicles ch. 17 – 21:15

Tuesday Night Bible Study, October 13, 2009

### --OUTLINE:

- I. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DAVIDIC COVENANT
- II. SATAN'S ATTEMPT TO ABORT THE DAVIDIC COVENANT THROUGH DAVID'S SINS

### I. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DAVIDIC COVENANT

--after the royal palace was built in Jerusalem (the new capital of Israel) and the Ark of the Covenant was reunited with the Tabernacle (symbolizing that Israel was once again aligned with the will of their heavenly king) David decided to build a permanent building for the Ark of the Covenant...

--2 Samuel 7:1-2: "Now it came to pass when the king was dwelling in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies all around, 2 that the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells inside tent curtains."

--God had different plans though and told David not to build a permanent house for the Ark of the Covenant...

--1 Chronicles 17:4-10: "**You shall not build Me a house to dwell in. ... I tell you that the LORD will build you a house...**"

--2 Samuel 7:4-16: "But it happened that night [after David decided to build a permanent house for the Ark of the Covenant] that the word of the LORD came to Nathan, saying, 5 "Go and tell My servant David, 'Thus says the LORD:"Would you build a house for Me to dwell in? 6 For I have not dwelt in a house since the time that I brought the children of Israel up from Egypt, even to this day, but have moved about in a tent and in a tabernacle. 7 Wherever I have moved about with all the children of Israel, have I ever spoken a word to anyone from the tribes of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd My people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built Me a house of cedar? ... the LORD tells you that He will make you a house. [figuratively speaking] 12 When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 14 I will be his Father, and he shall be My son. If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the blows of the sons of men. 15 But My mercy shall not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I removed from before you. 16 And **your house [David's descendants] and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever.**"

--God made an unconditional covenant with David that his throne would be established forever...

--as God stated in 2 Samuel 7:14, at times He would chasten David's descendants because of their sin, but He would preserve them.

--in the centuries that followed, the kingdom of Israel was split in two, and the kings in the northern kingdom were established through murder and corruption with 7 different dynasties; but there was only 1 dynasty in the southern kingdom of Judah, the dynasty of King David.

--southern kingdom: 370 years, 20 kings, 1 dynasty

--northern kingdom: 250 years, 19 kings, 7 dynasties

--and after the southern kingdom of Judah was finally overrun by the Babylonians because of their sin, God still preserved the line of David so that one day He could raise up the Messiah from David's descendants to sit on David's throne forever!

--the angel Gabriel summarized for Mary how her Child would fulfill the Davidic covenant... Luke 1:29-33: "But when she saw him [*the angel Gabriel*], she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. 30 Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and

bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. 32 He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and **the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David.** 33 **And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."**

--Revelation 5:1-14 gives us an inspiring glimpse of Jesus in heaven setting in motion the final judgments on earth during the great tribulation which will pave the way for Him to begin His reign on earth on the throne of David which will rescue the earth from Satan's illegitimate reign.

## II. SATAN'S ATTEMPT TO ABORT THE DAVIDIC COVENANT THROUGH DAVID'S SINS

--2 Samuel chs. 8 - 10 summarize David's military victories and just rule as the King of Israel...

--2 Samuel 8:15: "So David reigned over all Israel; and David administered judgment and justice to all his people."

--under David's leadership Israel as a nation was aligned with the will of their heavenly King and as a result Israel was an unstoppable military power as they were in the days of Joshua.

--victory after victory in all directions are listed and twice it is stated "and the Lord preserved David wherever he went." (8:6, 8:14)

--then in 2 Samuel ch. 11 David strays off the straight and narrow...

--2 Samuel 11:1-3: "It happened in the spring of the year, at the time when kings go out to battle, that David sent Joab and his servants with him, and all Israel; and they destroyed the people of Ammon and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem. 2 Then it happened one evening that David arose from his bed and walked on the roof of the king's house. And from the roof he saw a woman bathing, and the woman was very beautiful to behold."

--this incident probably occurred in the springtime after the rain season when most military conflicts occurred. The statement that it was the time when "kings go out to battle" may be an indictment upon David for staying behind in Israel.

--David goes on to have an illicit affair with Bathsheba, then she gets pregnant, and then David has Joab send her husband to the front lines of the battlefield in hopes that he'll get killed there so that he could legally take Bathsheba to be his wife.

**--David's sinful behavior in 2 Samuel ch. 11 is a startling contrast to his rule of "justice" in ch. 8 and provides a vivid illustration of how we are always only 1 step away from walking in our flesh...**

--it may seem like stating the obvious, but we are spiritual beings living in a physical world; and because of the fall and the disease of sin that we are all infected with, it is easy to have momentary lapses where we forget about (or lose sight of) the spiritual dimension.

--"By faith we understand that the world's were framed by the word of God so that the things which are seen were not made out of things which are visible." (Hebrews 11:3)

--that is why Jesus said, "Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." (Mark 14:38)

**--we need to be in prayer and God's Word on a regular basis to keep our spiritual senses sharp!**

--when David saw Bathsheba, if he would have opened his spiritual eyes (which he used many times in the past) then he would have seen a demonic trap rather than something that was alluring to his flesh!

--it was no coincidence that David's sin with Bathsheba occurred after God's covenant with him in 2 Samuel ch. 7... There is no doubt that Satan was personally orchestrating demonic activity to try and stop God's plan from being fulfilled through David, but Satan's attempts were vain because God's covenant with David was unconditional!

--while David's army was fighting on the physical battlefield David was being defeated on the spiritual battlefield – which is where much of the outcome on the physical battlefield is decided!

--the account of David's sin with Bathsheeba in 2 Samuel doesn't speak of Satan being involved, but it can be inferred as we see him involved in the 1 Chronicles account of David's sin of calling for a census in Israel... "Now Satan stood up against Israel, and moved David to number Israel." (1 Chronicles 21:1)

**--and just like Satan tried to abort God's plan for David's life through sin so he tries to abort God's plan for our lives through sin! (John 10:10)**

--another way to look at temptations in our lives is that they can be boiled down to the choice between walking in the Spirit and being the hands and feet of Jesus in the world or walking in the flesh and being the hands and feet of Satan in the world carrying out his will!

--sin can abort God's plan for our lives on this earth, but sin cannot abort His plans for our lives in eternity because those plans are unconditional, just like the Davidic covenant is unconditional! (refer to parts 34 and 35 in this series for further info on why we can't lose our salvation)

--1 Peter 5:8: "Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of suffering."

--Galatians 5:16: "Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh."

--Joseph is a great example of someone who was confronted with a similar temptation as David but saw the situation through spiritual eyes!

--Genesis 39:6-12: "Now Joseph was well-built and handsome, 7 and after a while his master's wife took notice of Joseph and said, "Come to bed with me!" ... 10 And though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her **or even be with her.** 11 One day he went into the house to attend to his duties, and none of the household servants was inside. 12 She caught him by his cloak and said, "Come to bed with me!" But he left his cloak in her hand and **ran out of the house** .

--Joseph also exemplified what it means to "flee temptation" rather than getting as close as possible without falling! He would not "even be with her" and he "ran out of the house."

--"Flee from sexual immorality." (1 Corinthians 6:18)

--at times the lure of the flesh can be so overpowering that the only way to avoid getting caught in the temptation is by not going near the temptation.

--in the words of Hebrews 12:12-13: "Strengthen your feeble and weak knees. Make level paths for your feet,' so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed."

**--David's sins didn't abort the Davidic Covenant but they had devastating consequences for Israel...**

--because of David's sin with Bathsheeba, God told David through the prophet Nathan, "the sword shall never depart from your house." (2 Samuel 12:10)

--God would preserve David's house (his descendants) because of His unconditional covenant with David, but David's sins resulted in a rocky road rather than a smooth road ahead for his descendants.

--and so it is in our lives, our ticket to heaven through Christ cannot be lost, but sin in our lives can cause the road to heaven through this life to be rocky and difficult (there is another

level of difficulty on the road to heaven that results from spiritual warfare, but that is another subject).

--because of David's sin of pride which led to him calling for a census, "the Lord sent a plague upon Israel, and seventy thousand men of Israel fell." (1 Chronicles 21:14)

--taking a census of Israel wasn't so much a problem as was the prideful attitude in David's heart that led to the census.

--in calling for a census David was focusing on military might rather than God being their strength.

--Jeremiah 9:23-24: "This is what the LORD says: 'Let not the wise man boast of his wisdom or the strong man boast of his strength or the rich man boast of his riches, 24 but let him who boasts boast about this: that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight,' declares the LORD."

**--what appears as a harsh judgment was really an act of mercy and preservation, the "chastening" that God promised in the Davidic covenant...**

--2 Samuel 7:14: "If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him..."

--God's chastening eliminated the pride in David's heart, which, if left unchecked, would have led to even more disastrous consequences! If Israel began to depend on their own strength rather than God's for military victory then they would have quickly become defeated!

--Even though Israel would eventually become completely overrun by their enemies, they had enough years of prosperity under David and Solomon to lay the groundwork, such as the temple in Jerusalem, that was necessary to prepare the way for the ministry of Christ.

**--after David fell into sin he was quick to recognize his sin and repent, and this is what set him apart from so many others...**

--after the census David said, "I have sinned greatly, because I have done this thing; but now, I pray, take away the iniquity of Your servant, for I have done very foolishly." (1 Chronicles 21:8)

--after Nathan pronounced the judgment for David's sin with Bathsheba, David told Nathan, "I have sinned against the Lord." (2 Samuel 12:13)

**--we all sin, but the key question is whether or not we will be like David and be quick to recognize sinful ways in our lives and turn from them rather than letting them drag on.**