

## The Davidic Covenant (c. 995 BC)

## 2 Samuel 7

**God's Promise to David**

1 It happened that the king settled in his house.  
(Now Yahweh had given rest to him from all his enemies all around.)

2 And the king said to Nathan the prophet,  
“Look, please, I *am* living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God *is* staying in the middle of the tent.”

3 Nathan said to the king, “Go and do all that *is* in your heart, for Yahweh *is* with you.”

4 But it happened that night, the word of Yahweh came to Nathan, saying,

5 “Go and tell my servant David, ‘Thus says Yahweh:  
“Are you the one to build for me a house for my dwelling?  
6 For I have not dwelt in a house from the day I brought up the Israelites from Egypt until this day; *rather*, I *was* going about in a tent and in a tabernacle.  
7 In all of my going about among all the Israelites, did I speak a word with one of the tribes of Israel whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, ‘Why did you not build me a cedar house?’”

8 So then, thus you shall say to my servant David, ‘Thus says Yahweh of hosts, “I took you from the pasture from following the sheep to be a leader over my people, over Israel,  
9 and I have been with you everywhere you went. I have cut off all of your enemies from in front of you, and I will make a great name for you, as the name of the great *ones* who *are* on the earth.  
10 I will make a place for my people Israel, and I will plant them so that they can dwell in their own place.  
They will not tremble *any* longer, and the children of wickedness will not afflict them again, as in the former days.  
11 In the manner that I appointed judges over my people Israel, I will give you rest from all your enemies. And Yahweh declares to you that Yahweh will build a house for you.  
12 When your days *are* full  
and you lie down with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you who will go out from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.  
13 He will build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.  
14 I will be a father to him, and he will be a son for me, [[Heb 1:5](#)] whom I will punish when he does wrong, with a rod of men and with blows of the human beings.  
15 But my loyal love shall not depart from him as I took *it* from Saul, whom I removed from before you.  
16 Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever before you; your throne shall be established forever.” ’”

17 According to all these words and according to all this vision, this Nathan spoke to David.

**David's Response to God**

18 Then King David went and sat before Yahweh and said,  
“Who *am* I, my lord Yahweh, and what *is* my house that you have brought me up to this place?  
19 Still, this *was* insignificant in your eyes, my lord Yahweh, and also you have spoken about the house of your servant

## 1 Chronicles 17

1 And as David lived in his house,

David said to Nathan the prophet,  
“Look, I live in a house of cedar, but the ark of the covenant of Yahweh *is* under tent curtains.”

2 And Nathan said to David, “Whatever *is* in your heart, do, for God *is* with you.”

3 And it happened that same night the word of God came to Nathan, saying,

4 “Go and say to David my servant, ‘Thus says Yahweh,  
“You *are* not to build a house for me to live *in*,  
5 for I have not lived in a house from the day that I brought out Israel unto this day. I have been from tent to tent and from tabernacle *to* tabernacle.  
6 In every *place* I have moved about, did I say one word *with* the judges of Israel I commanded to shepherd my people, saying, ‘Why have you not built for me a house of cedar?’”

7 So now, thus you shall say to my servant David, ‘Thus says Yahweh of hosts, “I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader over my people Israel,  
8 and I have been with you wherever you went and have cut down your enemies from before you and will make a name for you, like the name of the great ones on the earth.  
9 And I will appoint a place for my people Israel, and I will plant them, and they shall dwell in their place  
and be in anguish no longer. And wicked men will no longer wear them down as before,  
10 from the day that I commanded judges over my people Israel. And I will subdue your enemies, and I declare to you *that* Yahweh will build for you a house.  
11 And it shall be that when your days are fulfilled to go *and* sleep with your ancestors, then I will raise up your seed after you, who will be one of your sons, and I will establish his kingdom.  
12 He himself will build for me a house, and I will establish his throne forever.  
13 I myself will be a father to him, and he himself will be a son to me.

And I will not remove my steadfast love from him as I took it away from whoever was before you.

14 And I will establish him in my house and in my kingdom forever, and his throne will be established forever.” ’”

15 According to all these words and according to all this revelation, thus did Nathan speak to David.

16 Then King David went and sat before Yahweh and said,  
“Who *am* I, O Yahweh God, and what *is* my house that you have brought me thus far?  
17 And this was a small *matter* in your eyes, O God.  
And you have spoken concerning the house of your servant

<p>from afar, and this <i>may be</i> the teaching of humans, my lord Yahweh.</p> <p>20 What more can David say to you? You know your servant, my lord Yahweh.</p> <p>21 Because of your word and according to your heart, you have done all of this great thing, <i>in order</i> to let your servant know.</p> <p>22 Therefore you <i>are</i> great, my lord Yahweh, for there is no one like you, and there <i>is</i> no god except you, in all that we have heard with our ears.</p> <p>23 Who <i>is</i> like your people, like Israel? <i>Israel is</i> the one nation on earth whose God led them, <i>in order</i> to redeem a people for himself, and to make a name for himself, and to do for you the great and awesome things for your land in the presence of your people whom he redeemed for himself from Egypt, <i>from the</i> nations and their gods.</p> <p>24 You have established your people Israel for yourself as a people forever, and you, O Yahweh, have become their God.</p> <p>25 So then, Yahweh God, the word that you have spoken concerning your servant and concerning his house, confirm it forever, and do just as you have promised.</p> <p>26 Your name shall be great forever, and they will say, ‘Yahweh of hosts <i>is</i> God over Israel’; and the house of your servant David shall be established before you.</p> <p>27 For you, O Yahweh of hosts, <i>are</i> God of Israel! You have revealed to the ear of your servant, ‘I will build a house for you’; therefore your servant has found courage to pray this prayer to you.</p> <p>28 Now, my Lord Yahweh, you alone <i>are</i> God, and your words <i>are</i> true. You have promised this good to your servant.</p> <p>29 So then, be content and bless the house of your servant to be forever in your presence, for you, my Lord Yahweh, have spoken, and because of your blessing, may the house of your servant be blessed forever.”</p>	<p>for a long <i>time</i> and have shown me future generations to come, O Yahweh God.</p> <p>18 What more can David <i>do</i> to you for honoring your servant? Now you know your servant.</p> <p>19 O Yahweh, for the sake of your servant and according to your heart you have done all this greatness, to make known all <i>these</i> great things.</p> <p>20 O Yahweh, there is none like you, and there is no God except you, according to all that we have heard with our ears.</p> <p>21 And who <i>is</i> like your people Israel, <i>the</i> one nation upon earth whom God went to redeem for himself, to establish for you a reputation for great and awesome things, to drive out nations from before your people whom you redeemed from Egypt?</p> <p>22 And you made your people Israel an everlasting nation for yourself. And you, O Yahweh, became their God.</p> <p>23 So now, O Yahweh, let the word that you spoke to your servant and to his house be established forever, that you might do what you have spoken.</p> <p>24 And let your name be established and be magnified forever, saying, ‘Yahweh of hosts, the God of Israel, is Israel’s God, and may the house of David your servant be established before you.’</p> <p>25 For you, my God, have informed your servant <i>that</i> you will build a house for him. Therefore, your servant has found <i>courage</i> to pray before you.</p> <p>26 So now, O Yahweh, you yourself <i>are</i> God, and you have spoken to your servant this good thing.</p> <p>27 And now may you begin to bless the house of your servant to continue forever before you, for you, O Yahweh, have blessed.</p> <p>And it will be blessed forever.”</p>
---	---

### The Birth of Solomon (c. 994 BC)

2 Samuel 12:24b–25

24b and he went to her and slept with her. She bore a son, and he called him Solomon, and Yahweh loved him.

25 He sent *word* by the hand of Nathan the prophet, so he called him Jedidiah because of Yahweh.

### David’s Sons Born at Jerusalem (c. 1003 – c. 990 BC)

2 Samuel 5:13–16

13 David took more concubines and wives from Jerusalem after he came from Hebron, and more sons and daughters *were* born to him.

14 These *are* the names of the ones born to him in Jerusalem:

Shammua  
and Shobab  
and Nathan  
and Solomon;

15 Ibhar  
and Elishua

1 Chronicles 14:3–7

3 And David took more wives in Jerusalem, and David fathered more sons and daughters.

4 Now these *are* the names of the children who were *born* to him in Jerusalem:

Shammua,  
Shobab,  
Nathan,  
Solomon,  
5 Ibhar,  
Elishua,  
Elpelet,

and Nepheg and Japhia; 16 Elishama and Eliada and Eliphelet.	6 Nogah, Nepheg, Japhia, 7 Elishama, Beeliada, and Eliphelet.
--	--

Scripture quotations are from the [Lexham English Bible \(LEB\)](#). Copyright 2012 [Logos Bible Software](#). Lexham is a registered trademark of [Logos Bible Software](#).

### **Chronological Notes**

- 1) I placed 2 Samuel 7 here in the reading plan due to the comment in 7:1 that God had given David “relief from all his enemies on all sides” (NET). This indicates that more than the Philistines are in view, since the Amalekites, Edomites, Moabites, Ammonites and Arameans were all enemies of Israel.
- 2) I placed the birth of Solomon after the Davidic Covenant of 2 Samuel 7 for two reasons: a) it seems doubtful that the siege of Rabbah lasted for almost another full year after the death of David and Bathsheba’s first son (cf. 12:26), and b) the tenor of the message from Nathan suggests that the son who would build God’s house after David was not yet born (cf. David’s charge to Solomon in 1 Chr 22:9).