

## The Davidic Covenant (c. 995 BC)

### 2 Samuel 7

#### **God's Promise to David**

1 Now it came about when the king lived in his house, and the LORD had given him rest on every side from all his enemies,  
 2 that the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells within tent curtains."  
 3 Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your mind, for the LORD is with you."  
 4 But in the same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, saying,  
 5 "Go and say to My servant David, 'Thus says the LORD, "Are you the one who should build Me a house to dwell in?"  
 6 For I have not dwelt in a house since the day I brought up the sons of Israel from Egypt, even to this day; but I have been moving about in a tent, even in a tabernacle.  
 7 Wherever I have gone with all the sons of Israel, did I speak a word with one of the tribes of Israel, which I commanded to shepherd My people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built Me a house of cedar?"'  
 8 Now therefore, thus you shall say to My servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, "I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be ruler over My people Israel.  
 9 I have been with you wherever you have gone and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make you a great name, like the names of the great men who are on the earth.  
 10 I will also appoint a place for My people Israel and will plant them, that they may live in their own place and not be disturbed again, nor will the wicked afflict them any more as formerly,  
 11 even from the day that I commanded judges to be over My people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. The LORD also declares to you that the LORD will make a house for you.  
 12 When your days are complete and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your descendant after you, who will come forth from you, 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 a father to him and he will be a son to Me; [\[Heb 1:5\]](#) when he commits iniquity, I will correct him with the rod of men and the strokes of the sons of men,  
 15 but My lovingkindness shall not depart from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you.  
 16 Your house and your kingdom shall endure before Me forever; your throne shall be established forever.'"  
 17 In accordance with all these words and all this vision, so Nathan spoke to David.

#### **David's Response to God**

18 Then David the king went in and sat before the LORD, and he said, "Who am I, O Lord GOD, and what is my house, that You have brought me this far?  
 19 And yet this was insignificant in Your eyes, O Lord GOD, for You have spoken also of the house of Your servant concerning the distant future. And this is the custom of man, O Lord GOD.

### 1 Chronicles 17

1 And it came about, when David dwelt in his house,  
 that David said to Nathan the prophet, "Behold, I am dwelling in a house of cedar, but the ark of the covenant of the LORD is under curtains."  
 2 Then Nathan said to David, "Do all that is in your heart, for God is with you."  
 3 It came about the same night that the word of God came to Nathan, saying,  
 4 "Go and tell David My servant, 'Thus says the LORD, "You shall not build a house for Me to dwell in;  
 5 for I have not dwelt in a house since the day that I brought up Israel to this day, but I have gone from tent to tent and from *one* dwelling place to *another*.  
 6 In all places where I have walked with all Israel, have I spoken a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd My people, saying, "Why have you not built for Me a house of cedar?"'  
 7 Now, therefore, thus shall you say to My servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, "I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader over My people Israel.  
 8 I have been with you wherever you have gone, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make you a name like the name of the great ones who are in the earth.  
 9 I will appoint a place for My people Israel, and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and not be moved again; and the wicked will not waste them anymore as formerly,  
 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.  
 11 When your days are fulfilled that you must go to be with your fathers, that I will set up *one of* your descendants after you, who will be of your sons; and I will establish his kingdom.  
 12 He shall build for Me a house, and I will establish his throne forever.  
 13 I will be his father and he shall be My son;  
 and I will not take My lovingkindness away from him, as I took it from him who was before you.  
 14 But I will settle him in My house and in My kingdom forever, and his throne shall be established forever.'"  
 15 According to all these words and according to all this vision, so Nathan spoke to David.  
 16 Then David the king went in and sat before the LORD and said, "Who am I, O LORD God, and what is my house that You have brought me this far?  
 17 This was a small thing in Your eyes, O God; but You have spoken of Your servant's house for a great while to come, and have regarded me according to the standard of a man of high degree, O LORD God.

<p>20 Again what more can David say to You? For You know Your servant, O Lord GOD!</p> <p>21 For the sake of Your word, and according to Your own heart, You have done all this greatness to let Your servant know.</p> <p>22 For this reason You are great, O Lord GOD; for there is none like You, and there is no God besides You, according to all that we have heard with our ears.</p> <p>23 And what one nation on the earth is like Your people Israel, whom God went to redeem for Himself as a people and to make a name for Himself, and to do a great thing for You and awesome things for Your land, before Your people whom You have redeemed for Yourself from Egypt, <i>from</i> nations and their gods?</p> <p>24 For You have established for Yourself Your people Israel as Your own people forever, and You, O LORD, have become their God.</p> <p>25 Now therefore, O LORD God, the word that You have spoken concerning Your servant and his house, confirm <i>it</i> forever, and do as You have spoken,</p> <p>26 that Your name may be magnified forever, by saying, 'The LORD of hosts is God over Israel'; and may the house of Your servant David be established before You.</p> <p>27 For You, O LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, have made a revelation to Your servant, saying, 'I will build you a house'; therefore Your servant has found courage to pray this prayer to You.</p> <p>28 Now, O Lord GOD, You are God, and Your words are truth, and You have promised this good thing to Your servant.</p> <p>29 Now therefore, may it please You to bless the house of Your servant, that it may continue forever before You. For You, O Lord GOD, have spoken; and with Your blessing may the house of Your servant be blessed forever."</p>	<p>18 What more can David still <i>say</i> to You concerning the honor <i>bestowed</i> on Your servant? For You know Your servant.</p> <p>19 O LORD, for Your servant's sake, and according to Your own heart, You have wrought all this greatness, to make known all these great things.</p> <p>20 O LORD, there is none like You, nor is there any God besides You, according to all that we have heard with our ears.</p> <p>21 And what one nation in the earth is like Your people Israel, whom God went to redeem for Himself <i>as</i> a people, to make You a name by great and terrible things, in driving out nations from before Your people, whom You redeemed out of Egypt?</p> <p>22 For Your people Israel You made Your own people forever, and You, O LORD, became their God.</p> <p>23 Now, O LORD, let the word that You have spoken concerning Your servant and concerning his house be established forever, and do as You have spoken.</p> <p>24 Let Your name be established and magnified forever, saying, 'The LORD of hosts is the God of Israel, <i>even</i> a God to Israel; and the house of David Your servant is established before You.'</p> <p>25 For You, O my God, have revealed to Your servant that You will build for him a house; therefore Your servant has found <i>courage</i> to pray before You.</p> <p>26 Now, O LORD, You are God, and have promised this good thing to Your servant.</p> <p>27 And now it has pleased You to bless the house of Your servant, that it may continue forever before You; for You, O LORD, have blessed, and it is blessed forever."</p>
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### The Birth of Solomon (c. 994 BC)

2 Samuel 12:24b–25

24b and went in to her and lay with her; and she gave birth to a son, and he named him Solomon. Now the LORD loved him  
25 and sent *word* through Nathan the prophet, and he named him Jedidiah for the LORD's sake.

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

2 Samuel 5:13–16

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

14 Now these are the names of those who were born to him in Jerusalem: Shammua, Shobab, Nathan, Solomon,

15 Ibhar, Elishua,

Nepheg, Japhia,

16 Elishama, Eliada and Eliphelet.

1 Chronicles 14:3–7

3 Then David took more wives at Jerusalem, and David became the father of more sons and daughters.

4 These are the names of the children born *to him* in Jerusalem: Shammua, Shobab, Nathan, Solomon,

5 Ibhar, Elishua,

Elpelet,

6 Nogah,

Nepheg, Japhia,

7 Elishama, Beeliada and Eliphelet.

**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).