

"God's Promises"

2 Samuel 7

Introduction: The narrative of 1-2 Samuel stops here and authors characterize these verses as the theological high point of the entire Old Testament.

We have the basic structure of what God did to restore what was destroyed in the Garden of Eden. But how would he do it and that answer is found in 2 Samuel 7 in a promise that God made to David the king in Jerusalem, a promise that would be fulfilled in the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The Setting for God's Promise: 2 Samuel 7:1-11a - The setting is described in three phrases; "*The king living in his house*", "*the Lord had given rest from all his surrounding enemies*" and "*I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent*". How did God see the situation?

God's Promise: 2 Samuel 7:11b-17

Summary: The overall message of the Bible is wrapped up in this story; God has made a promise, do I believe him and rest on that promise? This is the essence of salvation; believing that God's promise will come to pass.

David's Response to God's Promise: 2 Samuel 7:18-29 - David responds with humility and thanksgiving for God's promise to build David a house (2 Samuel 7:27).

Conclusion: From the previous chapter we see David, the humble servant of the Lord and here God calls him his 'servant' because we all serve the Lord first and our human roles are in second place.

When I put the things of God first, when I prioritize the plans and purposes of God, God takes care of me in ways that I cannot imagine—he blesses me by making his name great in me and through me—this is the way of the Lord.

I can see three results of this promise. First, the immediate result was the efforts of Solomon and the the first Temple in Jerusalem. (1 Kings 8) Second, the house of God in Jesus Christ, the literal presence of God with his people, Immanuel (Matthew 1:23). Third, the New Testament Church scattered across the globe (Matthew 16:18-19) and in obedience to the commands of Jesus going and making disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:19-20).

The Hebrew word translated "house" occurs 15 times in this chapter and has either a literal meaning or a metaphorical meaning. God does not need a physical house; what God desires is full access to the house we call our heart and our heart is called to fully submit to God, his ways and his desires. This is building a house for God in the most important way possible.