

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel

## The House of David



My wife and I like to tell people the places we have been, especially if it is somewhere they have never been before. We are waiting for that opening to tell them about the highlights. Once you have been there, you want others to know how neat it is, and hopefully, one day they will get to go there too. But sometimes when my wife and I are just talking among ourselves, we talk about where we haven't been. Normally, we don't talk about individual places, like states; we talk about regions. Just the other day we talked about the fact that we have never been to the North West. She has always told me that if we ever go to Montana, she is not coming back to Kentucky, so I am not going to the North-West...We have talked about going to the North-East, especially Maine, because we have never been there. Now when we talk about going to the South, we always talk about a state. That is Florida!

We are still traveling on Route 66. Let me tell you where we have been on this journey. We studied a specific region of the Bible called the Pentateuch, and that is where it all started. God created man and put man on the planet. Man chose to live his own way, and we blew it. But there was a promise of a seed, who would one day crush the head of the serpent, and we have been looking for that seed. Pretty soon, we discovered that the seed would not just be the seed of woman, but specifically the seed of Abraham. Through him, all the nations of the earth would be blessed. Then, God narrowed it down to Abraham's son, Isaac,

then to his son, Jacob. But Jacob had twelve kids, and so before he died, God revealed that the seed would come through the son called Judah. Through Abraham and these descendants, God multiplied them into a nation that ended up in Egypt. There, He raised up a man named Moses to take them out of Egypt into the Promised Land. The Pentateuch ended with the children on this side of the Promised Land. We left the Pentateuch and started into what we call the land of historical books. We are in the historical book of 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel, which is the fifth historical book. At the writing of 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel, Israel has been a nation for over 300 years, living in the Promised Land.

In the previous historical books, Joshua took them into the Promised Land, then the judges started to rule, and it did not go well. God said everyone was doing what is right in their own eyes, but it was really wrong in His eyes. When Judges concluded, we discovered the problem was they didn't have a king. So as we continued to travel through the historical books, we began to look for a king. Israel finally chose their own king because they wanted to be like the nations, but they chose from the wrong tribe. They chose the wrong man and he blew it, so God took the kingdom from him.

In our last stop of 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel, we saw David, a man after God's own heart, anointed king of Israel; but Saul was still reigning. We saw that graphic battle between David and Goliath. Many of us have always looked at that as a story where we could get victory over the personal giants in our life. But God opened our eyes and we realized that battle is not a battle about facing giants. It is a passage that talks about Christ and His ultimate victory over the giant in our life, Satan. Like Israel, we share in the victory because Jesus took on Satan and won, and now we can face all of those little giants in our lives. He won the war, so we can win the battle. Now, we are waiting for him to be king; Saul, hurry up and die! Saul dies at the end of 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel.

## **David Is Crowned**

Now we are in 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel. Now remember, we are not looking at all the particulars in this book. We are looking for the big story of how this book fits into the overall story of Scripture. The overall story of scripture is the story of redemption. The first six chapters tell us of the battles and appointments to the throne. Not everyone was in favor of David being king, even though he was God's choice. When Saul died, Abner set Saul's son, Ishbosheth, on the throne. The house of Judah crowns David king, Ishbosheth is king in Israel, and now there is war between the house of Saul and the house of David. Eventually, the house of David wins out and David is crowned king over all of Israel.

The first thing he does is to march on the ancient Jebusite city, Jerusalem. Now, remember our chronology of time. The exodus was in 1445 B.C. They go into the land in 1405 B.C., and it is now around 1000 B.C. They have been in the land nearly four hundred years, but they have not taken Jerusalem yet. So as a show of strength, as well as to show that the Lord is behind him, David decides to march on the Jebusites. The Jebusites have mocked Israel saying, hey, we are lame, we are blind, and you can't penetrate our walls. But the city falls, and Jerusalem, the city of David, the hill of Zion, is now the national capital of Israel.

## **David Brings the Ark to Jerusalem**

The king of Tyre sends his best carpenters and builds David a palace of cedar. That would be like a house of marble for us today. David gets so excited about his house and about Jerusalem being the capital city that he decides to bring the Ark of the Covenant there. He brings the tabernacle to Jerusalem and sets it up, and then he goes to get the Ark. They build a new cart to set it on, and I guess their road department had a few problems...They didn't have all their pot holes fixed, and boom, the cart hits a hole in the road! The ark starts to fall to the ground and Uzzah just touches it to keep it from tipping over. When he does, God strikes him dead; he didn't realize he was dirtier than the dirt. How many of us would have done the same thing? I mean, the ark of God that symbolizes the presence of God is getting ready to fall into the dirt! I don't know about

you, but that just doesn't seem right. David had forgotten how holy, holy, holy God is! He is now mad at God, so they leave the Ark. A man takes it off their hands and for the three months it was with him, his family was so blessed that word gets back to David. So now, David brings the Ark to Jerusalem. As he is bringing the ark into the city, he gets so excited that he loses his dignity. He strips himself down, begins to leap, and praise, and dance in public! His wife wasn't dancing and singing...you ladies never like it when we do certain things publicly. She despised him in her heart. The Bible notes in the next verse that she went to her death without a child. That is a pretty big consequence for despising your husband.

## **Scripture**

Our Scripture reading will be 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel 7:1-3:

***“Now when the king lived in his house and the Lord had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, the king said to Nathan the prophet, see now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent and Nathan said to the king, Go, do all that is in your heart, for the Lord is with you.”***

## **David Seeks to Build the Temple**

David is living in his house, a house of cedar. It is literally the best house money can buy. It is constructed by master craftsmen. He is not only living in his own house, but God has given him rest from all of his surrounding enemies. David has life made. Wouldn't you feel guilty if you were David? You are the king of Israel, but you are not the King of Israel. You have a palace, and God is living in a tent. It is kind of like when you are camping in that big RV and you see that family with a little tent. You know what I'm talking about; it is human nature. So David gets this great idea to build God a house like his house. He tells Nathan, the prophet, that is what he wants to do. Without thinking, Nathan says, go for it David; that is an awesome idea! I mean, if you delight yourself in the Lord, He gives you the desires of your heart, amen; he didn't question it. Nathan goes home, goes to bed, and God wakes him up and asks him what he told

David. Boy, it is tough when you are a leader from God and you say something that wasn't what God said, and then you have to go back and say I messed up. God said, go back, and tell him what I say: Did I ever ask you to build a house for Me?...(Well, no)...Have I ever ask anybody who has led Israel to build a house for Me ...(Well, no)...The reason is because I am going to live in this portable tent until I give Israel rest from her enemies. Now, David, I appreciate the thought that you want to build a house for Me, but I don't need you to build a house for Me, and I don't want you to build a house for Me. You are not going to build a house for Me; I am going to build a house for you. Now that is pretty cool! You go to God wanting to do something for Him and He says, no, you can't do that for Me, but I am going to do the same thing for you that you wanted to do for Me. Is that cool? David wants to build a house for God, but now, God is going to build David into a house.

## **God Refuses Because of David's Sin**

The way that 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel is written, I think it is clear that this book is about the house of David. But have you ever wondered why God wouldn't let David build His house? God would not let David build His house because he was sinful. Let that register...David could not build God's house because he was sinful. Now, let's look ahead at what happens when Solomon is going to build God's house, because sometimes children don't see their parents as they really are. In 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 5:3, Solomon is getting ready to ask the king of Tyre (who supplied the lumber for David's house) to help him build the Temple of the Lord. He said, my father wanted to build God's house, but he couldn't because he was a man of war, and he never put all of his enemies under his footstool. It looks like Solomon is thinking Dad was so busy fighting all of the Philistines, the Ammonites, the Mennonites, and the Amalekites that he never had time to completely rest and be free from his enemies, so he just didn't have time to build the house of God. So basically, Solomon is saying God wouldn't let David build the house because he just had too many other important things to do.

But let's look at what David said about it. I mean, besides God, who knows us better than we know ourselves? No one does. Our wives think they know us better than we know ourselves, but they don't. No one knows

another man better than he knows himself. In 1<sup>st</sup> Chronicles 28:3, David is dying and he is going to announce who will follow him as king. He tells the people of Jerusalem; God is not going to let me build the house because I am a man of war, and I have shed blood. I have always heard people say that because David was a man of war and wiped out the Philistines, and all of these other nations, he had such bloody hands that God would not let him build the temple. I don't believe that is true. As a matter of fact, I believe that if God tells a nation to wipe out another nation, (as God told the children of Israel) and they do it, then they don't have bloody hands. They are just to do what God tells them to do in that war. So David, being the king of Israel, had to fight wars. As a matter of fact, when most of the leaders of Israel got in trouble, it was because they didn't do it Gods' way and wipe out all the people. I know some of you struggle with the God of the Old Testament. He has not changed. He is still the same God; He always has been, and always will be. So what did it mean when David said I have shed blood? He meant I killed one man unjustly. I was a man of war. I was the king of Israel, and one day, during the spring time of year when kings go to battle, I stayed home. I was on my rooftop and I looked over to another rooftop and saw Bathsheba bathing. I asked the servants of her, and they told me plainly that she was the wife of Uriah. She was so beautiful and I had to have her. I sent messages to her, and I took her. I took another man's wife and I slept with her. She sent word to me that she was pregnant, so I recalled Uriah from the battlefield and let him go home as a reward for being a good soldier. She was so pretty that there was no way he would not sleep with her if he went home. If he slept with her, he would think the child was his; but he didn't go home. I got him drunk, but he still wouldn't go home. There was nothing left for me to do but to take his life, and so I took his life.

And then, in 1<sup>st</sup> Kings, chapter 15, it talks about the heart of David and how he wholly pursued the Lord, and always did what the Lord commanded, except in the matter of Uriah, the Hittite. I want you to see that the reason God would not let David build God's house was because he was sinful. Do you feel that oppression? Do you feel that bondage? Do you feel that disappointment?

That is what Samuel is trying to tell us. He wants to make sure that we don't pin our hopes on the wrong man. Though David was different from Saul, he was still just like Saul; he was sinful. And because he was sinful, he could not build God's house. But in 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel, God says, David, when your days are fulfilled, when you have done everything you are supposed to do, when your last day comes and you die, I will raise up one of your descendants and he will build a house for My name. You see, at the moment, David doesn't know why he can't build the house. David doesn't know what God knows, because Bathsheba hasn't happened yet.

Don't ever think that God doesn't know what you are going to do! Your actions will never take Him by surprise. His provision is based on His provision. Please don't forget that. He knows you, as He knew David.

## **David's Son Will Build the Temple**

But God tells David that there will come a day when I will build My house, but you won't be the one to build it. Your son will build it, and I will establish his throne and his kingdom forever. He will be like a son to me and I will be his Father. We will have a special relationship and I will guide him. I took My Spirit away from Saul, I removed my steadfast love, but I will never do that to your son. Then God said, David, your house, your throne, and your kingdom will be forever, but it is tied to your son.

Some of you may take issue with this, but I personally believe that sometimes when you read the Old Testament and see a prophecy, the one single prophecy speaks of two different things at the same time, in the one event. There is a near fulfillment that is usually at hand; something is going to happen in the life of the people that God is talking about at that moment. But then there is also a distant fulfillment that you don't see when you look at the event. You don't see that there is actually a near and a far, or future, fulfillment in the same event. Let me explain this. David wanted to build a physical house for God. He didn't want the presence of God to live in a tent; he wanted Him to have a permanent residence, a house of cedar. But God told David that he wouldn't be the one to build His house; his son, Solomon, would build it. God said, after you die, I will raise Solomon up to sit on the throne, and he will build My house. But

there is something else going on here and it is why we call this a Messianic prophecy. This passage doesn't talk about Solomon, only, as David's son. It talks about David's other Son, Jesus, and the house He is going to build.

## **Jesus, Son of David**

This leads to my second point of 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel. The first point was that David could not build God's house because he was sinful. And the second point is that David's Son, Jesus, built God's house because He is sinless. Did you hear that? God wasn't worried about the physical temple because He knew that would just be a shadow, a type, of the true temple that was coming one day. Solomon wouldn't be building that house. David's greater son, Jesus, would be building that house. Jesus was qualified to build what David couldn't because he was not like David, even while he was like David. While he operated in a body like David's, Jesus was sinless, not sinful.

I want you to watch this. The first verse of the New Testament opens with the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the son of Abraham. Now, recall in our last lesson how the story of David and Goliath ultimately talks about Jesus and His victory over Satan, so that Genesis 3:15 could truly be fulfilled; that the seed of the woman would crush the head of the seed of the serpent. We have been seeing that seed: Eve, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Judah, and now, the line of David. So when the New Testament opens up, it declares Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of David!

Have you ever thought about what it would have been like for Mary when Gabriel appeared to her? I mean, when you read the Bible, you need to remember this was real life happening, not just something we read about. Imagine being Mary and an angel appears to you saying, Mary, you are going to have a baby. And Mary says I can't be having a baby, because I have never known a man. But Gabriel says you are going to have a baby because of the work of God in you. And, when He is born, He is going to inherit the throne of His father, David, and His kingdom is going to be forever. Do you see this? Before Jesus was born, Gabriel announces to Mary that she will give birth to the Son of David and He is going to reign on David's throne forever! David ruled over a nation called Israel, and that is



just a shadow of the rule and reign of God. It was never to be confined to one nation only; it is to be confined to the entire world. But it will not be sinful David; it will be sinless David, which is Jesus Christ, who will truly reign over God's kingdom.

- **Fulfilling the Prophecies**

Mark tells us the first message Jesus ever preached; "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." It was the first thing he told the children of Israel; the kingdom of God is right here at your hand! But for the kingdom to be here, you have to have a king. Jesus is announcing, I am King Jesus, believe this good news! I am the fulfillment of the prophecy to David. Then the Pharisees struggled with Him, and they later ask Him to give signs about the kingdom. Jesus said quit looking for an earthly manifestation of the kingdom. It is in your midst; it is within you. What does this mean? It means the Kingdom of God was never to be an arbitrary dictatorship where God rules from without, but He would move within and take up residence in the hearts and lives of the people. From within, He would change their lives and thus give evidence that they are part of the Kingdom of God and that Jesus is reigning on the throne of their heart. Then Jesus tells his disciples before He goes back to Heaven; I am going to send another Comforter when I am gone. But so you know I am sitting at the right hand throne of God, don't you do anything until the Holy Spirit comes and empowers you to be My witnesses, then, you will know I am where I am.

Do you remember the day of Pentecost? On the day of Pentecost, Peter gets up and preaches and three thousand souls get saved. Wouldn't that have been cool? But before the three thousand gets saved, somebody asks what is going on. They say, we don't understand this, are you guys drunk? Peter says no, we are not drunk; we are just fulfilling what the prophet Joel talked about, that in the last days, God would pour out His Spirit upon all flesh. But in that sermon, he reminds the Jewish people that they had killed Jesus. But then he actually told them that this was part of God's plan, because God had made a promise to David. In Acts 2:30, the Bible is talking about David and calls him a prophet; it says, "Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him

that he would set one of his descendants on his throne.” Now, let me ask this question. When did God tell David that He would set one of his children on the throne? He said that in 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel, chapter 7.

Now right before this, Peter had just quoted Psalms 16 where David said when he died, his soul wouldn't be left in Hades, and his flesh would not see corruption. And Peter just says hold it, how David could say my flesh will not see corruption in the grave when his body has rotted over there in the tomb, so he couldn't have been talking about himself. David was talking about Jesus! What David prophesied about was what he remembered God had told him; one day one of your descendants is going to be set on your throne. And then Peter put together what David had put together; David was not talking about his body, but about the body of the Messiah. When the Messiah was crucified and put in the grave, He would not stay dead! He would come back alive and His flesh would not see corruption. He would rise again, and according to Peter, God set Him down on the throne of David. What is this saying? It is saying that Israel was looking for a king who was coming, and that king is Jesus! He has already come. He died on the cross, and rose victoriously again, and when He ascended back to Heaven, He sat down on the very throne of David! Be very careful about a belief that says the throne of David is still buried somewhere in Israel! I know some believe that we are going to find it one day, or that they have even already found it and we haven't been told. They believe it will be brought out, and one day, Jesus is going to sit on that literal throne in Jerusalem, and He will reign over His Kingdom for a thousand years when He comes back the second time. The Bible says He has already reigning over His Kingdom and we are in the spiritualized state of that Kingdom right at this very moment! And because He is the King, He is building God's house. He is not coming in the future to build God's house; He is building God's house right now!

Though Jesus was the Son of David, He wasn't like David, because David was sinful. There is no “except” in Jesus's life; that was said about King David. Imagine that being said about you; you always did what the Lord commanded you to do, “except,” and it mentions that one time. Most of

us would go for that, because most of us have an "except" that is bigger than that first statement, right?

In Acts 13, after Paul reminded Israel that David was a man after God's own heart and he served the purpose of God in his own generation, he said David was not the Messiah; but the Messiah would come from David, and He would be a Savior to Israel. You see, He didn't come to save Israel from the Philistines, or the Ammonites, or Edomites, or the Romans. While God had given David rest from all of his enemies around, David never had rest from the enemy within. That is why David couldn't build God's house. The Messiah had to be one who didn't have any enemy within, and that is Jesus, who was sinless. Do you understand that?

- **Suffering Temptation**

Hebrews 2:18 says that to be the perfect propitiation for our sins, Jesus had to have a body just like us, be tempted just like us, and suffer just like us; except He suffered in the beginning, not at the end. I'll explain this the best I can. Hebrews 4:15 is going to say, He was tempted, yet without sin. Which means when Jesus Christ was tempted, He didn't sin; He didn't give in. David was tempted and he gave in. Please hear me say this with all my heart. When Jesus was tempted, He suffered. Because He suffered, He went to a different level of temptation than you and I go. He went deeper, and He didn't give in, so He went deeper, and He didn't give in. It got tougher, and He didn't give in. It went deeper; He didn't give in, and He suffered. He knows what it is to suffer. As a matter of fact, the Bible will say that He learned obedience through suffering. The Bible says God chose to make Jesus suffer so that He could be the Captain of our salvation and perfect those who are being saved, so that the sanctified and the Sanctifier are one; the same family. Because He suffered in temptation, He never suffered the consequence of sin, because He never gave in. He never gave in.

David did not suffer in temptation. He saw a woman, he took her, he lay with her, he got her pregnant, and he killed her husband! He didn't suffer in temptation; he gave into temptation. Do you know when he suffered? He suffered after the temptation. He suffered the consequence of sin, and

it wrecked his family. Sometimes I really want to counsel people and say, "I don't know who's responsible!" I know David sinned against God and the consequence was there would be war within his family until he died; and his family was a mess! How could David build God's house when he couldn't even build his own house? You don't pin your hope on David; you pin your hope on the greater Son of David, and that is Jesus! Because He suffered in temptation, He did not suffer the consequence of sin. Because He did not suffer the consequence of sin, He could go to the cross, and on that cross die in our place. He became sin and was judged by God so that He can build God's house.

## **Power Over Sin Through Jesus**

Now what does that mean for you and me? It means that we are God's house and because Jesus is our King, we sin less. I hope you are processing this. Here is what God's Word teaches. Here is why Samuel is in the Bible. God is going to build a house, but sinful David can't build it; only sinless David can build it! You see, Israel didn't have a king, so they did what was right in their own eyes, but it was wrong in the eyes of God. But when God builds the house and King Jesus rules in the heart and lives of the people in His Kingdom, they actually sin less! We are God's house!

I might be criticized for saying this, but you have to understand that the overall story of the Bible is not about God building a nation called Israel. God built a nation called Israel so they could bring forth the Messiah. In looking at the nation of Israel, God wants us to understand that He doesn't just want to reign over only one ethnic people group. No, He wants to reign over every people group on the planet. So He sent His Son, David, to do what David couldn't do, and that was to build His house, a place where God's spirit could reside. And according to Paul in Ephesians 2:19-22, this is the Church; a church of Gentiles and Jews with no middle wall or partition. What we have in common is repentance and faith in Jesus Christ, and God reigning in our lives. God has taken us and put us together and He is building a holy temple to the Lord where His Spirit will dwell.

Can you imagine what it was like to have seen that physical temple Solomon built, and then to have seen the glory of God fill that temple? People took notice. That is why you and I live the life we live; we live differently. God never wanted us to be like the nations. When we live a life that is different, He gives evidence as the Church of Jesus Christ that we are empowered, indwelt by the Holy Spirit of God. This is not lived out in church; it is lived out in the world. We have to get ahold of that! If we are going to mess up, let's mess up in church. When we mess up in church, it never leaves the walls of the building. We never talk about it out there. Where we got to get it right is at work, at the ball park, and at home, because that is where we live out the literal presence of God in our lives, by living a different kind of life.

1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2:4-10 says we are a living stone coming to the Living Stone, and that God is building us as a spiritual house, so that we can offer praise and sacrifice and be a holy and royal priesthood. Then He tells us to go out and proclaim the praises of Him who translated us out of darkness into light. Do you get it? David is sinful; Jesus is sinless. You and I sin less, and less, and less, because unlike David, we don't give in to temptation. We suffer on this side of temptation, and we refuse to listen to our unredeemed flesh so we don't give in. No matter where we go, we always know He understands. So you can cry out to Him, because He has been there and He didn't give in. Because He didn't do that, you don't have to do it either. You don't have to give in because you have a King, and that King leads you to know what is right and what is wrong. You can choose to do what is right and therefore not suffer the consequences of what is wrong, because you live a life of rightness, declaring that Jesus is King of your life. The book of Romans says, what the law could not do in that it was weakened through the flesh, God did. By sending His Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, He condemned sin in the flesh that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. Let's go out in the world and show the world Jesus Christ is King! Let's be the house of David that God destined us to be, because He is building this house for His Namesake. Let's bring honor and glory to the name of God, and live it out for the glory of God.