

II SAMUEL 6-7

Please turn in your Bibles this evening to II Samuel chapter 6 as we continue our study through the Word of God.

In our last study we saw David raised up as the King over all of Israel and one of his first conquests is to capture the city of Jerusalem from the Jebusites.

Way back in the book of Joshua God had given them this land, including Jerusalem, but they never drove out the enemy until now, under the leadership of David.

Now, when you look over the life of David, there are many things that come to mind.

Maybe it is the pouring of the oil over his head as Samuel anointed him as King, long before he would ascend to the throne.

Maybe it was when David slew Goliath. That is an amazing story of walking by faith and seeing what God can do through a young man like David against the giant, Goliath!

It could even be those years he was on the run from Saul and God's hand of protection was upon him.

These are all great things in the life of David, but there is something else that I think shows the heart of David and we will see that in our study here this evening. And that is a heart of worship!

In fact, there are two things that I think show us that David had a heart of worship for the Lord.

What are those two things?

One of them is bringing the Ark of God to Jerusalem.

The other one is that he had a desire to build God a house to dwell in, a place of worship.

That was truly David!

Look at all the Psalms that David wrote, at least 75 of the 150 Psalms and there may be eleven of them that relate specifically to the bringing back the Ark of God attributed to David.

My prayer as we study the life of David is that we would have a deeper love for God, a love to worship Him more and more, as David did!

With that said, let's begin reading in II Samuel chapter 6, starting in verse 1 and see what the Lord has for us as we study His Word.

II SAMUEL 6

VERSES 1-2

Why does David want to go to Kirjath Jearim, also called here Baale Judah to bring the Ark of God to Jerusalem? (Baale means lords or citizens of Judah)

Because David wanted a place of worship to be established and he felt that this was the place that God wanted not only the Ark to be placed, but the Temple in which the Ark would rest in.

That way everyone in Israel could come and worship God.

Keep in mind that Kirjath Jearim was located about 8 to 10 miles from Jerusalem and David gathers 30,000 choice men to go with him and bring the Ark to Jerusalem!

Just a little refresher here. The Ark of the Covenant was a small rectangular box measuring 3 feet 9 inches long, 2 feet 3 inches wide and 2 feet 3 inches high.

It was made of Acacia wood (from a shittah tree and called shittim wood), and it was overlaid with gold.

The Ark did not have handles on it so that you could lift it up and carry it with your hands; you were not to touch the Ark. It had rings on the four corners for which poles were inserted so that once again no one could touch it.

The Mercy Seat was actually the lid for the Ark of the Covenant, and it was made of pure gold.

Now think about that for a minute. If the Mercy Seat was 1 inch thick, it would weigh about 750 pounds!

On this mercy seat were two Cherubim and as God looked down from His dwelling place, meeting with the children of Israel above the Mercy Seat, He met with them not by the Law but by His mercy!

Keep in mind that only the High Priest could enter the Holy of Holies and only once a year. As he went in would sprinkle the blood of the sacrifice upon the Mercy Seat for him and for the nation.

Why did he do that?

Because inside the Ark of the Covenant was the Law of God and if God looked down upon the Ark of the Covenant and judged the people according to the Law, they would be in trouble!

But if the blood was sprinkled upon the Mercy Seat when God looked down the Law was covered by the blood of the Lamb.

Sound familiar?

It should because that is what God has done for us; He is our Mercy Seat!

Now how did the Ark of God get to Kirjath Jearim or Baale Judah?

Remember during the time of Samuel the Philistines came against Israel and they defeated Israel soundly.

And during the second assault Israel called for the Ark to be brought into battle. It was the sons of Eli who brought the Ark into this battle and Eli was the High Priest.

Tragically they saw the Ark as a good-luck charm, and it gave Israel great hope for victory.

But it also fired up the Philistines to fight and they defeated Israel once again and took the Ark into their possession.

But after a series of judgments against the Philistines that occurred over a seventh-month period, they decided to send the Ark back to Israel.

They put the Ark on a cart that was carried by two milk cows that were never yoked, and they took their calves away from them.

If these cows would head straight for Israel, then this judgment was of God and if they didn't, then these judgments were just a chance occurrence.

The cart carrying the Ark heads straight for Beth Shemesh, but the men of Beth Shemesh look into the Ark and many of them fall dead because of their actions.

In I Samuel chapter 6 we are told that it was a “**great slaughter**” because of their actions, and that truly was the case. We are told that fifty thousand and seventy men died because they looked into the Ark.

Because of what happened to them, they didn't want to keep the Ark either. You can understand why.

They sent the Ark to Kirjath Jearim, to the house of Abinadab, and his son Eleazar was to watch over it and it stayed there for the next almost 70 years.

Keep in mind that Saul was not a man of worship and thus he did not go after the Ark.

But David was a man of worship, and he goes to bring the Ark back, which represented the presence of God.

The Hebrew word “*chabod*” or “*kavod*” translates to “*glory*” and carries connotations of weight, honor, and splendor, representing God’s majesty and presence.

Also, the term “*Ichabod*,” means “*where is the glory?*” or “*the glory has departed*,” and it signifies a loss of God’s presence or favor. (Exodus 25:22)

And again, David wanted to bring the Ark back so the people can experience the *chabod* or the glory of God, the presence of God. That they would develop a heart of worship towards God!

VERSES 3-5

What a joyous celebration this was!

Notice what they did.

They place the Ark of God on a cart and Uzzah and Ahio drove this new cart with the Ark on it.

The music was playing and what praise and honor was given to God this day!

The reality is, God did not accept it, as we will see!

You see, just because there is much emotion, if there is no devotion or it is not according to God’s Word, God will not accept it.

First of all, the Ark of God was not to be carried on a cart, but upon the shoulders of the priests, and specifically the Kohathites’.

The Philistines put the Ark on a cart because they did not know any better. But the children of Israel did and yet they ignored what God wanted.

They had the right motives and that was good. The problem was they did not have the right methods! And, as we will see, that is not going to be good.

Think about the church today and their motives may be correct, but their methods can be wrong and that is where we get into trouble.

We are not to mimic the world’s methods, the things that they do. It may work in the world, but we should not apply it to the church.

Let me also say this.

A cart is nothing more than boards and big wheels and how often we have our board meetings, get the big wheels together and come up with a plan to get the church going, to bring in the presence of God and that is not what God desires.

I like what Redpath wrote regarding this, *“We want God’s presence very much, don’t we? But we like to hitch His presence to some of our new carts. We like to add Him to our list of organizations, to load Him on top of the mechanics of a busy life, and then drive. How much of our service is really in the energy of the flesh, I wonder! So often we put forth our hands, but not our hearts.”*

Again, listen to what was happening as the Ark of God was brought home you might say. In II Samuel 6:5 we are told, **“Then David and all the house of Israel played music before the Lord on all kinds of instruments of fir wood, on harps, on stringed instruments, on tambourines, on sistrums, and on cymbals.”**

I am sure if you were to ask them if this was a wonderful worship experience, that most if not all of them would say, ***“Of course it was. We were having such a great time! It made us feel great!”***

What is wrong with that?

Worship is not about pleasing ourselves, it is not about feelings, but it is about pleasing the Lord.

Then how do we know how to worship God?

We go to His Word, and we learn that we must worship God in Spirit and in truth or we must be saved, and we must worship the Lord according to what the Word of God has to say!

Let’s read on and see what happens and then we will talk about what God truly desires of us.

VERSES 6-7

As you read this story you may be wondering why in the world God struck Uzzah dead?

It just doesn’t seem fair. Uzzah was trying to bring the Ark of God home and why did God treat him this way?

Like I have said, this isn’t the same thing that the Philistines did when they returned the Ark to Israel.

“What do you mean Pastor Joe, that is exactly what they did, they placed the Ark on a cart and nothing happened to them!”

That is true, but we need to keep in mind that the Philistines were not instructed on the care of the Ark, they were not God’s people. And they were judged for taking it in the first place!

But Uzzah should have known better, he was a Kohathite and was responsible for the transportation of the Ark.

And even though the Ark remained at Kirjath Jearim, they did have the Word of God to instruct them in the correct transportation of the Ark.

He was a priest, he should have known better and in Numbers 4:15 we are told, “**... then the sons of Kohath shall come to carry them; but they shall not touch any holy thing, lest they die . . .**”

And that is exactly what happened to Uzzah as the cart begins to rock, as the oxen stumbles, the Ark looks like it is going to fall, and Uzzah reaches out to stop it from falling and he is struck dead!

Did you notice where this event occurred?

Interestingly enough this occurred at Nachon’s threshing floor or the place where the grain was separated from the chaff, and I believe that is what we are seeing here in the life of Uzzah. He was separated because of his dishonoring God.

Also, in II Samuel 6:7 it says that God struck Uzzah “**for his error**” and that word for “**error**” can also be translated “***irreverence.***”

By his actions, Uzzah was showing irreverence or disrespect to the Lord and the Lord struck him dead!

The problem for Uzzah is that “***He saw no difference between the ark and any other valuable article. His intention to help was right enough; but there was a profound insensibility to the awful sacredness of the ark, on which even its Levitical bearers were forbidden to lay hands.***” (Maclaren)

Remember, there were no handles on the Ark of God, but they had rings in the corners and poles were inserted and then the Kohathites would place the poles on their shoulders and carry the Ark!

Like I have said, you can come to worship God and yet come in a way that is contrary to what He has instructed us, and God will not honor that, He will put that kind of worship to death you might say!

Don't man handle God or try to carry God the way the world does.

God gives us explicit instructions on how we are to come to Him and to worship Him.

The world's ways of reaching God are foolishness and lead to death. God's way is that He reached down to sinful man and saved us.

Worship Him as He deserves to be worshiped in Spirit and truth or that we are saved first, and then according to His Word, as I have said!

Psalm 95 is a call to worship, and we are told, **“Oh come, let us sing to the Lord! Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms. For the Lord is the great God, And the great King above all gods. In His hand are the deep places of the earth; The heights of the hills are His also. The sea is His, for He made it; And His hands formed the dry land. Oh come, let us worship and bow down; Let us kneel before the Lord our Maker. For He is our God, And we are the people of His pasture, And the sheep of His hand.”** Psalm 95:1-7.

As you read through this Psalm you can just feel the excitement, a kind of celebration you might say. And that really is the idea behind Jewish worship; it was a celebration of thanksgiving and praise unto God.

And that is the way worship should be. It should be joyful; it should be focused upward, unto the God of our salvation.

We are truly blessed here with our worship team because as they lead us in worship you can feel that joy, the words you are singing get you focused on God. It is a celebration!

And as much as this Psalm was for them, the Holy Spirit wants us to apply it to our lives. We need to stay focused upon the Lord, the One who loves you and worship Him! Worship the one who created you, He is the creator of heaven and earth!

Now how is the King of Israel, David, going to respond to what happened here?

As we will see, not exactly like he should have responded!

VERSES 8-9

I guess this put a stop to all the celebration and now David is angry with God.

How can he now bring the Ark to Jerusalem when this happened?

How can God do this to him and to Uzzah when they were only trying to do the right thing?

How often we are confused regarding situations we face because we are facing them with our own assumptions, our own ideas instead of coming to God and seeing what He has to say according to His Word!

There will always be confusion in your life when you seek to understand things apart from God and His Word and David was finding that out and he was angry because of it!

So what is David going to do with the Ark of God?

Let's read on and see!

VERSES 10-11

Since David is afraid to bring the Ark to Jerusalem, he brings it to the house of Obed-Edom and God blessed Obed-Edom and the Ark remained there for three months!

Why the house of Obed-Edom?

Because he was a Levite of the family of Korah and Kohath. (I Chronicles 26:4)

This was the family within the tribe of Levi that God commanded to carry and take care of the Ark of God. (Numbers 4:15)

VERSE 12

Now as we read this we may be wondering, ***“What did David do differently now? What made him bring the Ark to Jerusalem? Why wasn’t he fearful any longer?”***

Yes, David heard that God was blessing the house of Obed-Edom, but I also believe that he has spent the last three months searching out the Scriptures to see what God desired, and he found out.

Now you may be wondering, ***“Where in the world did you get that? I don’t see that here in II Samuel!”***

I did not come up with that.

Listen to what we are told in I Chronicles 15:2-3 regarding this incident with the Ark, **“Then David said, ‘No one may carry the ark of God but the Levites, for the Lord has chosen them to carry the ark of God and to minister before Him forever.’ And David gathered all Israel together at Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the Lord to its place, which he had prepared for it.”**

Also, in I Chronicles 15:15 we are told, “**And the children of the Levites bore the ark of God on their shoulders, by its poles, as Moses had commanded according to the word of the Lord.**”

David was transporting the Ark the right way and there is always gladness when we serve the Lord, when we worship Him according to His Word and not apart from it!

Now we are told that the Ark was transported from the house of Obed-Edom to Jerusalem but there is much more that went on and we will get those details as we read on.

VERSES 13-15

Look how different things are now.

Every six steps they stop, the sacrifice is made, and they continue on for another six steps and another sacrifice, and this goes on for some eight miles or so until they get to Jerusalem!

David is showing the honor, the respect that is due the Lord and if you think about it, six is the number of sinful man and thus, it is appropriate to stop every six steps.

For us, we need to take that time to put to death those fleshly ideas and seek what the Lord would have us to do. It is not always easy, it is not always as fast as we like, but in the end, there is great blessing and celebration, there is great rejoicing in the Lord!

We are also told that David took off his royal robe and started to dance before the Lord.

Why did he do that?

Because he did not want to be above the people when he came before the Lord, he wanted to be equal with the rest of the people and not come as their King.

And don't get the idea that David was the only one dancing. I get the picture here that all were dancing and David joined in, not because he had to, but because he loved the Lord, and that joy just overflowed, and he was just rejoicing.

Now some wonder why we don't dance in church today!

Have you ever seen me dance?

If you did, you would understand!

No, not really, it is bad but that is not the reason.

Keep in mind that this was a parade, you might say, a grand procession. David did not dance like this on the Day of Atonement, that would have been inappropriate.

And we don't dance during a church service because that would be inappropriate.

We need to remember that when we come to worship the Lord the focus is the Lord and not us, not what we want to do, but what He desires us to do!

If I started to dance up here, yes, all eyes would be upon me, and not because I am such a good dancer!

Remember what Paul told Timothy in I Timothy 3:14-15, **"These things I write to you, though I hope to come to you shortly; but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."**

How important it is to know how to conduct yourself in the church, what the church is all about, it is the fundamentals!

The church, the place where God's people gather is to be the pillar and the foundation of the truth and that truth is from the Word of God, not experience or feelings!

Jesus said in John 17:17, **"Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth."**

The Amplified Bible puts this verse like this, **“Sanctify them [purify, consecrate, separate them for Yourself, make them holy] by the Truth; Your Word is Truth.”**

May we truly believe that and apply it to our lives so that as we speak, we have so much of God’s Word in our lives that it just flows forth from us!

When people look at what the church is about, some like to go to I Corinthians, especially chapters 12-14, which deal with spiritual gifts.

I do believe that the spiritual gifts are for today, but the mistake we make is that we pretend to use them instead of allowing God’s Spirit to give them to us as He sees fit.

They are for the edification of the body of Christ and those gifts are used in our services.

As I am teaching there are various gifts that are being used, God is doing it and many times I am not even aware until after the service when someone comes up to me and tells me how the study ministered to them.

There is the word of wisdom, word of knowledge, and-so-on, but the focus is always God and His Word because that is how He speaks to us by His Spirit.

When people are jumping up and down, speaking in tongues, doing all kinds of things, the focus is off of God and on that person!

May we not lose sight of what we are about, the Lord and His Word. You see, it is out of this that we see our lives grow in the Lord and reach out to others. But apart from the truth, there is only confusion and anger and frustration as we saw with David when he tried to do things the way he wanted, the way he tried to transport the Ark of God the first time.

Yes, it was what needed to be done but in the wrong way. A good lesson for us to learn!

VERSES 16-19

As David comes into Jerusalem with the Ark of God, he is dancing and rejoicing along with the people, and his wife, Michal sees him and we are told that, “**she despised him in her heart.**”

It is amazing that as you are on fire for God, as you are just in love with Jesus, there may be family or friends that will try to bring you down as we see here.

“Why do you have to go to church again?”

“Why are you so fanatical about Jesus?”

“What is wrong with you?”

And that list can go on.

David could have let this ruin his day, but he didn't!

What did David do?

Instead of letting that ruin his day he continued with the burnt offerings or the offerings of consecration and the peace offerings or the offerings of fellowship, and he blessed the people!

Then David sends them home with the blessings of food to continue to praise the Lord as a family.

But Michal is not happy and there will always be those people that no matter what you do, they will not be happy.

Spurgeon put it like this, ***“No doubt, there are particularly nice and dainty people who will censure God's chosen if they live wholly to his praise, and they will call them eccentric, old-fashioned, obstinate, absurd, and I don't know what besides. From the window of their superiority they look down upon us.”***

They just don't get it; they don't understand what true worship is about.

It is not about the music or the songs but about our life that we give to Him which includes music, songs! And we are not embarrassed to let others see our love for Him!

VERSE 20

As you read this it seems that when Michal confronted David that she was very sarcastic with her words.

Why was Michal so upset?

It wasn't that he was just dancing but that he looked like the common person now. He was not wearing his Kingly garments and if you looked at David, he was just like everyone else! She was a queen now and that was important to her.

Tragically today we see people who try to elevate themselves above others, that they are so special, or they are so important, and the reality is, they are made of the dust of this earth just like everyone else, maybe a little more clay with them but dust anyway!

Before the Lord we are all servants of God! May we not forget that!

VERSES 21-23

I don't believe that David is being sarcastic here but just letting Michal know that it is the Lord who has placed him in this position as King and he will humble himself before the Lord because it will be the Lord who will lift him up!

And here's another thing we need to remember. What Michal did could have ruined David's day, a day where he was praising the Lord could have turned to anger, frustration, as I have said.

But David didn't let Michal's sarcastic criticism ruin his day. He simply explained the truth, ***"I did it for God, not for you."***

May we remember that what we do is for the Lord and others can be blessed by it, or it can make them angry, but no matter what, we do it for the Lord!

I do like the way Spurgeon puts this into perspective for us. He wrote, ***"David would more and more abase himself before the Lord. He felt that whatever Michal's opinion of him might be, it could not be more humbling than his own view of himself. Brother, if any man thinks ill of you, do not be angry with him; for you are worse than he thinks you to be."***

And don't think that David did this to show how spiritual he was before the people. He did this out of love and worship for the Lord; it was an outward expression of what was in his heart!

We are also told that because of this Michal was barren, she had no children, she produced no fruit in her life.

Now the reason for this could be that David did not have sexual relations with her, but I also see this as a spiritual truth.

You see, if you look at worship as being boring, humiliating, useless, then you too will be barren, you will find yourself in spiritual bareness.

Some people can't wait for worship to be over so we can get into the Word of God, which is important, but you are missing out on something that is also important.

You see, as we worship the Lord our focus comes off of self and then is placed upon Him.

And as we are focused on the Lord, then He speaks to us through His Word.

If you see that worship is not important, you will find yourself in the place of spiritual bareness just as Michal found herself in physical bareness.

II SAMUEL 7**VERSES 1-3**

Let me share this with you before I expound on these verses that we have just read, and it deals with the timeframe of what is happening here.

Many feel that the events here in chapter 7 come after the wars spoken of in II Samuel chapter 8 for it speaks of God giving them rest from their enemies. I think that is how this plays out.

David has come a long way from dwelling in caves and being on the run. Now he has a beautiful home to live in. And maybe he was sitting out one night in the cool of the evening looking at his beautiful home and then looking at this tent that the Ark of God was dwelling in, and he felt ashamed of this.

It was on his mind so much that he tells Nathan the prophet that he wants to build God a home.

For over 400 years the Ark of God dwelt in a tent you might say, the Tabernacle and we are not sure if it was still in existence at this time or that another tent was built to house the Ark. With all those years that have passed by, I believe David set up a new tent for the Ark to dwell in. That just makes sense to me. But for David, his heart's desire is to build God a house.

Maybe David remembered what Moses wrote back in Deuteronomy 12:10-11, “**But when you cross over the Jordan and dwell in the land which the Lord your God is giving you to inherit, and He gives you rest from all your enemies round about, so that you dwell in safety, then there will be the place where the Lord your God chooses to make His name abide. There you shall bring all that I command you: your burnt offerings, your sacrifices, your tithes, the heave offerings of your hand, and all your choice offerings which you vow to the Lord.**”

I think David feels this is the place and this building for God needs to be put up.

As Nathan the prophet hears this, he encourages David to go ahead with this project, to do all that was in his heart for the Lord.

It sounds reasonable. It sounds right, but listen to what transpires next!

VERSES 4-7

This tells me that the best of ideas, godly actions, still need to be brought before the Lord to see if they are His will for them to be done. It is not that it was a wrong idea, I think God is honored by the fact that David wanted to do this, but it is not what the Lord wanted him to do.

And thus, God speaks to Nathan the prophet who then has to tell David that he can't build God a house.

We see the response of David to what Nathan had told him in I Chronicles 28:2-3, where we are told, **“Then King David rose to his feet and said, ‘Hear me, my brethren and my people: I had it in my heart to build a house of rest for the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and for the footstool of our God, and had made preparations to build it. But God said to me, “You shall not build a house for My name, because you have been a man of war and have shed blood.””**

David was a man of war, blood was on his hands and thus, God did not want David to build Him a house, and as we will see, God is going to turn the tables on David and tell David that He will build him a house!

What does that mean?

We will see as we read on.

Now I also like this because David is not able to build God a house, but he can gather the materials together so that when Solomon comes to the throne, he can build the house for God, and he will have all the materials that he will need to do it.

In I Chronicles 29:1-9 we are told, “Furthermore King David said to all the assembly: ‘My son Solomon, whom alone God has chosen, is young and inexperienced; and the work is great, because the temple is not for man but for the Lord God. Now for the house of my God I have prepared with all my might: gold for things to be made of gold, silver for things of silver, bronze for things of bronze, iron for things of iron, wood for things of wood, onyx stones, stones to be set, glistening stones of various colors, all kinds of precious stones, and marble slabs in abundance. Moreover, because I have set my affection on the house of my God, I have given to the house of my God, over and above all that I have prepared for the holy house, my own special treasure of gold and silver: three thousand talents of gold, of the gold of Ophir, and seven thousand talents of refined silver, to overlay the walls of the houses; the gold for things of gold and the silver for things of silver, and for all kinds of work to be done by the hands of craftsmen. Who then is willing to consecrate himself this day to the Lord?’ Then the leaders of the fathers’ houses, leaders of the tribes of Israel, the captains of thousands and of hundreds, with the officers over the king’s work, offered willingly. They gave for the work of the house of God five thousand talents and ten thousand darics of gold, ten thousand talents of silver, eighteen thousand talents of bronze, and one hundred thousand talents of iron. And whoever had precious stones gave them to the treasury of the house of the Lord, into the hand of Jehiel the Gershonite. Then the people rejoiced, for they had offered willingly, because with a loyal heart they had offered willingly to the Lord; and King David also rejoiced greatly.”

Meyer sums this up for us and I think he gives to us the correct perspective to have because sometimes when God shuts a work down, we shut down and that should not be.

Meyer wrote, *“If you cannot have what you hoped, do not sit down in despair and allow the energies of your life to run to waste; but arise, and gird yourself to help others to achieve. If you may not build, you may gather materials for him that shall. If you may not go down the mine, you can hold the ropes.”*

May we remember that and keep moving forward because it is not about us, but it is about the Lord and may we serve Him faithfully in whatever He calls us to do or not to do!

VERSES 8-11

I like what the Lord does here. He reminds David how He has brought him this far, protected him, watched over him, made his name great and thus, don't let this stop you from going forward.

In fact, God tells David that he can't build Him a house, but the Lord is going to build David a house.

Now wait a minute, I thought David already has a house!

He does, but this house is going to be a little different.

Let's read on and see what this is all about!

VERSES 12-17

Here we see the Lord telling David through the prophet Nathan that He will build David a house. What in the world is the Lord speaking of here?

The near-term fulfillment is speaking of the dynasty of David and his descendants who sat on the throne for more than four centuries and then were removed because of their wickedness.

But the long-term fulfillment is speaking of Jesus Christ who will sit on the throne of David and will rule and reign in the Kingdom Age for 1,000 years and ultimately for eternity! It is the promise of the coming Messiah!

In fact, in Acts chapter 2 Peter comments on this fact that David realized that from his lineage, from his descendants, the Messiah would come and sit on the throne of David!

This is a promise to the Jewish people, and do you think that God is going to fail or not come through with His promise?

Absolutely not! He won't fail and thus, the Messiah is coming back and when He does, when Jesus returns, He will set up His Kingdom on this earth and rule for 1,000 years and then we move to the eternal state!

Let me share a few verses with you and you will see what I mean.

In Jeremiah 23:5-6 we are told, **“Behold, the days are coming,’ says the Lord, ‘That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; A King shall reign and prosper, And execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. In His days Judah will be saved, And Israel will dwell safely; Now this is His name by which He will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.’”**

Also, verses we are all familiar with, in Isaiah 9:6-7 we are told, **“For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.”**

This is who the Jews are waiting for, their Messiah. The tragedy is that they missed Him in His first coming, but when He comes again, they will receive Him.

The King is coming to sit upon the throne of David, and we see that spoken of in Luke 1:31-33 where we are told, **“And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus. 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. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.”**

I hope you can see, with just a few verses, that the Messiah is coming, and He will sit on the throne of David and rule and reign for 1,000 years!

Now II Samuel 7:14 is a little disturbing if it is speaking of the Messiah.

It says, **“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.”**

If this is speaking of the Messiah, and I believe it is, how can it speak of Him committing iniquity and being chastened for Jesus was without sin?

That is a great question.

There is a translation that I think fits this verse perfectly. It is from Adam Clarke’s commentary, and it goes like this, ***“I will be his father, and he shall be my son: EVEN IN HIS SUFFERING FOR INIQUITY, I shall chasten him with the rod of men (with the rod due to men), and with the stripes (due to) the children of ADAM.”***

You see, the focus is not on the Messiah sinning but on the Messiah bearing the sins of man and that is exactly what the Scriptures teach us.

Also, Bishop Horsley gives an interesting translation of this: ***“When guilt is laid upon him, I will chasten him with the rod of men.”***

And thus, I believe that Jesus will sit on the throne of David forever and this will take place after his suffering for iniquity!

One more point I would like to deal with here. That is this idea of a covenant because a covenant is being established here with David.

The word “**covenant**” literally means, “*to cut.*”

And in the Bible, we see two kinds of covenants.

The first is a unilateral covenant, which is unconditional, one-party covenant.

It would be like a will, what you are going to receive is not based upon your actions.

The second type is a bilateral covenant, which is a two-party covenant.

You fulfill your part of the agreement and then I will fulfill mine. It is conditional.

Let me show you a couple of these covenants to give us an idea of where they fall and why.

- **EDENIC COVENANT - GENESIS 1:28-29, 2:15-17** - This was a bilateral or conditional covenant given to Adam. He was to populate the earth, subdue the earth, have dominion over the animals, care for the earth and not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. That was the conditional part, because if they did, they would die.
- **ABRAHAMIC COVENANT - GENESIS 12:1-3, 15:1-21** - This was a unilateral or unconditional covenant given to Abraham and based solely on God's faithfulness, not mans. God was to make Abraham's descendants a great nation, they would be a blessing to all who respect them. And God was going to give them the land of Canaan.
- **MOSAIC COVENANT - EXODUS 20, 21-24** - This was a bilateral covenant or conditional covenant based on man's obedience to God's commands. If you are obedient, you will be blessed, and if you are not, then you will be cursed.
- **DAVIDIC COVENANT - II SAMUEL 7:4-17** - This was unconditional, based upon God's faithfulness, not mans. And through this the Messiah would come and sit on the throne of David and it would be an everlasting dominion.

- **THE NEW COVENANT - JEREMIAH 31:31-34** - This is not a conditional covenant, it is not based on man's faithfulness, but God's. Thus, this covenant was cut with the blood of Christ and is freely given to us. Man has tried to make this a bilateral covenant by putting us under the Law, but God came to set us free from the Law. The Law puts us under bondage where grace sets us free. You see, it is what God has done for us and not what we are doing or are going to do. It is the new covenant cut with His blood!

VERSES 18-24

After David is told all these wonderful things that will happen to him and his descendants, it does not go to his head. He recognizes that he is still the same David, and the reality was and is that God is greater. In fact, He is the greatest.

Sometimes we may think we are so special because of the ways that God is blessing us, we aren't! Like I have said, God is and may we not forget that.

What did David see in God that all these things would come upon not only David but the nation of Israel?

It is one word – **GRACE!**

David saw his own life as well as the life of the nation of Israel all a gift from God and may we see that also! It wasn't that they deserved it nor do we, it is all God's – **GRACE!**

Once again listen to how Spurgeon puts this into focus for us.

He wrote, ***"There are some professors who would do a great thing if they might, but if they are not permitted to act a shining part they are in the sulks and angry with their God. David when his proposal was set aside found it in his heart not to murmur, but to pray."***

VERSES 25-29

David's prayer is basically this, ***"Lord, I know what you have promised me, and I will trust you to fulfill it and be faithful to Your Word!"***

May we feel the same about what the Lord has promised us, that He is more than able to bring it to pass in our lives what He has promised us, He is faithful to His Word.

Spurgeon put it like this, ***“God sent the promise on purpose to be used. If I see a Bank of England note, it is a promise for a certain amount of money, and I take it and use it. But oh I my friend, do try and use God’s promises; nothing pleases God better than to see his promises put in circulation; he loves to see his children bring them up to him, and say, ‘Lord, do as thou hast said.’ And let me tell you that it glorifies God to use his promises.”***

A heart given over to God is a heart filled with praise and prayer unto God and that is exactly what we see here with David.

You see, as we have God’s Word, His truth in our hands, in our minds, in our hearts, we then can rest in those promises He has given to us just as David did and it is out of that we see praise and prayer!

What a beautiful picture we see here.

As we have seen in our study this evening, this was David’s foundation of faith.

What was his foundation of faith?

He knew that God was God and that every Word of His was true. He knew that God can be trusted.

May we learn that lesson!