

2 Samuel 17:1-17**God's Promise to David**

7 After the king was settled in his palace and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ² he said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am, living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God remains in a tent."

³ Nathan replied to the king, "Whatever you have in mind, go ahead and do it, for the Lord is with you."

⁴ But that night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, saying:

⁵ "Go and tell my servant David, 'This is what the Lord says: Are you the one to build me a house to dwell in? ⁶ I have not dwelt in a house from the day I brought the Israelites up out of Egypt to this day. I have been moving from place to place with a tent as my dwelling. ⁷ Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, did I ever say to any of their rulers whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?"'"

⁸ "Now then, tell my servant David, 'This is what the Lord Almighty says: I took you from the pasture, from tending the flock, and appointed you ruler over my people Israel. ⁹ I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men on earth. ¹⁰ And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people will not oppress them anymore, as they did at the beginning ¹¹ and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies.

"The Lord declares to you that the Lord himself will establish a house for you: ¹² When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³ He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴ I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with a rod wielded by men, with floggings inflicted by human hands. ¹⁵ But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. ¹⁶ Your house

and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.”

¹⁷ Nathan reported to David all the words of this entire revelation.

Matthew 22:41-46

Whose Son Is the Messiah?

⁴¹ While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, ⁴² “What do you think about the Messiah? Whose son is he?”

“The son of David,” they replied.

⁴³ He said to them, “How is it then that David, speaking by the Spirit, calls him ‘Lord’? For he says,

⁴⁴ “‘The Lord said to my Lord:

“Sit at my right hand
until I put your enemies
under your feet.””

⁴⁵ If then David calls him ‘Lord,’ how can he be his son?” ⁴⁶ No one could say a word in reply, and from that day on no one dared to ask him any more questions.

Intro

I encourage you to have your Bibles opened and follow along – there are some amazing, detailed promises in these two passages.

Let me pray before we continue...

This morning, this is the **3rd part** of our **six-part series** on **Advent**

[Slide-Advent]

The **Dictionary Definition of Advent** is *the arrival of a notable person or thing*.

That notable person is of course our Lord, Jesus, the Saviour of the World!

[Slide-Advent Series]

In **Part 1** – we said that **Advent** is **important** because we **need Jesus to come and be born so he can fix the fallen condition** we all have – which we inherited from Adam and Eve.

That fallen condition is sin and death

In **Part 2** – last week – we said that God had plan to fix the fallen condition – and **He promised a Prophet** – and **no ordinary prophet** – but the **ultimate prophet** - and that prophet was of course – our **Lord Jesus** – and we said that we can rely on Jesus – because - **He is the source of absolute truth**

This week – we going to see that **God** also promised **a King** – and **no ordinary King** – **He is the ultimate King**

So, we'd better define a **King**

[Slide-King Definition]

Dictionary Definition: *The ruler of an independent state, especially one who inherits the position by right of birth.*

For example, in the Bible, King **Solomon of Israel** **inherited** the **throne from** his father, **David**. Our current King, **Charles III**, **inherited** the **throne from** his mother, **Queen Elizabeth II**, as Charles was the eldest child.

Let's **see how this promise of a King came about** – please turn to our OT reading from **2 Samuel 7**

The Promise (2 Samuel 7:1-17)

[Slide-Promise]

The year is about **1000BC**

V1 – King **David**, 2nd King of Israel, is well **settled** in his **palace** – God has given him **rest from all the surrounding nations he has been fighting**

And **David's conscience is bothering him** – v2 – he **realizes** he is **living in a palace made of cedar** - whilst **the ark of God** – which is the **golden chest** that is **symbolic of God's presence** and contains the **10 commandments on stone tablets** – well the **ark of God is still in a tent**.

David is thinking he should build a “house” for God.

Nathan the prophet – v3 – **answers presumptuously that David should go ahead with whatever he has in mind.**

But – overnight - **Nathan** the prophet – is **given a long message from God** – which goes from v4 to v17.

Paraphrasing God's message to Nathan for King David – God says:

- What makes you think, David, **you're the one to build me a house?** (v5)
- I **haven't lived in a house** since I brought you out of slavery in Egypt – I've **just moved around** wherever the **tabernacle tent** was erected (v6)
- I have **never asked** any of Israel's rulers **to build me a house** (v7)
- **David**, I **took** you from being a **shepherd boy** and **made you King** of my people (v8)

- David, I've been with you wherever you have gone – and made sure all **your enemies were cut off**. And I **promise to make your name great**, David (v9)
- And David, I **will provide a safe place** for my people and give you **rest from your enemies** (vv10-11)

The bottom line is **David's plan** to build God a house wasn't **God's plan**.

Application: A little **application** for us here is that we have to **make sure our plans are actually God's plans too** – otherwise they won't **happen**. I don't know about you, but **sometimes I jump the gun**, and **forget to commit my plans to the Lord!** Proverbs 19:21 says: *"Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails."*

The **Apostle James** has something to say about this too:

"Now listen, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.' Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow... Instead, you ought to say, 'If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that.'" (James 4:13-15)

God continues his message to Nathan for David – with some **significant promises** in **verses 12 to 16**. I think it's important that we **look at these promises verse by verse**.

[Slide-The Promise Continued]

But before we do – let me just point out that sometimes in the Old Testament – the **promises and prophecies that God gives have a near fulfilment** – being fulfilled almost immediately or soon after they are given – AND – they also have a

far fulfilment sometime in the future. That's the **beauty of God's intricate and holy word.**

Look at v12 - *When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom* – In this verse the **near fulfillment** is that David's son, Solomon will succeed his father, David, on the throne of Israel. The **far fulfillment** is found in our Lord Jesus who is a **descendant of David** – and often given the title "Son of David"

V13 - *He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever* – God says David's son will build a house for God's Name – and the **near fulfillment** is that indeed David's son, Solomon, **does build a magnificent temple** for God! But **Solomon's throne does not last forever** – because Israel becomes a **divided Kingdom** – **10 tribes** in the **North** and **2 tribes** in the **South** – and a few hundred years after David's time - the Northern tribes are **exiled to Assyria** and the Southern tribes are **exiled to Babylon**. Today, there isn't even a King of Israel!

So, the **forever kingdom promise** has a **far fulfillment** in our Lord Jesus – who **reigns** over a **forever Kingdom** – a Kingdom of Heaven. That's what the **angel Gabriel told Mary** – when she became pregnant through the Holy Spirit, with baby Jesus (Luke 1:33)

Also, **Jesus describes Himself as the Temple** – and says destroy this temple in three days and I will rebuild it – meaning His body! (John 2:19-21)

V14 - *I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with a rod wielded by men, with floggings inflicted by human hands* -

As a near fulfilment, all the kings of David's line, from Solomon to the exile, were sinful and at times punished by God when God allowed various enemies of Israel to have victories over them. But the far fulfilment is that the ultimate descendant of David, Jesus, was not a sinner like all of David's descendants, yet "*God made Him [Jesus] who had no sin, sin for us*" (2 Corinthians 5:21) and ironically, He was punished by a rod yielded by man and punished with floggings inflicted by human hand.

V15 - *But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you* – The near fulfilment is that God's love was not taken away from David's son, Solomon (1 Kings 11:11-13) even though Solomon did not keep God's commands and decrees. God spared Solomon for the sake of His promise to David here in this verse. But God did tell Solomon, the Kingdom would be torn away in the future.

The far fulfilment is found in our Lord Jesus. Even though Jesus was forsaken on the cross and felt the wrath of God the Father for the sin of the world, God the Father did not take His love away from His Son, but instead raised Him to life on the third day!

V16 - *Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever* – this verse does not have a near fulfilment because the kingdom of Israel didn't last.

However, it **does have a far fulfilment in our Lord Jesus**. Because Jesus is a descendant of David through his earthly parents Mary and Joseph (who are descendants of David) – **he keeps David’s throne going**. And because Jesus did stay dead and is alive – **He keeps David’s throne going forever!**

As we said earlier **these promises were given around about 1000BC – 1000 years before Jesus**

So, we need to **climb into our time travelling machine** – and **fast forward to around about 33AD** – and our NT reading from **Matthew 22:41-46** – please turn there now

The Promise Fulfilled in King Jesus (Matthew 22:41-46)

[Slide-Promise Fulfilled]

The **context** is that Jesus has just ridden into Jerusalem in chapter 21 on that very first **Palm Sunday** – and the **people have greeted Jesus as King** – and hailed Him “**son of David**”. This **title** “son of David” was traditionally **used for God’s Promised Messiah** – the one God would send to save His people. The **people are convinced** that **Jesus** is the “**son of David**” and the “**Messiah**”

So here in verse 41 – **Jesus makes the religious leaders** – the Pharisees – **think** – by asking them a leading question: “***What do you think about the Messiah? Whose son is he?***”

What Jesus is really asking is “***If I am the Messiah – whose son am I, David’s son or someone else’s son?***”

Of course, the Pharisees reply – v42 – that the Messiah is “*the son of David*”

So, Jesus asks them a **follow up question** – vv43-45 – “*how come when King David wrote Psalm 110* (which Jesus quotes) – *how come David calls the Messiah ‘Lord’ which is a divine title?*”

Jesus’ point is **how can David call the Messiah “Lord” if the Messiah is David’s son?** By David calling the Messiah “Lord” – **David is acknowledging that the Messiah is ABOVE David as King and is His Lord – how can he also be David’s son?**

The **answer to Jesus’ question** is that **Jesus the Messiah - is BOTH** – **David’s son** as an earthly descendant of David by being born of Mary and Joseph who were descendants of David – **AND Jesus the Messiah is also divine** – and **God’s Son**.

So, Jesus is Son of David AND Son of God.

And **Jesus’ divine nature is critical**. By baby Jesus’ being born of a virgin – and conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit placing the baby in Mary’s womb –

means Jesus is born perfect and sinless – and can keep all of God’s commands perfectly – and He is able to be the perfect sacrifice for sins – by His death a cruel cross – so people can be forgiven their sins! And He is able to rise from the dead – to give all who believe in Him – eternal life.

After His resurrection, Jesus ascended to Heaven and sits at the right hand of God and rules over Heaven and Earth forever!

This means **Jesus is the fulfilment of God’s promise to David** that there would be a **forever King on David’s throne!**

From a heavenly perspective - **King Jesus inherits His throne and kingdom from His Heavenly Father** – through a virgin birth through the Holy Spirit.

And from an Earthly perspective – **King Jesus inherits His throne and Kingdom from his earthly ancestor King David** – through birth from his mother Mary – a descendant of David.

Challenging Questions

Now it's all very well to say – **Jesus is the ultimate King – fully human and fully divine** – and the fulfilment of God's promises. All that's true.

But - **Jesus needs to be our personal King!**

So, I want to explore three challenging questions to help us think through, **what it means for Jesus to be King of our life!**

[Slide-Q1]

Q1 - If Jesus is King of our life, what does that look like and what areas of our lives need to come under His control?

For Jesus to be King of our life, it means:

- We need to have a **personal relationship** with Him
- We need to **acknowledge His authority** over our lives
- We need to **submit our lives to Him** and **acknowledge He is sovereign**
- We need to **live out His Kingdom values** -things like **love, humility, selflessness, justice, mercy and forgiveness**; a lot of which are the opposite to what happens in our society

- We need to **be servant of all** (Mark 9:35) and **sacrificial** (John 15:13)

What about **areas of our life that might need to come under His rule:**

- We need to **examine our hearts** – is there **fear, anger, bitterness or unforgiveness**. These must be repented!
- We need to **align our will with His will**
- We must **be peacemakers** in our relationships; not **peacebreakers or peace fakers**.
- And **be good stewards** of the gifts and possessions God has blessed us with
- And **submit our lives** – our **plans**, our **family**, our **future** to Him
- **Seek first God's Kingdom** [**make God 1st priority**] and seek His righteousness [**and want to be like Jesus**]?
- **Build up treasures in Heaven** – by sharing our faith with others?

[Slide-Q2]

Q2 - How do we acknowledge King Jesus in our daily life?

If we think about our daily walk – and if Jesus is really King of our lives – **here's**

some ways we can acknowledge His kingship over us on a daily basis:

- Acknowledge Jesus as King **through daily prayer** and **surrender our hearts** to Him each day
- **Submit our plans** to Him daily? Ask, what would Jesus think, say or do?
- **Align our thoughts and desires to His will** by allowing His truth to shape our thinking and our desires. This means **regularly immersing ourselves in God's Word** so that we learn what He values and desires!

- Desire each day **to bring glory to Him** and not **glory** to ourselves!
- **Obey** His commands
- Thinking how we might **serve** God and others each day
- Regularly **confess** our sins and **repent**
- Ask God to show us **ways we can love others** today
- Ask God to give us **Gospel opportunities** to share our faith in Jesus today

[Slide-Q3]

Q3 - How does having Jesus as King of our lives, affect how we live and how we see the future?

- Knowing Jesus is king of our lives – and knowing He also suffered and told us we would have trouble in this world – we can live knowing He is with us in our struggles and promises to be with us to the very end of the age. We also know we have a better place in Heaven to look forward to – so our struggles are temporary in the scheme of eternity!
- Because of Jesus – we are forgiven and have eternal life – so our future is certain – we have the assurance of Heaven. We can live this life with the joyous hope of Heaven!

To finish up then – Jesus is our King and He has all authority in Heaven and on Earth – and He gives us our response in Matthew 28:18-20:

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the

Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Let's pray...

Father God, we thank You for the promises You made to King David and for the fulfillment of those promises in Jesus, our eternal King. Thank You, Jesus, for being both the Son of David and the Lord of all, reigning in power and grace. We recognize You as the King of our lives and ask that You rule over our hearts, our decisions, and every part of our lives. Help us to live in submission to Your reign, trusting in Your faithfulness and looking forward to Your eternal Kingdom. May we honour You as our King in all we do. In Your precious name, we pray. Amen.