**2 Samuel 7. Promises to David’s House, 5/25/2018**

**Opening**

* What do you think about the royal wedding of Harry and Meghan? After the wedding, have they fought thus far? Will they break up in the future? What makes or breaks a marriage?
  + What makes or breaks the relationship between God and a person or a people?
* When a person’s major wish gets granted, what will he/she usually do, e.g., when you got into a good university after a severe college entrance examination, or when David became the king of Israel?
  + When that wish gets denied, what will he/she do, e.g., when many job applications got denied, or prior experiences of some of active shooters of school shooting events?
  + How would one make up his/her mind? How about us?
* Do you think that God, the creator of the universe, would actually live in a tent among people?
  + Where is God now?
  + Has God been with us? Good or bad?
* Do you remember what we discussed last Friday? The Ark Brought to Jerusalem. Uzzah and the Ark. David and Michal.

**Outline** (ESV Study Bible)

1. Story of King David ([1:1–20:26](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+1-20/))
   1. David and the death of Saul ([1:1–27](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+1/))
   2. David becomes king ([2:1–5:5](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+2-5.5/))
   3. Jerusalem, the city of David ([5:6–25](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+5.6-25/))
   4. Zion, the place of worship ([6:1–23](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+6/))
   5. Davidic covenant: eternal throne ([7:1–29](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+7/))
   6. Catalog of David’s military activities ([8:1–18](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+8/))
   7. Mephibosheth ([9:1–13](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+9/))
   8. Israel-Ammon war ([10:1–12:31](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+10-12/))
      1. Beginning of Israel-Ammon war ([10:1–19](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+10/))
      2. David and Bathsheba ([11:1–12:25](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+11-12.25/))
      3. End of Israel-Ammon war ([12:26–31](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+12.26-31/))
   9. Absalom’s banishment and reinstatement ([13:1–14:33](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+13-14/))
   10. Absalom’s rebellion ([15:1–19:43](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+15-19/))
       1. Absalom’s conspiracy ([15:1–12](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+15.1-12/))
       2. David’s escape from Absalom ([15:13–16:14](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+15.13-16.14/))
       3. Ahithophel and Hushai ([16:15–17:23](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+16.15-17.23/))
       4. David arrives at Mahanaim ([17:24–29](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+17.24-29/))
       5. Death of Absalom ([18:1–19:8a](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+18-19.8/))
       6. David’s return to Jerusalem ([19:8b–43](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+19.8-43/))
   11. Sheba’s rebellion ([20:1–26](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+20/))
2. Epilogue ([21:1–24:25](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+21-24/))
   1. Famine and the death of Saul’s sons ([21:1–14](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+21.1-14/))
   2. Philistine wars ([21:15–22](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+21.15-22/))
   3. Song of David ([22:1–51](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+22/))
   4. Last words of David ([23:1–7](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+23.1-7/))
   5. David’s heroes ([23:8–39](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+23.8-39/))
   6. The census and the threshing floor ([24:1–25](https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+24/))

**The Lord's Covenant with David (7:1-17)**

* 2 Sam. 7:1–29 Davidic Covenant: Eternal Throne. This chapter, with its messianic promise, is a key passage in the history of salvation. The Lord promises to make one family, that of David, the representative of his people forever. Verses 8–17 are often described as the “Davidic covenant,” even though the term “covenant” does not appear there. But in Ps. 89:3 this promise is described using the words, “I have made a covenant with my chosen one.” David expresses his desire to build a house for the Lord. But the Lord does not approve, and instead states on his own initiative that he will establish David’s house (i.e., dynasty) eternally, promising him an eternal throne: “And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever” (2 Sam. 7:16). This is not, however, a guarantee that every occupant of the throne of David will himself enjoy the blessings without regard for his own piety (v. 14). Psalm 132:11 says that on this occasion the Lord swore to David with “a sure oath,” from which he would not turn back, that “one of the sons of your body I will set on your throne” (cf. 2 Sam. 7:12). This points to Solomon, who would “sit on the throne of Israel” and build “the house for the name of the Lord” (1 Kings 8:20), and eventually to Jesus, the Messiah who would sit on the throne eternally, thus establishing David’s throne forever (2 Sam. 7:16; Luke 1:32–33). See 2 Chron. 13:5; 21:7; Ps. 89:20–38; Isa. 55:3; Jer. 33:17, 20–22; etc. ESV Study Bible.
  + Psalm 89:3-4, A Maskil of Ethan the Ezrahite. You have said, “I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant: ‘I will establish your offspring forever, and build your throne for all generations.’”
  + Psalm 132:11-12, A Song of Ascents. The Lord swore to David a sure oath from which he will not turn back: “One of the sons of your body I will set on your throne. If your sons keep my covenant and my testimonies that I shall teach them, their sons also forever shall sit on your throne.”
* 2 Sam. 7:6–7 I have not lived in a house. Nothing in the regulations about the ark in Exodus suggests that it was placed in a building; rather, it needed carrying poles (Ex. 25:10–16). The shrine at Shiloh did have a door and was called a “house” or “temple” (1 Sam. 1:9; 3:3, 15), but even a tent could be called a “house,” and since there is also a reference to the “entrance of the tent of meeting,” it may be that some kind of structure was built around the tent at Shiloh. The ark had also been in the house of Abinadab (2 Sam. 6:3) for several decades, but that was considered a temporary expedient. ESV Study Bible.
* 2 Sam. 7:8–17 God will not let David build him a house; rather, he will build David a house, i.e., a ruling dynasty. According to 1 Kings 5:3, Solomon said David was not able to build the temple “because of the warfare with which his enemies surrounded him,” and in 1 Chron. 22:8 David says the Lord said he could not do so because “you have shed much blood and have waged great wars. You shall not build a house to my name, because you have shed so much blood before me on the earth.” ESV Study Bible.
* Discussion
  + Do you think that God, the creator of the universe, would actually live in a tent among people? Where is God now? Has God been with us?
  + Why did God choose David for the covenant? What had David done?
  + What are the key points of the covenant? Significant? Did David know that?
  + Where is David’s kingdom now? If we cannot find it among the list of countries of the world now, is V. 13 “I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever” true?
  + How would God discipline a person? Through miracles or signs?
    - V. 14. “I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men.” What are implications?

**David's Prayer of Gratitude (7:18-29)**

* 2 Sam. 7:18–29 In this moving prayer, David uses the phrase O Lord God eight times, expressing his close intimacy with his God. This is instruction for mankind (v. 19) means that all people can learn about God’s faithfulness and grace from his promises to David. There is none like you, and there is no God besides you (v. 22). This is an explicit statement of monotheism. Then follows the expression who is like your people Israel, which describes the incomparability (hence the uniqueness) of Israel, God’s people, whom he has redeemed from Egypt and established for himself forever. ESV Study Bible.
* Discussion
  + When a person’s major wish gets granted, what will he/she usually do? When that wish gets denied, what will he/she do? How would one make up his/her mind? What did David do at this juncture of his life? What was his mentality about himself, about his house, and about his people? What had David, his house, or his people done? How about us?
  + Why did God choose Israel as His people? Implications in the Old Testament? In the New Testament? What caused the transition?

**Wrapping up**

* V. 24. O Lord, become our God!
* What are your favorite verses?

Peter Luh, Chunlong Liu, Abby Lau and Yue Wang, 5/24/2018

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