

2 Samuel 7:1-29 | “A Momentous Revelation”
Preached on August 21, 2022 by Pastor Matt Brown

Please turn in your Bibles to 2 Samuel 7 this morning. *[pause]*

Have you ever heard a significant announcement that changed everything? *[pause]*

Maybe for you it was when you heard that you were pregnant, or that your wife was pregnant.

Maybe it was when you heard that you got the job that you’ve always wanted, or that you got accepted into the college that you applied for. *[pause]*

Those are momentous revelations on the individual level, but there are also momentous revelations on a global scale.

Maybe it was news about war or peace or a new leader that really changed the course of history.

Well as we consider 2 Samuel 7, it holds one of the most significant revelations in all of the Bible.

But before we get to that revelation, let’s see what comes before it, starting in verse 1. *[read verses 1-7]*

David is reigning as king and things are going well for him, as he’s currently not fighting any battles.

And so he starts to look around at his new palace and he sees how God’s house is in a mere tent. *[pause]*

This leads him to feel bad that he has a better house than God, and so he determines to build God a permanent structure.

Nathan is just like, “OK, that sounds good to me. Do it.”

But God intervenes and stops David in his tracks. *[pause]*

The Lord talks to Nathan that very night to show David that he would not be the one to build Him a house.

Why?

Well first, God explains that ever since the Exodus, God has been with Israel in a tent, moving with Israel.

The second reason that God gives David is that He never told him to build Him a house.

It’s like God is reminding David that He is the boss and not the other way around.

If God wants something done, He would have told David to do it. *[pauseeee]*

And so after God tells David not to build this house that he wanted to build, you would think that that would be it: story over.

Instead, in this moment, God determines to give David an amazing promise: David won't build Him a house, but rather, God will build David a house.

And this 'house' is a play on words, for really, He is talking about David's family line and dynasty as king.

And so that promise is what we will see first...

I. God has given an amazing promise!

We all make promises throughout our lifetimes, but our promises are nothing like God's.

Ours fail, His are fulfilled.

Ours are small, His are significant.

And here is an ultra-significant promise made by the great Promise-Keeper...

Listen in, beginning in verse 8...*[read verses 8-17]*

Wow, talk about a promise! It's a jaw-dropping one, for sure. *[pause]*

Put yourself in David's shoes at this moment.

He is king, but he has seen what happened to Saul and his dynasty: short-lived, wasn't it?

Will that be his legacy, too?

And not to mention, in that day, a common thing was to wipe out the prior king's whole family when another person took over.

So your future and your family's future was tenuous at best as king.

Yet God answers with a power-packed promise of not only a long dynasty of kings in his family, but an *eternal* kingship of one of his descendants! *[pauseeee]*

We all want to make an impact on the world, and we want our family legacy to flourish, don't we?

Well David gets that from God.

His name would be great, and his dynasty would be eternal, promised and done by God Himself.

Talk about the joy and hope that that would give to David about His family's future! [pause]

But it also brings joy and hope to Israel, who were looking for a kingly savior.

Someone from them would reign as king forever, but not only that, but they would be planted in a place, dwell secure, and not be afflicted by other nations.

This is a promise of utmost hope!

Israel wouldn't be forgotten, but one would rule them forever. *[pauseeee]*

You see, this chapter is truly an important part of Scripture because in it, God was showing David his grand plan for God's people.

Through his offspring, one would rule forever. *[pause]*

Based on this Davidic covenant, later Old Testament writers and prophets put their hope and made it more clear.

Isaiah talks about a child being born, and he says...

“Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore...”¹ *[pause]*

Jeremiah says, “In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.”² *[pause]*

Ezekiel says, “...I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David... And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them...”³ *[pause]*

There was going to be a coming descendent of David who would rule with justice and righteousness.

And then you get to the New Testament, and you find out who this is!

Solomon may have partially fulfilled some of these promises, but we find that the ultimate fulfillment is in Jesus.

What does the angel tell Mary?

That she will conceive and bear a son named Jesus...

“And the Lord God will give to 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.”⁴ *[pause]*

¹ Isaiah 9:6-7.

² Jeremiah 33:15.

³ Ezekiel 34:23-24.

⁴ Luke 1:31-33.

Paul in Acts affirms that Jesus is the promised One when talking about David, he states, “Of this man’s offspring God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus, as he promised.”⁵

And even Jesus proclaims of himself, “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne.”⁶

And finally in Revelation we are told that someday they will say, “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever.”⁷

[pauseeee]

Jesus is the promised King in the line of David!

He is the true Son of God to the Father, and unlike the other Davidic kings, he didn’t commit iniquity, yet because of *our* iniquity, he faced the rod and stripes of men.

Yet the Father was well pleased in Him and His steadfast love never departed from Him. *[pause]*

Someday he will plant His people in a land so that we will not face affliction anymore.

He has truly built a house for the Father, for He is the chief cornerstone, and we the house.⁸

And He is coming someday again to rule and reign on earth forever.

This is our King: Jesus Christ! *[pauseee]*

Praise God that He has made an amazing promise, and fulfilled it in Jesus!

Our Savior has come, He has conquered sin and death, and we long for His return and His reign to be fully realized!

But even now, we bow the knee to Him, who has all authority in heaven and on earth.⁹

We seek to follow the Kingdom commandments that He has given us, and we proclaim the good news of His kingdom, seeking all people to be a part of it. *[pauseee]*

So much more could be said about this amazing promise and the fulfillment of it, but what does this promise to David show us about God?

First, He is the God of all grace, who gives grace upon grace.¹⁰

God had shown David *past* grace by taking him as a shepherd and making him prince over the people.

⁵ Acts 13:23.

⁶ Matthew 25:31.

⁷ Revelation 11:15.

⁸ See 1 Peter 2:4-6.

⁹ See Matthew 28:18.

¹⁰ A reference to 1 Peter 5:10 & John 1:16.

And now God promised *future* grace to David of an eternal kingdom from his family line.
[pause]

David didn't deserve anything, for we just learned about his failure in transporting the Ark the right way in the previous chapter.

God didn't need to initiate anything, for He simply could have just told David to not build him a house, and left it there.

Yet God takes the initiative and proclaims amazing news to David. *[pauseeee]*

God in His grace takes the initiative to promise and give good to undeserving people! *[pause]*

David wanted to give God a house, but God is like, "Actually, I'm going to give YOU a house."

He is the great Giver, who gives in abundance and gives to people who don't deserve anything.
[pauseeee]

You see, what happened here with David wanting to build a house and God saying 'No' and giving a promise instead, is this...

God's plans don't always match the good plans we want to do, but God's promised plans are always better in the end.

He has a purpose in every "No" or "Not yet" answer that He gives. *[pause]*

We must always remember this, so that when His answers are "No" it really means "I've got something better in store."

And when we truly believe that, then no matter how He answers, we can rejoice. *[pauseeee]*

Have you been discouraged, angry, or frustrated because God's answer has been "No" or "Not yet" in your life?

Remember David's desire to build a house for the Lord.

It was good, but God had a better plan, and this plan was so much better for David.

Will you trust His answers, no matter what they are? *[pauseeee]*

In God's promise to David, we not only see His grace, but we see His faithfulness.

His faithfulness plows through any obstacle against it.

Enemies? Israel will be planted and violent men can't afflict them anymore.

Death? Even though David will die, God will raise up for him offspring to establish his kingdom.

Sin? Even if David's kingly descendants commit iniquity, David's line won't be cast aside like Saul's, but God in love would discipline that king.

And through it all, His steadfast love would remain. *[pause]*

Time and any other threat? David's offspring's kingdom will be established forever.

Nothing, absolutely nothing can stop God from being faithful to His promises! *[pause]*

Our enemies can't! Death can't! Our sin can't!

His steadfast love never departs the one who He has promised good to! *[pauseeee]*

What a comfort to us who are in Christ!

He has promised to never leave us or forsake us.

He has promised forgiveness and eternal life.

Since He has promised, and since His faithfulness stands up against any threat, then we can rest secure! *[pause]*

Our physical death won't break His promise to give us eternal life.

Our sin won't break His promise of forgiveness.

Our failures won't change the fact that we are His children because He has promised that we are His children by faith in Jesus. *[pause]*

This means that we can look at any promise of His and say, "It's a done deal." *[pauseeee]*

Christ is the promised Davidic king and HE WILL reign forever.

He will never be ousted, toppled, or unseated from His kingship, no matter what the powers of this evil world try to do.

The nations rage and plot in vain, they try to go against the Lord and His Anointed, but God laughs, for sets His King in Zion, and he will break them with a rod of iron.

They should tremble, but we are blessed because we can take refuge in Him!¹¹ *[pauseeee]*

This is an amazing promise from God, but how should we respond to such promises?

We ought to respond like David responded...

II. We should respond with praise and prayer.

¹¹ A summary of Psalm 2.

When you have little kids (like I do), one of the greatest things to watch is the wonder and awe on a child's face when they see or experience something they think is amazing.

Their face lights up, their mouth opens up, and their eyes are fixated on what's happening.

They have this joy that comes over them which can cheer anyone's heart. *[pause]*

The thing with wonder and awe is that they can't be forced.

You can't force someone to be filled with wonder over something or else it's not truly wonder. *[pause]*

True wonder comes naturally, and it's wonder that we see come out of David in his response to this great promise.

Listen in on verses 18-21 to see David's wonder...*[read verses 18-21]*

David goes, sits before the Lord, and gives a prayer of gratitude.

And he may be sitting, but he's standing in awe at the grace of God. *[pause]*

He first brings out the fact that he didn't deserve this.

He says, "Who am I, O Lord God, and what is my house, that you have brought me thus far?" *[pause]*

He considers God's past grace in his life, and he's amazed how he has taken him from being this little boy in the sheep field to being king over Israel. *[pauseeee]*

Reflect upon the past grace of God in taking you thus far in your life.

Consider all that He has done, and remember that you didn't deserve any of it!

You sinned against Him, yet He has brought you thus far!

Though you were an enemy of God, He graciously saved you, redeemed you, and gave you forgiveness forever!

Not only that, but even after the moment of salvation, He has worked in your life, and He has given you blessing upon blessing. *[pause]*

Stand in wonder at His past grace in your life!

Sit before Him and say, "Who am I?"

Don't ever forget it - like David never forgot where he was taken from and where he was now. *[pauseeee]*

The truth is, we didn't deserve the past grace in our life, so if God stopped giving grace now, then He would still be just and loving.

Yet David says that what He has done is small compared to what He promised to do through his family line. *[pause]*

Isn't that just like us?

God has shown us great love in the past, yet He also promises great love to come! *[pause]*

Think of how He has promised great good for our future.

We are co-heirs with Christ, and we are promised an inheritance, which is kept for us in Heaven.¹²

We are promised eternal life in an eternal kingdom with no more sin, sorrow, or suffering. *[pause]*

In light of this, we have to say like David says in verse 20, what else can we say to Him?

Our words could never repay Him for His lavish love, they would never measure up, so all we can do is sit in wonder and gratitude! *[pauseeee]*

But why does He do all this for us?

Why does He make it known to such lowly people as us what He has done and what He will do?

David says that it's, "Because of your promise, and according to your own heart." *[pause]*

That is, God didn't do all this because David was this amazing righteous person in Himself, and God was rewarding Him according to works.

No, rather, God did this because that's who He is!

He is faithful to His Word, and He is gracious, so He did this out of the overflow of His heart and character. *[pauseeee]*

Our only hope in life and death is God's character.

He's loving and gracious, so we have forgiveness.

He's faithful so we can know we have a home in Heaven. *[pauseeee]*

You see, David reminds us that wonder is the rightful, appropriate way to respond to the amazing grace of God.

Do you stand in awe and wonder at what God has done in your life?

¹² See Romans 8:17 & 1 Peter 1:4.

For many people, their problem is at the root: they think that they deserve what God has given them.

But when you truly realize how undeserving you are, then you can't help but sit in wonder and say, "Who am I, O Lord God?" *[pauseeee]*

As we see from David, wonder doesn't stop at wonder and fizzle out, but true, genuine wonder leads to praise.

Look down at verses 22-24, which say this...*[read verses 22-24]*

David's wonder led to praise of God for His greatness.

That is, he couldn't help but worship! *[pause]*

He praises God for His greatness, and says that there is none like Him, no God besides him. *[pause]*

God has no rivals, He is totally unique and great.

No one can compare, but He stands alone above all others.

This is our God! He is the one and only true God of the Universe.

The title and position of God is not open to applicants or competitors, for it always has been and always will be filled by the Lord. *[pauseeee]*

David doesn't stop there in worship, for he also talks about the uniqueness and blessing of God's people.

Since this great God has chosen a people, then that people is unique and blessed. *[pause]*

He has chosen a people to redeem using His mighty power to do so.

He has become their God, and established them forever. *[pause]*

By this gracious initiative and work, they have now become unique and blessed because He has chosen to work on their behalf.

We are told in the New Testament that anyone who believes in Christ is now a part of the people of God, so this also applies to us!

He has chosen to redeem us through the Cross, we are His people, and we will be established forever! *[pauseeee]*

As you can see, our uniqueness as the people of God and the blessing that we receive doesn't come inherently from ourselves, but because God has *chosen* to redeem us. *[pause]*

What else can we do but worship Him!

He has done a great and awesome thing on the Cross of Christ!

He has redeemed us from slavery to sin and death through Christ dying for our sins and rising again.

Now we are established as His people forever!

He is with us and we will someday be with Him for all eternity. *[pause]*

Praise God for His greatness!

What a great and awesome God, who redeemed us to be His forever! There is none like Him!
[pauseeee]

So David wonders at God's grace, praises God for His greatness, and then he also prays according to His promises.

Let's READ verses 25-29. *[read verses 25-29]*

David says, "Do as you have spoken."

He has heard God's promise, now He wants God to turn that promise into reality. *[pause]*

Sometimes in our experience in life, God's promises don't seem to be showing up in reality.

So what are we to do?

Pray the promises of God! *[pause]*

Since God is always faithful, then we can ask Him to act according to what He has said, and that's what David is doing.

It's like he's saying, "I've heard your promise, now may it be so according to Your Word!"

It's a faith-filled prayer, which clings to a promise of God, and says, "Yes, Lord! I want this to happen!" *[pauseee]*

And David says that it's because of God's promise that he has the courage to pray boldly for that promise to come to be.

And so we are allowed to boldly pray the promises of God because He has promised them!
[pause]

Now we don't tell Him what to do as to the timing and specifics, but we can ask humbly in faith for Him to fulfill what He has said.

Our trust in Him working is that He is God, His words are true, and if He has promised something, then it will come to be. *[pauseeee]*

Do you ever pray and plead the promises of God?

When you are going through something hard, pray, “Lord, you have told me not to be anxious, but to let my requests be made known to you, and you have promised to give me peace when I do so...

...So now, please Lord, do as you have said, grant me the peace, which surpasses all understanding.”¹³ *[pause]*

When you are struggling with wondering if your needs will be met, pray, “Lord, I don’t know how my needs will be met, but you have promised to supply my needs, according to your riches in glory in Christ Jesus, so please do as you have said.”¹⁴ *[pause]*

Pray and plead the promises!

Cling to them with everything within you, remembering that God is truly God, and His words are true. *[pauseeee]*

As we sort of gather ourselves, take a step back, and think about this significant chapter of the Bible, what does it tell us?...

In grace, God has unveiled His plan of a King who would reign forever - Jesus Christ

David was promised that one of his offspring would be the eternal king and He has come.

We don’t have to wonder who He will be, but we know who He is.

Yet this promise of God hasn’t fully been realized, for we are told that He will come again to reign forever.

Daniel 7 says, “And behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him.

And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him;

his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.”¹⁵ *[pause]*

So how should we as believers respond?

¹³ See Philippians 4:6-7.

¹⁴ See Philippians 4:19.

¹⁵ Daniel 7:13-14.

With praise for our great God, and with a pleading of His promises, saying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”¹⁶ *[pause]*

But if you have never believed in this King Jesus, who died for you and rose again, then there’s something else for you to do.

Jesus in Revelation 22 says to you, “... ‘I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.’

The Spirit and the Bride say, ‘Come.’ And let the one who hears say, ‘Come.’ And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.”¹⁷

Bow the knee to the King, trust in what He did for you, and find life.

¹⁶ Revelation 22:20.

¹⁷ Revelation 22:16–17.