

DAVID

A MAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART

Pastor's Bible Study 2019

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Episode 7: FROM COVENANT TO CRASH

2 Samuel 7-12

October 23/24, 2019

I. THE DAVIDIC COVENANT

- a. The Proposal (7:1-17):
 - i. With the ark of the LORD in Jerusalem, David tells Nathan the prophet that he plans to build a temple for God to dwell in. David desires to build a dwelling that is fitting for the Ark of God, especially since David lives in a beautiful cedar palace while the Ark of God is housed in a tent. But God
 - ii. *David's request* (7:1-7): to build a house for God. The purpose (7:1-3): Nathan encourages David in his plan.
- b. The Prohibition (7:4-7): The Lord appears to Nathan, telling him that David is not to build the temple, but David's son will build it.
- c. The Promises (7:8-17):
 - i. The Promise to David (7:8-11): The Lord declares that David's kingdom will prosper and his name will be known throughout the world!
 - ii. The promise to David's descendant (7:12-15): The Lord promises to bless David's son even after David's death.
 - iii. The promise to David's descendants (7:16-17): The Lord promises that David's dynasty will never end.
- d. The Prayer (7:18-29): With his heart filled with awe and gratitude, David praises the Lord for his promise.

II. David's Military Activities (8:1-18)

III. For the love of Jonathan and Saul: Mephibosheth (9:1-13). 2 Samuel 4:4 ⁴ *Jonathan, the son of Saul, had a son who was crippled in his feet. He was five years old when the news about Saul and Jonathan came from Jezreel, and his nurse took him up and fled, and as she fled in her haste, he fell and became lame. And his name was Mephibosheth.* ¹

IV. Israel- Ammonite War 10:1-12:31

- a. Beginning of the Israel- Ammonite War
- b. David and Bathsheba (11:1-12:25)—*see below*.
- c. End of the war (12:26-31)

V. David and Bathsheba (11:1-12:25)

- a. While his army is out fighting against the Ammonites, David remains in Jerusalem. At this time, however, he commits adultery with a woman named Bathsheba, whose husband Uriah is away fighting in David's army (2 Sam. 11).
- b. When David finds out that Bathsheba is pregnant, he tries to cover up his actions.
- c. After his plans fail on two occasions, he writes a letter to Joab, his military

¹ *The Holy Bible: English Standard Version*. 2001 (2 Sa 4:4). Wheaton: Standard Bible Society.

officer, telling him to place Uriah in the front line so that he will be killed in battle. David's plan succeeds and Uriah is killed.

- d. God sends Nathan the prophet to expose his sin.
 - i. Nathan confronts David by telling him a compelling parable about a rich man who takes a poor man's only ewe lamb (2 Sam. 12).
 - ii. After hearing the story, David is angry at the rich man and pronounces the verdict that the man deserves to die. Nathan then explains that David is that man!
 - iii. God's Punishment:
 1. Nathan tells David that because he has killed Uriah, the sword will not depart from his house.
 2. God will also take his wives; they will be given to someone else, because he has taken the wife of Uriah (for the fulfillment of this prophecy, see 2 Sam. 16:21-22).
 3. Nathan tells David that his son will die because David has given occasion for God's name to be dishonored.
 - iv. David's immediate response is to confess his sin, recognizing that he has sinned against God (2 Sam. 12:13), but in a remarkable act of grace, the prophet announces that God has taken away David's sin. See Psalm 51!
 1. According to the Mosaic law, a person who commits adultery is to be stoned to death (Lev. 20:10; Deut. 22:22) and a murderer is to be killed (Exod. 21:12; Lev. 24:17).
 2. Based on the legal requirements of the law, therefore, David is worthy of death on two accounts. Instead of being killed for his transgressions, however, David receives divine mercy; his life is spared, and his sins are taken away. This is, indeed, an amazing act of grace. Already in his own life, David experiences the forgiveness of God who justifies the ungodly.
 3. David speaks of God's forgiveness in Psalm 32, saying: "Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity" (Ps. 32:1-2).
 4. David knows that he is a sinner (2 Sam. 12:5, 13; Ps. 51:1-4), yet in an act of mercy God does not take into account his sin.
 - v. Though David himself receives mercy, the child born to him by Bathsheba becomes ill and dies because of his sin (2 Sam. 12:15-23). Bathsheba conceives again and gives birth to a son named Solomon, who is also called Jedidiah, "beloved of the LORD" (2 Sam. 12:24-25).
 - vi. The remaining years of David's life are plagued by war, civil war, and family troubles.