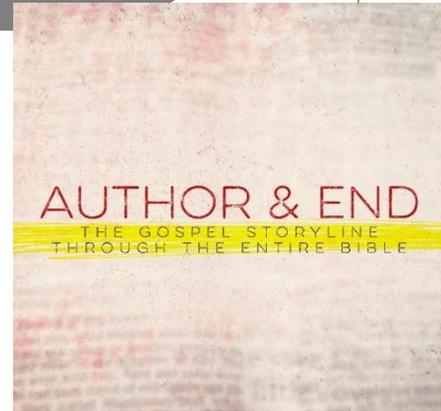


# A CLARIFIED COVENANT

## Lesson 15 – 2 Samuel 5-8

So, the people of Israel desired, requested, and received a human king to rule their nation. The first monarchy of Israel did not turn out so well on a personal level. Saul proved that the people needed a “God-king”, not a “hero-king”. Israel’s second anointed ruler proved to be a better option because at least he was a “godly-king”. David had many failures, yet through the mercy of God, he was a “a man after God’s own heart.” However, the thing that marks the greatness of David’s reign is not David’s action. The remarkable note about His kingdom is the fact that God made a covenant to clarify even further how He would work toward man’s redemption.



### A NEW KING → A NEW CITY → A NEW COVENANT

- The events preceding this new covenant can help point us toward the purpose of the covenant.
  - The ark of the covenant had been taken by the Philistines in battle. It was then passed from city to city amongst the Philistines. Wherever the ark went, the inhabitants of the city were struck with plagues. Eventually, they sent it back to Israel with great gifts.
  - The ark came to rest in Kiryat Yearim for twenty years. Upon being made king of Israel, he took 30,000 men to bring the ark to his recently conquered new capital, Jerusalem. As the ark is coming to Jerusalem, Uzzah is killed after touching it. David left the ark in the house of Obed-edom for three months. God blessed his house.
  - After seeing the blessing, David brings the ark the rest of the way to Jerusalem. At this time, the Bible says that David and Israel had rest from their enemies (7:1). It was during this time of peace as David gets to live in his new house that he decides he needs to “build God a house in Jerusalem” as well (7:2)

### GOD’S RESPONSE TO DAVID’S OFFER

As noble as we may think David’s offer was, God records His response in Scripture so that it is clear who is truly the real king of Israel and from where the glory of Israel had come. God says:

1. I don’t have a need for a house. – 7:5-7
2. I never asked for a house. – 7:7
3. I chose David as king. – 7:8
4. I established David as king. – 7:9
5. I will make a place for Israel and bring them peace myself (as I already have). – 7:10-11

\*Throughout the entire Bible, God continues to point our eyes to Himself, not to His people. He does not elevate our “Biblical heroes”, but He elevates His glory. We must carefully learn from His Word that there is no one like Him. We don’t seek to be “like David” the great king of Israel. We seek to be like Christ the perfect king of all.

### THE DAVIDIC COVENANT – GOD’S PROMISE EXPANDED AND CLARIFIED.

This covenant is a “peak” in the story of Scripture. This is a unilateral covenant meaning that it is one way. It solely depends on the Lord. This covenant cannot be broken because it is completely up to God. Other unilateral covenants include the covenant to Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, and the New Covenant. There are three basic elements to this covenant:

1. Dwelling – the house of the Lord – 7:13
2. Dominion – the throne or authority of the kingdom – 7:13
3. Dynasty – the kingdom – 7:16

The house, throne, and kingdom of that God promises will last forever. – 7:16

### THE TEMPORAL ASPECTS OF THE COVENANT

1. Solomon would build the temporal house of God. – It was a magnificent physical house. It represented a place that God would dwell near His people.

2. God would not remove His mercy from Solomon even though he sinned, and he would remain on the temporal throne.
3. David's seed would continue to be the rulers of this temporal kingdom of Israel. David's Son did build the House of the Lord. God did continue his blessing on Solomon throughout his life. David's family did continue to rule over the kingdom on the throne of Israel. However, each of these were temporal. **The house was destroyed. The throne was overtaken and abandoned. The kingdom was shattered. Did God then break His promise? NO!**

**The house built by Solomon, the throne set up by David, and the kingdom of Israel are further proof that mankind is broken and has nothing to offer God's covenant. These temporary things are simply meant to focus our eyes on the permanent promises of God.**

## THE PROPHECIES OF PERFECT FULFILLMENT

Jeremiah 23:5-6

Isaiah 9:6-7

Luke 1:31-33

God was not finished yet.

## THE PERMANENT ASPECTS OF THE COVENANT

1. Jesus (a better Son of David) would come and would establish a permanent house of God. It is a magnificent spiritual house. A permanent temple where God lives in His people. (Heb. 3:3-6, 1 Peter 2:5)
2. Though he was made sin, Jesus brings mercy for all and will reign forever on a permanent throne.
3. God's better Son would establish a permanent kingdom that will never be conquered and will be established forever on this earth and in the heaven above.

**This is Jesus, the better Son of David. His house will include the church. His reign will include the whole earth. His kingdom will be established over all things for eternity, and no one else will ever rule it.**

Again, God continues to prove that His plan is bigger, His purpose is greater, and His kingdom is more vast than we can ever imagine. His plan never changes, His purpose is unhindered, and His kingdom has no weakness. We often keep our eyes focused on the physical things of this universe. If we would focus on the spiritual, we would see that God's perfect plan moves on.

## THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS COVENANT TO US

Acts 15:1-20 - The Jerusalem Council - Can "God's People" include the Gentiles?

Revelation 7:9

Revelation 11:15

