

Bible Overview 10: King David

David and Jonathan:

Saul still King but David is King in waiting. Saul is intent on killing David.

Jonathan, Saul's son – close friend to David, helps to protect David from the threats to his life his from Saul.

READ 1 Samuel 20:12-15

What things strike you as remarkable in these verses, especially remembering who Jonathan was?

End of 1 Samuel Saul and Jonathan, and Abinadab and Malki-Shua (other sons) are killed in battle.

David despite Saul's attempts to kill him has never sought to retaliate – ought of respect for the 'office' of the Lord's Anointed

2 Samuel 2 – David is anointed King over Judah.(In Hebron)

Conflict between David and Ish-bosheth, son of Saul.

In 2 Samuel 5 David becomes King over Israel and conquers Jerusalem.

2 Samuel 6 – the ark is brought to Jerusalem.

Jerusalem now established as the 'City of David'

*** 2 Samuel 7 ***

David now established in his palace – wants to build a 'house' for the Lord. The ark had been kept in a tent.

God answers David: David will not build a house for the Lord, the Lord will build a house for David.

God promises:

- I will make your name great (v9b)
- I will provide a place for my people to dwell in safety (v10)
- I will give my people rest from all your enemies (v11)
- I will establish a 'house' for you (v11)
- I will establish the kingdom of your offspring (v12)
- He will build a house for my name (v13)
- I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever (v13)
- Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever before me, your throne shall be established forever (v16)

Much of this incorporates the covenant promises to Abraham, but with the covenant with David some more promises are added.

The promise made to Abraham and his 'seed' or offspring, now further detail, that it will also be David's offspring. The 'serpent-crusher' will be descended from Abraham but also from David.

David's descendant will build a 'house' for God and God will establish his kingdom forever.

2 Sam 7:19 (ESV) "And yet this was a small thing in your eyes O Lord God. You have spoken also of your servant's house for a great while to come and this is instruction for mankind O Lord God"

David understands that scope of God's saving plan focussed on the establishing of his throne and kingdom forever is for the whole of humanity. (Remember Genesis 12 all peoples on earth will be blessed through you)

BUT remember also:

In the Old Testament we may see partial fulfilment of God's promises – ultimate fulfilment – only in Jesus.

READ v11b-16 – Who does this refer to?

From this point on the people of God are to expect and wait for the descendant of David, God's anointed King (Messiah/Christ) to come who will build a house for God and whose Kingdom will be established forever, he will be victorious over all the enemies of God's people and enable them to dwell in rest and safety in the Land God has promised to them.

READ Matthew 16:13-28

What does Jesus promise here that fulfils 2 Samuel 7?

What does Peter get right? Why is Peter so confused?

READ 2 Samuel 9 How do we see the gospel in this chapter? (Remember also Jonathan's plea to David in 1 Sam 20)

We look at the reigns of the kings after David in the coming weeks.

The Slender Thread

Jeremiah 22 (781)

Judah about to go into Exile, God's judgment has fallen. Following the death of King Jehoiakim, Jehoiachin (also called Coniah or Jeconiah) is king for 3 months in 597bc before being taken off into Exile

God says of him: "I will hand you over to those who seek your life (Babylon).. you will never come back to the land you long to return to...record this man as if childless, a man who will not prosper in his lifetime, for none of his offspring will

prosper, none will sit on the throne of David or rule any more in Judah" (22:25-30)

Why is this decree so devastating?

Take a careful look – what do you think God is saying, why does he want it recorded 'as if' this man was childless?

Read 1 Chronicles 3:17 (p404) Note the NIV heading before v10 and before v17 – what does that imply?

Ezekiel 21:25-27 (850) O profane and wicked prince of Israel take off the turban remove the crown it will not be as it was - a ruin, a ruin, I will make it a ruin it will not be restored **until he comes to whom it rightfully belongs – to him I will give it.**

The Exile is a devastating time in which God's judgment falls upon his people.

The 'Davidic line' is all but wiped out, only Jehoiachin/Jechoniah survives, but he is regarded as if childless.

The book of Jeremiah ends in a most curious way - From Chapter 46-51 there has been the relentless pronouncement of God's judgment and chapter 52 has been a recap/summary of the destruction of Jerusalem by Babylon, as part of the judgment of God

Read Jeremiah 52:31-34 - why does the book end in this way?

What does Jeremiah want us to know? (See also the ending of 2 Kings exactly the same)

(Remember Rev 12 – the dragon intent on devouring the child that the woman will give birth to – satanic intent to destroy the 'Davidic line')

There will be no more 'king's on the throne of Israel – until 'he comes to whom it rightfully belongs'.

After the Exile – Israel never has a King again.

But God has promised that he will establish the throne and kingdom of a descendant of David, a kingdom that will last forever and that will bring blessing to all the earth

In the bleak and despairing experience of the Exile with which Jeremiah and 2 Kings end, there is the tiniest seed of hope – Jehoiachin/Jechoniah has survived – the Davidic line is still in tact

there will be no more 'king's on the throne of Israel – until 'he comes to whom it rightfully belongs'.

READ Matthew 1:1-17

For Next time: Read 1 Kings 8 and John 4:1-45