**Understanding the Davidic Covenant – Part 1**

**2 Samuel 7**

**Introduction:**

1. This chapter contains one of the most important covenants in the Bible. Because God made this covenant with King David, it has been called the Davidic covenant.

2. Although the word “covenant” is not used in this chapter, other portions of Scripture identify these promises from God to David as a covenant.
2 Samuel 23:5; 2 Chronicles 21:7; Psalm 89:3-4, 28-29, 34-37

3. This covenant has eternal ramifications. The words “for ever” are used **nine** times in this one chapter. So, clearly, this is an extremely important passage of Scripture.

4. There is no way to understand prophecy without understanding this covenant that God made with David. The entire prophetic program hinges on the promises that God made to David in this covenant.

5. The actual promises and covenant are found in verses 8-16. God made promises concerning:

* The nation of Israel - vs. 10-11
* Solomon (David’s son) – vs. 12-15
* David – vs. 16

6. In this lesson, we want to focus on the promises that God made specifically to David. There are three major promises that God gave to David in verse 16.

**First promise – *“Thine house… shall be established for ever before thee…”***

1. The word *“house”* in the Bible can mean a physical abode, but it also means a physical line of descent.

* **Example**: 2 Samuel 9:1– Mephibosheth lived physically in the house of Machir (vs. 5), but he was physically descended from the house of Saul. cf. 2 Samuel 3:1
* **Example**: Luke 1:27, 2:4 - Joseph was of the house and lineage of David.

2. So, God was promising David that his line of descent (his seed) would endure for ever. vs. 23-24; cf. Psalm 89:34, 29, 36

3. Even when Jehoram did great evil as the king of Judah, God would not destroy the house of David because of the covenant that he had made with David.
2 Chronicles 21:7

**Second promise – *“Thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee…”***

1. God promised David an eternal kingdom that would stretch into eternity.

2. Although it may not be functional at all times (due to sin and disobedience), it would always have the potential of restoration.

* **Example**: God has promised us eternal, incorruptible bodies. They will cease to function for a time when we die. But, at any moment (the Rapture), we could receive those eternal bodies.

3. God would send chastisement upon Israel and may have temporarily stripped them of their kingdom, but God would never abandon the promise that He made to David – the promise that He would make David’s kingdom an eternal kingdom.

4. This is why, as the centuries went by, believers in Israel clung to the hope of a Messiah that would come and restore the Davidic kingdom. Luke 1:67-70,
2:25-26, 38

5. This is why, just before Jesus ascended to heaven, the disciples asked Him if He would at that time restore the kingdom to Israel. They knew Christ was the prophesied Messiah, and they knew that this meant the possible restoration of the kingdom. Acts 1:6

6. In fact, Jesus had taught them to pray for this: *“Thy kingdom come, thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.”* **Matthew 6:10**

7. Prophecy points to the day when this eternal kingdom is established on the earth.

**Third promise – *“Thy throne shall be established for ever.”***

1. The word “throne” speaks of ruling authority (2 Samuel 3:10). David would not simply have an eternal kingdom, but complete earthly dominion and authority.

2. Psalm 72 is a prophetic Psalm (a prayer of David) that anticipates this great day, when the Davidic throne is established over all the earth. vs. 6-9, 11, 17-19

3. Again, David’s throne may not have been functional at all times (due to sin and disobedience), but it would always have the potential of eternal restoration.