

THE HOUSEHOLD BLESSING

March 22, 2021

Read first 2 SAMUEL 7:18-29!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

David was very aware of how God had blessed him. That's what prompted him to visit the Lord's prophet. He told **Nathan** that he felt uneasy living in his **cedar** palace, while **the ark of God** was housed in a mere **tent**. Sensing the king's zeal for God and knowing that God was with him, Nathan encouraged David to do whatever he had in mind. But, the Lord had other plans.

That night, God gave Nathan a word for David. With regard to building a temple, God's response was essentially, "Thanks, but no thanks." From the time of the exodus to David's day, God had never demanded **a house** from the Israelites. So, there was no need for David to feel sorry for God. Instead, God reminded David that He had taken this shepherd boy from humble beginnings and made him king, even as he took Israel from being a nation of slaves and had planted them in their land. Far from needing provision, **God had always been the Provider.**

Don't miss the shock value of this statement: The Lord himself would make a house for you. God was engaging in Word play. Instead of David building God a house (that is, constructing a temple for him), God would build David a house (that is, he would raise up a kingly dynasty for him). God promised that he would establish the kingdom of David's descendants. It was this king who would build a house (a temple) for the name of the Lord. God would be his father, and the king would be his son. If he rebelled, God would discipline him, but his faithful love would never depart from him. Thus, the house and kingdom of and throne of David would be established forever.

When Nathan reported all of this to David, the king was overwhelmed. He responded with a prayer of praise and humble worship, recognizing his unworthiness. He asked God, Who am I...that you have brought me this far? (**7:18**). (If that isn't the testimony of your own heart, you don't yet see the depth of your sin and the lavish grace and kindness of God.) David also magnified the Lord for doing great things for him, for Israel, and for future generations (**7:19-27**). Finally, David prayed that God would fulfill his promise (**7:25-29**).

In this last part of David's request, we see a reminder that when you don't know what else to pray, you should ask God to fulfill his promises, because "if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us" (**1 John 5:14**). So, like David, pray that the promises God has made in eternity become a reality in your history.

Building a house can be compared to building a life. Making sure the foundation is solid as concrete. Laid perfectly with little or no cracks but with a enough tension so that the house settles well over the years. Then comes come the electric, installation, drywall and the roof. All the details that build walls of understanding and knowledge. Precious and pleasant riches can be anything from the security you create, your grandmother's dishes, and of course the precious children you raise.

God says the storms will come. Life will hit you. It maybe health, your kids, your marriage or any other relationship you have. The storms will come. But the house that is built on a rock will stand. I pray that God will continue to seek that strong foundation for your family.

SCRIPTURE READING: PROVERBS 24:3-4

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: "Having a place to go is home. Having someone to love is family. Having both is a blessing."

"A JOURNEY OF THE HEART"