

**Agape House of Worship**  
**Bible Study - Wednesday July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025**

**Study Series: A Man After God's Own Heart**  
**Scripture: 2 Samuel 7:1-29**

**Part 9: The Davidic Covenant**  
**Teacher: Minister Joshua Dada**

**Overview: God's Covenant and David's Prayer**

David has just reclaimed the ark of God, brought it back to Jerusalem and God gave him rest from all his enemies (surrounding people groups with different gods). During his rest, the reality of the ark dwelling in a tent while he lives in a house of cedar dawns on him and it moves him to want to build a home, a permanent dwelling for the ark. It could also be supposed that David was motivated by the death of Uzzah (2 Samuel 6) and wanted to uphold a standard of reverence for the ark of God. Overwhelmed with this desire, he summons Nathan (his advisor) and shares this desire with him, and Nathan sees it as good and blesses it. The Lord, however, did not see it this way and corrects Nathan and begins to reveal to him what He desires for David. Nathan shares this revelation with David, and it moved him to go and sit before His very presence and begin to offer God thanksgiving which turned into praise and concluded with prayer. What started off as David's desire for God by way of building for God turned into God's desire for David to redeem and build him.

*2 Samuel 7:2 "that the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells inside tent curtains." (NKJV)*

*2 Samuel 7:5 "Go and tell My servant David, 'Thus says the Lord: "Would you build a house for Me to dwell in?"' (NKJV)*

*2 Samuel 7:23 "And who is like Your people, like Israel, the one nation on the earth whom God went to redeem for Himself as a people, to make for Himself a name—and to do for Yourself great and awesome deeds for Your land—before Your people whom You redeemed for Yourself from Egypt, the nations, and their gods?" (NKJV)*

*Question 1: What is the ark of God and why was it important?*

**I. The Ark of God (Verse 1–2)**

The ark was central to life between the people of Israel and God, and it was the physical representation of Yahweh's covenant with His people. The ark housed the tablet of the ten commandments (Exodus 25:16) amongst other things. One of the main significances of the ark was it represented the very presence of God. Within the context of a tabernacle, wherever ark was is the Most Holy place or the Holiest place. One of the main feature of the ark was the mercy seat (Exodus 25:17). This represented God presence coming to rest on that seat and because of the blood sprinkled for atonement of sin, God dispenses His mercy instead of wrath and judgement. It is important to note that the covenant (the commandments) is covered by the mercy seat; it paints an image of God's mercy covering the people of Israel from wrath and judgement though they transgress the law. It also foreshadows God's design for us today receiving mercy by the blood of Jesus. Jesus became both High Priest and the sacrifice to appease God (Hebrews 9:11-15). Understanding this, let's look at it's significance to David within this text:

- The ark was to be revered. Uzzah paid for his irreverence with his life (2 Samuel 6:1-7). And after that moment, David was "afraid of the Lord that day" (2 Samuel 6:9).
- The ark brought about God's blessing (2 Samuel 6:11) but can also bring about His wrath (1 Samuel 5)
- The ark instituted rest (2 Samuel 7:1). Where His presence was, that was the place of rest (Numbers 9:15-23)

**II. God's Covenant (Verse 3–17)**

*Question 2: What is a covenant? And why would God enter covenant with His people if he already knows the end from the beginning?*

David wanted and felt the necessity to build the temple that will house the ark of God, but God said otherwise. What follows God correcting Nathan was a series of promises that He is making with David which ends with Jesus entering the picture. There are two ways we can look at this covenant: contextually and christologically i.e. the study of Jesus. Contextually, the original audience will understand the son to mean Solomon. Solomon was the son of David that succeeded his father and went on to build the temple that housed the ark.

Christologically, we as NT believers can see that God was also speaking of His Son, Jesus Christ. We see a lot of the same language from this covenant elsewhere in scripture which speaks of Jesus:

- **Isaiah 9:6-7**, *“Of the increase of His government and peace, there will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice.”* (v12-13)
- **Hebrews 1:5**, *“I will be to Him a Father, and He shall be to Me a Son”* (v14)
- **Luke 1:31-33**, *“And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son and shall call His name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.”* (v16)

If you look at all the covenants throughout the scripture, they all have the person of Jesus imbedded within its fulfillment. Jesus said in Matthew 5:17 that He came to fulfill the law and all promises, and scripture finds its fulfillment in the person of Christ. It is natural to believe when God makes a promise, it's all about me and what God wants to achieve in my life. While this is true, to God, it is not the full picture. The consummation of all things finds its fulfillment in Him. (**Isaiah 55:10-13, Revelation 19:10**)

#### **Some truths about a promise/covenant:**

- God intentionally intervenes into one's life making His will be known
- It is ultimately for His Glory
- It puts His character on display (Exodus 32:11-14)

### **III. David's prayer (Verse 18–29)**

*Question 3: What does it mean for God to redeem a people to Himself? And why is this important to Him?*

As mentioned earlier, David's response to God's covenant was broken up in three parts. The first was thanksgiving (**vs 18-21**), then he started to praise the wonders of who God is (**v22-24**), and he ends with a prayer in response to the covenant (**v25-29**). These are disciplines that should be inherent to all of God's children but before one can do any of this, one must first posture themselves as we see David do (vs 18). He went to sit before the Lord and dwell in His presence. David wanted God to dwell in a house, but God has transformed him in a way that led him back to his presence. The purpose of the ark wasn't to dwell in a house for blessings to come upon the land alone, but it was to draw men into that place forever. David left his throne to go sit before The Throne.

### **IV. Application**

One of the primary reasons for God's word is application i.e. living in accordance with His Word. In the book of Hebrews, the author speaks of the new covenant which is God putting His law on our minds and writing it on the tablets of our hearts. The purpose is that all may Know Him. God wants to see His word performed and obeyed. There is one way to which we can be sure to obey all the scripture, Jesus. He is the only One who has obeyed all the law, and we must rely on His righteousness not ours. How can we apply what we have just read?

- Seeking God's Agenda
- Prioritize the secret place
- Prayer
- Be eternity focused