

Faith and Love C.O.G.I.C Sunday School

Lesson 8 April 21, 2024

SON OF DAVID

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SON OF DAVID

- ▶ Bible Basis: Psalm 89:35-37; Isaiah 9:6-7; Matthew 1:18-21
- ▶ Bible Truth: Our decisions affect the future of our descendants.
- ▶ Memory Verse: “And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet” (Matthew 1:21-22, KJV)
- ▶ Lesson Aim: By the end of the lesson, we will EXPLAIN how our personal decisions can positively or negatively affect our lives and the lives of others; FIND comfort in knowing that God’s promises to us don’t expire; and PLAN to live for a higher purpose as a selfless act for God and for generations to come.
- ▶ Background Scriptures: Psalm 89, Isaiah 9, Matthew 1, and Luke 1– Read and incorporate the insights gained from these Scriptures into your study of the lesson.

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Lesson Scripture: Psalm 89:35-37, KJV

35 Once have I sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David.

36 His seed shall endure for ever, and his throne as the sun before me.

37 It shall be established for ever as the moon, and as a faithful witness in heaven. Selah.



Lesson Scripture: Isaiah 9:6-7, KJV

6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

7 Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

Lesson Scripture: Matthew 1:18-21, KJV

18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily.

20 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins.

LIGHT ON THE WORD

In **Psalm 89:36–37**, David’s enduring legacy is likened to that of the sun and moon. As David’s seed, the birth of Jesus fulfilled the promise of an extraordinary lineage that would never expire. The significance was not lost on David. God made the sun, moon, and stars for specific purposes (**Genesis 1:14–18; Psalm 104:19**), and they serve as reminders of God’s promises. For instance, in Joseph’s dream, the sun, moon, and eleven stars (representing his brothers) bowed down to him—a prophetic dream signaling Joseph’s future rule as second-in-command to Pharaoh (**Genesis 37:9–11, 41:37–41, 42:6–9**).

Teaching the Bible Lesson

LIFE NEED FOR TODAY'S LESSON:

AIM: We will realize the impact our personal decisions can have on the lives of others.

INTRODUCTION

David's Reign

Saul, Israel's first king, forfeited his throne due to sin and disobedience. The prophet Samuel informed Saul that God had stripped him of his office, saying, "But now your kingdom must end, for the LORD has sought out a man after his own heart" (**1 Samuel 13:14, NLT**). That man was David.

BIBLE LEARNING

AIM: We will learn and stand on the promises of
God.

I. A GOD SHOWS GRACE

God's Promise

Psalm 89:35-37

35 Once have I sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David. **36** His seed shall endure for ever, and his throne as the sun before me. **37** It shall be established for ever as the moon, and as a faithful witness in heaven. Selah.

After a period of rest, King David shared with the prophet Nathan a concern about the Ark of the Covenant's temporary dwelling. Nathan gave David the prophetic word and vision he had received: "If he [David's seed] commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men: But my mercy shall not depart away from him. . . . Thy throne shall be established for ever" (from **2 Samuel 7:14–16**).

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God's promise and David's response (v. 25) were uttered before David committed adultery or had Uriah killed, before Tamar was raped, before Absalom was killed, and before other grievous situations in David's life. Yet none of those events or others in ensuing years could break the promise of God. Rather, David's "kingdom will endure as the sun. It will be as eternal as the moon" (**Psalm 89:36–37, NLT**).

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The demonstration of God's grace in David's life is helpful for us. David, as flawed as he was, received God's mercy. Likewise, our flaws, though not excuses to continue in sin, make us prime candidates for God's mercy. Those who have put our trust in Jesus can stand on His promise to be with us always, even until the end of time (see **Matthew 28:20**).

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Psalm 89 is a song of praise. In the first eighteen verses, the psalm writer praised the Lord for His covenant made years earlier with David, making his descendants heirs to the throne always. **Verses 35–38** are the Lord's words affirming that promise. These verses are beautifully written as a "parallelism," a literary feature common in the psalms that uses similar words and phrases to convey the same idea or sentiment in two or more lines.

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This passage is staged as a courtroom setting with the Lord as the defendant. The Lord swears (Heb. *shaba*, **shaw-BAH**) by His holiness (Heb. *kadash*, **kaw-DASH**) that this promise is guaranteed. To swear is to make an oath to tell the truth. In the United States, witnesses in courtrooms often must swear to tell the truth under the penalty of being jailed or paying a fine.

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As if to emphasize the trustworthiness of the Lord's word in verse 35, the psalmist offered further testament to the promise to David. The Lord declared that David's seed (Heb. , **ZEH-rah**) shall endure (Heb. *hayah*, **haw- YAW**) forever (Heb. *olam*, **o-LAWM**).

The verb translated "endure" in the King James Version is literally "to live" in Hebrew.

David's seed or lineage shall always be in existence and his throne (Heb. *kisse*, **kis-SAY**)

shall last as long as the sun exists.

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As a people who were confident that the sun shone each day, they could trust that David's descendants would reign as long. The two lines using similar language to express the continuity of David's line are an example of parallelism. **Verse 37** continues this literary feature with the addition of the moon in parallel with the sun as a testament to the endurance of David's line. Just as the Lord placed the sun above, so also the Lord established the moon as a trustworthy witness.

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Not everyone called on to attest to the reliability of another's statement is dependable. Some witnesses are unreliable for various reasons, and some deliberately bear false witness. Recent studies have cast doubt on eyewitness accounts. However, the visibility of the sun and moon in the sky each day and evening as an assurance of the Lord's faithfulness resonated with the psalmist's audience that a descendant of David would remain on the throne.

LIGHT ON THE WORD

An Ideal Ancestor

David could not have imagined the Christ child born of a virgin, sinless and uniquely qualified to bring God's salvation to mankind. Nonetheless, his selfless determination to live for God, despite his failings, made him an ideal ancestor.

II. A STRONG FOUNDATION

God Purpose
Isaiah 9:6-7

6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

God's promise to David of an everlasting kingdom reveals His eternal purpose for mankind. Isaiah prophesied that one descendant "will rule with fairness and justice from the throne of his ancestor David for all eternity" (from **Isaiah 9:7, NLT**). Jesus is the Davidic descendant purposed to forge the way for mankind to be forever united with God.

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The first two lines of **verse 6** are another example of parallelism. “A child is born” and “a son is given” convey the same idea, emphasizing the importance of this birth. The prophet Isaiah saw in a vision that this child had already been born and bore the government (Heb. *misrah*, **mis-RAW**) upon His shoulder.

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The word translated as “government” in the KJV, the NLT, and NIV bibles; an as “authority” in the NRSV bible means “rule” or “dominion.” The passage uses Judean royal language found in the psalms (e.g., **Psalms 2, 45:6**) to refer to the enthronement of a descendant of David on the throne. The “royal psalms” sing of God’s chosen earthly representative to implement His universal rule and sovereignty.

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The various titles attributed to this future leader—Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace—were words of praise bestowed on a king at his coronation. Implicit in these titles is the notion that the king or ruler was divine, or at least a representative of the divine. This ruler, whom God promised to Israel, is from the line of David, embodies God’s presence with His people, and has His attributes. We can expect such a wonderful ruler to be discerning, protective, assuring, and able to bring the world peace forever.

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The Hebrew word for “increase” (*marbeh*, **mar-BEH**) also means abundance. Isaiah prophesied that with the ascension of David’s descendant to the throne, his kingdom would be enlarged, and peace will have no end (*kets*, **kates**). His government will be founded on justice (Heb. *mishpat*, **mish-PAWT**) and sustained by righteousness (Heb. *tzedekah*, **tsed-aw-KAW**) until the end of time.

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Justice is a term we usually associate with the act of deciding a case by a judge. A righteous judge executes right judgments. But we live in troublesome times, much like those during which the prophet Isaiah prophesied. Even so, we can be assured that there is a King on the throne who rules heaven and earth with righteousness now and forever. The Lord's "zeal" (Heb. *qinah*, **qin-AW**), also translated "jealousy," will bring about this vision because of His concern for the people and their welfare.

LIGHT ON THE WORD

Purposeful Family

God places us in families for a divine purpose that supersedes the need for personal interactions. His ultimate goal is for us to live that others would know Christ (**John 3:16**).

III. YOU CAN'T MESS IT UP

God's Plan

Matthew 1:18-21

18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. 19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily. 20 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. 21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins.

Joseph's contemplation to divorce Mary because of her pregnancy, if carried out, could have changed the course of history. But his obedience through the instruction of God's servant—an angel mentioned in **Matthew 1:20**—ensured that God's plan stayed on track.

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Matthew referred to Jesus by His title “Christ” (Gk. *Christos*, **khris-TOS**), the Greek transliteration for the Hebrew “messiah” (*mashiah*, **maw-SHEEakh**), which means the “anointed one.” In the Old Testament, kings and priests were anointed with oil as a sign of their appointment as God’s earthly representatives. Matthew’s use of the title suggests that he believed that Jesus was the expected Messiah, the anointed one from the line of David, whom God sent into the world to bring salvation to His people.

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Matthew emphasized the divinity of Jesus by describing His birth—He was born to a virgin named Mary, who was found to be with child through the aid of the Holy Spirit. The specialness of this birth is explained by the fact that she was “espoused” (Gk. *mnesteuo*, **mnace-TYOO-o**, also translated “engaged”) to Joseph, which meant she had been promised in marriage to him but had not yet been taken from her father’s household to his family’s household.

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This happened during the time between the engagement and the marriage ceremony, after which the relationship could be consummated. During the time of being “espoused,” young girls remained at their homes with other female relatives, and male relatives chaperoned them in public to protect their virginity from being taken before the marriage. If a male other than the girl’s husband had sexual relations with her, it would bring dishonor to both her and her husband’s family.

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Joseph's discovery of Mary's pregnancy left him with few options, none of which would bode well for Mary. He could expose her publicly (Gk. *deigmatizo*, **digh-mat-ID-zo**), which would bring great shame to her family and be an example to other families of what happens when unmarried daughters are not properly supervised. He could present evidence to the town elders of her lack of virginity before they had consummated their marriage and have her brought to the entrance of her father's house to be stoned to death (**Deuteronomy 22:13–21**), or he could end the engagement quietly. Joseph was a "just" (Gk. *dikaios*, **DIK-ah-yos**) man, which means he was a righteous man who was in a right relationship with God. Therefore, he chose the latter option.

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The angel who appeared to Joseph in a dream referred to him by his family name, “son of David,” affirming Jesus’ humanity and tracing His lineage to King David. The angel informed Joseph that he did not need to fear (Gk. *phobeo*, **fob-EH-o**) taking Mary as his wife. The angel assured Joseph that Mary had not been unfaithful to him; the child she was carrying had been conceived (Gk. *gennao*, **ghen-NAH-o**) by the Holy Spirit.

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The angel's message confirmed all that was written in **verse 18** about Jesus: The child Mary was carrying would be the Christ, the Messiah, promised from the line of David, who would bring salvation to His people. His name, Jesus (Gk. *Iesous*, **ee-ay- SOOCE**), the Greek transliteration of the Hebrew name *Yehoshua* (Heb. **yeh-ho-SHOO-ah**), shortened to Joshua, is Hebrew for "Yahweh saves" or "Yahweh is salvation."



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Salvation from what? "Their sins." Sin (Gk. *hamartia*, **ham-ar-TEE-ah**) literally means to forfeit or have no part of something for having missed the mark. We fall short of God's standards, but through Jesus, the world is saved from their sins.



BIBLE APPLICATION

AIM: We will work to ensure our descendants experience
the mercy and compassion of God.

BIBLE APPLICATION

There are times when a family experiences both the death of an aged loved one and the birth of a child within the same season. As grief and joy mingle together, how can believers share God's purpose for the continuation of a family line by offering both consolation and celebration at such times?

STUDENT RESPONSES

AIM: We will properly reflect on the changing seasons of our lives.

STUDENT RESPONSES

David was able to trust God's promises despite his personal failings. What besetting sin causes you to doubt God's promises? Ask for God's help in overcoming the sin once and for all. Use a print or online concordance to locate Scriptures related to God's promises in that area and commit to memorizing them.

Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,

Help us to realize the impact our lives have on future generations.

Allow us to be examples for them and to show them what godly living entails.

In Jesus' name we pray.

AMEN

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Next Sunday
April 28, 2024
Lesson 9
Peter's Report

