

Introduction

Planning to go on staff with CCC until God sent me to seminary

1. Sometimes our plans don't necessarily line up with God's plans
 - a. It's not that they aren't good, important, honorable or God-honoring
 - b. It's just that sometimes God has other things in mind for us
2. Our passage today reflects something similar when David, who has finally become king, determines that it's time to build the LORD a proper temple

A. The LORD REJECTS David's PLANS to build Him a temple (7:1-7)

1. David proposes his plan to build a house (temple) for the LORD and receives Nathan's blessing (READ 7:1-3):
 - a. David was living comfortably in his own palace (1):
 - 1) King Hiram of Tyre had built him a palace (5:11)
 - 2) The LORD had given him rest of his enemies: this appears to be a temporary time of peace as chapter 8 suggests further wars; however, some scholars argue that chapter 8 details David's victories and actually occurs chronologically between chapters 5-6
 - b. David felt it was not right that while he lived in a palace, the ark of the covenant still resided in a tent (2)
 - c. Initially, Nathan gave David his blessing believing that it would please the LORD (3)
2. The LORD had other plans so He rejects David's offer to build Him a temple (READ 7:4-7):
 - a. We immediately see two issues with David's plan and Nathan's response:
 - 1) First, Nathan—mind you, a prophet—presumed to speak on God's behalf without consulting Him first
 - 2) Second, David also failed to consult with the LORD
 - b. The LORD rejected David's plans for two reasons and they are found in the two questions the LORD asks David:
 - 1) v. 4: **"Are you the one who should build Me a house to dwell in?"**
 - a) It's obviously a rhetorical question indicating that David was not the one to build the LORD a temple
 - b) In 1 Chronicles 22 David told his son, Solomon, that the reason why God didn't want him to build the temple was because he was a man of war (READ 1 Chronicles 22:8-10)
 - c) So, the first reason is that David was a man of war who had been commissioned with the task of defeating Israel's enemies
 - 2) v. 7: **"Wherever I have gone with all the sons of Israel, did I speak a word with one of the tribes of Israel, which I commanded to shepherd My people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built Me a house of cedar?'"**

- a) For 500 years—the Exodus to the time of David—the LORD’s dwelling place on earth was the Tabernacle
- b) Over that entire period He never asked His people to build Him a permanent temple
- c) So, the second reason is that the LORD never commanded David—nor anyone else up to this point—to build Him a temple
- d) Rather, as will be revealed in a few verses (and at length in 2 Chronicles 6:1-11), the LORD’s plan was for Solomon to build the temple

B. The LORD REVEALS His divine PURPOSE to David (7:8-17)

1. He does this through what is called the Davidic Covenant
2. The importance of this covenant:
 - a. It is generally agreed upon by scholars that this passage and the Davidic covenant is one of the most important in the OT:
 - 1) Walter Kaiser, a Hebrew scholar, suggested that it is one of the four great moments in Bible history (the others being God’s promise to Abraham, the New Covenant described by Jeremiah and the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ)
 - 2) Another, Ronald Youngblood referred to it as, “the center and focus of..” OT Biblical history
 - 3) Walter Brueggemann claimed that God’s words to David here are “the most crucial theological statement in the OT”
 - 4) In his commentary on 2nd Samuel, Robert Bergen wrote that the Davidic covenant “became the nucleus around which messages of hope proclaimed by Hebrew prophets of later generations were built...” and that “the significance of the eternal covenant between the LORD and David for the New Testament writers cannot be overemphasized [because] these words played an essential preparatory role in developing the messianic expectations that were fulfilled in Jesus”
 - 5) He went on to write, “The LORD’s words recorded here arguable play the single most significant role of any Scripture found in the Old Testament in shaping the Christian understanding of Jesus” and became the foundation for seven major NT teachings about Jesus:
 - a) He would be the son of David
 - b) He would rise from the dead
 - c) He would build God’s house
 - d) He would possess a throne
 - e) He would possess an eternal kingdom
 - f) He would be the Son of God
 - g) He would be the product of divine conception (since God was His father)
 - b. Basically, this passage is one of the most important in the entire Bible because it lays the foundation for the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ
3. The three elements of the covenant (8-17):
 - a. The first is that the LORD promises to make David’s name great (READ 8-9):
 - 1) He took David when he was a shepherd and made him king over His people (8)
 - 2) He defeated/cut off all of David’s enemies (9a)
 - 3) He would make David’s name one of the greatest names on the earth (9b)

- 4) All of this was accomplished in David's lifetime, and his name is still one of the greatest names in history
- b. The second is that the LORD promises to establish Israel safely and securely in its own land (READ 10-11a):
- 1) He will appoint a place and put them there (10a)
 - 2) They will no longer be disturbed or afflicted because God will give them rest from their enemies (10b-11a)
 - 3) Later prophets like Isaiah and Jeremiah understood this promise to refer to a future eschatological time when the Messiah will reign over Israel
 - 4) We know this time to be the 1000 year Millennial Kingdom described in Revelation 20 that begins with Christ's return
- c. The third is that LORD promises to establish a kingdom through David:
- 1) The LORD would build David a house (11b): **"The LORD also declares to you that the LORD will make a house for you.":**
 - a) The context indicates that house here should be understood as a royal dynasty (a line of successive kings in David's descendants)
 - b) In verse 16 we learn two important things about this dynasty: **"Your house and your kingdom shall endure before Me forever; your throne shall be established forever."**
 - It would be an eternal dynasty/kingdom
 - It would serve a divine purpose ("**endure before Me forever**")—it wasn't just about blessing David; it was about God's plan and purpose
 - 2) The LORD would raise up a descendant ("seed" singular) from David upon which this kingdom would be built (12): **"When your days are complete and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your descent after you, who will come forth from you, and I will establish his kingdom."**
 - a) Notice that "descendent" is singular, not plural—the LORD was referencing a specific individual
 - b) It is future in scope ("**when your days are complete and you lie down with your fathers**")
 - c) Notice the change from "**your kingdom**" (referring to David) to "**his kingdom**" (referring to this future seed)
 - 3) This descendant will build an eternal temple for the LORD (13): **"He shall build a house for MY name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever."**
 - a) Above, the LORD promised to make David's name great and build him a "house" (dynasty), but here the house is for the LORD's name ("**for My name**")
 - b) Again, notice the eternal nature of this house
 - 4) The LORD will treat him as a son (14-15): **"I will be a father to him and he will be a son to Me; when he commits iniquity, I will correct him with the rod of men and the strokes of the sons of men, but My lovingkindness shall not depart from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you."**—there are two important aspects to this:

- a) The LORD will have a uniquely personal relationship with David’s descendant, like that of a Father and son
 - b) It will be a permanent relationship
4. The double-fulfillment of this covenant:
- a. Some aspects of this covenant were fulfilled in Solomon, while others were not:
 - 1) The LORD specifically identified Solomon as the immediate descendent of David that would take the throne and build Him a physical temple (READ 1 Chronicles 28:3-10)
 - 2) Solomon accomplished both of these—became king and built the temple
 - 3) However, did you notice David mentions some conditions here in his charge to Solomon that were not mentioned in the 2 Samuel passage?
 - a) Here David warns Solomon that God’s favor and promise to establish an eternal kingdom was predicated on obedience (v. 7, 9)
 - b) We know from the Bible, however, that Solomon did not obey the LORD and instead forsook Him, so the LORD ended Solomon’s kingdom at his death (1 Kings 11:9-13)
 - 4) So, clearly Solomon wasn’t the ultimate seed/descendent God was referring to when He made the covenant with David
 - b. There is One, however, who did/does fulfill every part of the Davidic covenant: Jesus Christ:
 - 1) He is a physical descendent of David (Matthew 1)
 - 2) He is the Son of God (READ Luke 1:35; 4:41)
 - 3) He built/is building a temple, the Church (READ Matthew 26:61; 1 Corinthians 3:16)
 - 4) He will serve as King over an earthly Kingdom with Israel settled safely and securely in their own land (1000 year millennial kingdom)
 - 5) He is the King of an eternal kingdom (READ Matthew 19:28-29)

Conclusion

1. Aren’t you glad that the LORD’s plan and purpose were different than David’s?
2. Aren’t you glad that His plan and purpose was so much more significant and glorious than David’s?
3. David’s legacy could have been that he was simply a great king who built a grand temple for the LORD
4. Instead, his legacy is that he was the ancestor and foreshadowing of THE GREAT KING, Jesus Christ, and the one on whom God established His grand redemptive plan for all of mankind!
5. Did you notice that David’s plan was earthly (a house for the LORD), but God’s was both earthly and eternal?—In this sense, David’s plans were a bit short-sighted
6. Let me ask a few questions:
 - a. How much time do you spend thinking about or planning for what you want out of life, what you want to do, where you want to go?
 - b. Do most of these plans concern earthly things or eternal things?
 - c. How often do you pause to ask the Lord what His plans are for you in this earthly life and how this fits into His eternal redemptive plan?