



A King's Prayer

By Jeff Bedwell on March 28, 2024

TODAY'S READING: 2 Samuel 7

David is now solidified as king of Israel. God has given him rest from his enemies and David lives in a house fit for a king. David expresses his desire to build a house for God – to honor God by building a place to house the ark of God. It is a noble desire, but one that God will not have David pursue. The assignment will eventually fall to his son, Solomon.

Just as a quick point of application, not every noble cause is the one that God has for us to pursue. We must always submit our ideas, plans, and dreams to the wise and loving leadership of our Lord. God knows what He purposes to do in the world and who He will accomplish it through. Not every cause or every need is God's assignment for you specifically.

Instead of David building God a physical house, God promises to build David a "house," a royal line that will ultimately climax in the coming Messiah, Jesus Christ. Verses 8-17 have been called the "Davidic Covenant" and is a rich study unto itself. In response to the wonderful provisions and promises of God to David, David enters God's presence and prays (vs. 18).

We can learn much about praying from David's prayer in these verses.

- David is grateful and humbled by God's grace, mercy, and provision for him as David knows he does not deserve it or could never earn it.
- David praises God for who God is and what God has done for David and the people.
- David's prayer is grounded in the Word from the Lord to David. David is praying God's Word back to God.
- David's desire is that God's name will be exalted as God fulfills His word to and through David. *"And your name will be magnified forever, saying, 'The Lord of hosts is God over Israel,' and the house of your servant David will be established before you."* (2 Samuel 7:26, ESV)

Spend some time reflecting on David's prayer. How does your own prayer practice align with the example of David's prayer? Spend some time praying today using David's prayer as a guide to your own prayer.

PRAYER: Father, thank You for the rich promises in your Word that are ours in Christ Jesus. Help us to magnify You and Your greatness as we respond to You and Your Word in our daily lives and in expectant prayer.

TOMORROW'S READING: 1 Kings 8

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