

## Building God's House: Lessons from David

We're looking at a well known passage today that took place during the days of King David. **2 Samuel 7:1-17**.

- What looking around did for David. (**2 Samuel 7:1-3; 1 Chronicles 17:1-2**)
  - You know there's always something to be thankful for, don't you? What do you see when you look around? It's important that we handle the lives of those who were before us with care. You can jump into chapter 7 and think well, here's a king who's living the life, so of course it's easy for him to have such a good attitude. We want to remember that before you read chapter 7, you're talking about a Shepherd of Israel, because he used to shepherd sheep. He had the guts to go up against a giant, and while that did bring him popularity, he spent much time as only being the harp player in the eyes of Saul. He spent time running for his life, though he had done no wrong. This was not an easy time. He even wrote about his difficulties. He lived among the Philistines instead of his own people. He watched Saul die, but also his best friend, Jonathan. Now, he had the weight of the nation on his shoulders. And he hasn't been without incident. Remember how Uzzah was struck down for touching the ark when they attempted to return it to Jerusalem.
  - Filler
  - Filler
- What David learned about his heart's desire. (**2 Samuel 7:4-7; 1 Kings 5:3; 1 Chronicles 17:3-6; 22:7-9**)
  - We want to filter everything (even great intentions) through what the Lord desires. There really is something to be said about the authority of God. We have a false assumption that because we have a talent or ability and because our hearts are in the right place, that God is giving it two thumbs up. Sometimes, a thing just seems to be a given. My aim is not to make anyone paranoid about life's decisions, but we need to think. After all - Nathan told David, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the Lord is with you." Yes, even spiritual leaders, with the greatest intentions, can be dead wrong. Does anyone remember, by the way, how they returned the ark and David became angry? 1 Chronicles 13:11-12, "And David was angry because the Lord had broken out against Uzzah. And that place is called Perez-uzza to this day. And David was afraid of God that day, and he said, 'How can I bring the ark of God home to me?' However, David was in the wrong and he should have known better. God's instructions weren't that difficult. He made it very clear WHO and HOW they should carry the ark. They followed the lead of their evil neighbors by putting the ark on a new cart, like the Philistines had sent it over. Yet, all the people agreed to do so because it was right in their eyes - and they rejoiced greatly as they brought it back in an unauthorized way. So, this was something that could have been easily avoided and God was clear about it.
  - However, we need to acknowledge the difference between "God centered" and "man centered" motives, because it changes the response of God. I used to think that God was disappointed with David or upset because he was so presumptuous. It was the way we discussed it - the tone we attributed to God. Then one day, in my personal study, I came across this passage: *"Now it was in the heart of David my father to build a house for the name of the Lord, the God of Israel. But the Lord said to David my father, 'Whereas it was in your heart to*

*build a house for My name, you did well that it was in your heart. Nevertheless, you shall not build the house, but your son who shall be born to you shall build the house for My name."* **1 Kings 8:17-19**

- What God did because of his heart's desire. (**2 Samuel 7:8-18; 1 Chronicles 17:7-15**)
  - Why wasn't God upset with David? It was presumptuous! Because God was considering his heart and intentions. Our take away is not, "Well, as long as a person has a good intention, God will accept their desire." No, we still want to filter life decisions (and this was a big desire for David) through the lens that asks, "Will this be pleasing to the Father?". However, we need to know the difference between motives, because it changes how we react and interfere with others. We also have to be humble enough to leave the judgment to God.
    - **Luke 1:32-33** And the Lord God will give to 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.
  - We need to be careful when handling God's word. We need to be careful with our judgment towards others. We may think we've got it figured out when we don't. Obedience and mercy are not against one another. We need to seek to do good to others, as God did David.
- What David was blessed with doing. (**Chronicles 22:1-19; 29:1ff, 14-19; 28:9-21**)
  - You see a father who instructs his son.
  - You see a father who provided for his son.
  - You see a father who didn't leave him alone, but planned for help.
  - You see a father who praised God for His goodness.