

Heralds of the King: Relationship in Spite of Sin

Thanksgiving has come and gone - you are all still here - no huge fights

- Politics: don't talk about it during dinner - people freaking out - only time will tell
- Greatest president? Lincoln? Washington?
- Jewish: David - hand's down - Influenced many parts of scripture
 - Man after God's own heart - is that how people would remember you?
 - Mighty, fierce, valiant warrior
 - Next page he's crying - hard reconciling the 2
 - Subsequent kings were compared to him - set the standard: Not God's intent - He was supposed to be the basis for kings
 - Kings were human - they had faults - David no exception
- As great as David was, he still had his battles with sin, just like you and I
 - David still pointed towards the need for a better king

2 Sam. 7

Set the Stage: Israel was not supposed to have a king - people rebelled
Saul appointed - rejected God - supposed to be God's rep. on earth -
reflect God's love, compassion, grace, judgement - rejected God

- God selected David to replace Saul - a little shepherd boy - youngest in the family - nothing special about him from outward appearance - God knew his heart
 - 1 Sam. 16:7 "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart."
- David grew up and served in Saul's house - became a great warrior
- Yet Saul tried to kill him - David never tried to usurp Saul - ran from him
 - one time, David snuck into where Saul was sleeping and cut part of his jammies - felt remorse
- After Saul's death, David was made king - tried to follow God, but was challenging - David sought after God

Realized God didn't have a house - Odd to us, but huge in David's time (church) - become temples - can't have fun, everything has to be perfect

- David had a beautiful house made of cedar, God lived in a tent

David talk with the prophet Nathan about his desire to build a house - do it!

- That night, God spoke to Nathan and put the brakes on

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Vs. 4-11

- Humanity has not really changed, we still try to make a name for ourselves
 - Work, titles (Director, Manager), education, parenting (expert) - turn these things into idols - pursue them so we can look good to others
 - Not necessarily a bad thing to have a great name - depends on what our name represents - legacy
- God flips the table - says He'll build David a house

Vs. 12-17

- Quite the promise
- Eternal kingdom - David experienced a change of kingdom - took from Saul
- Quite common in antiquity - here is God promising an eternal kingdom - legacy

Vs. 18-22 - David's response

- Responds with humility
- You don't normally do this for people
- Understands the significance for humanity - part of the significance
 - "This is instruction for mankind" - all people can learn about God's faithfulness and grace from his promises to David

That is the key - God didn't make this promise because David was perfect - 4 short chapters later, David would murder a close friend to steal his wife

God made this promise to David because of grace - God knew David would sin

This is one of the major differences between our faith and all the others

- Not based on what we do, but on what God did for us
- We can't earn favor with God

David's response was that of humility, thankfulness, worship - when faced with God's grace, that's the proper response - when we truly understand grace, that's all we can do

- Didn't say, "you know, I'm pretty great - I've kind of earned that."
- Wow thank you! Thank you for your grace, thank you for your relationship

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David only knew part of the promise - Israel eventually split into 2 kingdoms, but David's family was still in power.

- Eventually, God took the kingdom away - all looked bleak - what about God's promise to David?
- For 600 years, God's people were left to wonder about that promise

Promise to David didn't just refer to his children who would reign as political leaders - far greater promise

Hebrews 1:5 - "I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son" - refers to Jesus

Matthew 1:1 - "The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham"

NT authors went to great lengths to show how Jesus is the fulfillment of OT promises.

This is huge! While David's children turned their backs on God, sought after false gods - committed heinous acts - God fulfilled his promise to David, much greater than David ever imagined

Truth: We all sin - like David, like his children - That's exactly why God made the promise to David - He knew the only way to have a relationship with people, is through an eternal king, who could forgive us of our sins.

Sin: puts distance between us and God - between one another

Jesus: lived a perfect life, was handed over to be murdered

- While hanging on the cross, our sins were placed on his shoulders
- 2 Cor. 5:21 - "For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."
- For the first time, Jesus experienced separation from God - died
 - Rose 3 days later, conquering sin and death - so we could be re-united with God - we could have a relationship with God despite our proclivity to sin

Response:

- Communion - (remember death/sacrifice) - sing (thankfulness)