

PROMISE MAKER

Last Week, God’s rebellious nation wanted a king, even after God’s clear warning. So, God authorized his prophet, Samuel, to obey the wishes of the people. Through a (seemingly) random series of events, God brought Saul to his own consecration where Samuel dedicated him as the first king of Israel.

Humanly speaking, Saul was a *great* king—laying the foundation for Israel’s golden years. Spiritually, Saul’s disobedience led to the removal of his crown on his descendants. Samuel then anointed David—the youngest of Jesse’s sons. Everyone saw a puny, stinky shepherd boy. God saw a warrior king. He saw a man after his own heart. He saw one worthy of a promise.

RHYME REVIEW

1	CREATIONS GLORY NOW UNDONE
2	FLOOD OUT THE WORLD, START FRESH WITH YOU
3	NEW LANGUAGE BRINGS DISUNITY
4	THE SOD, THE SEED, AND BLESS SOME MORE
5	WALK THROUGH RED SEA AND STAY ALIVE
6	POSSESS THE LAND, BUT DO NOT MIX
7	IN SIN, ENSLAVED, THEN LOOK TO HEAVEN
8	WE WANT A KING AND WILL NOT WAIT
9	OBEYING GOD AND DOIN’ FINE

2 SAMUEL 7:8–16

⁸ Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. ⁹ And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰ And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹ from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. ¹² When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³ He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴ I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, ¹⁵ but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. ¹⁶ And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.’”

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

King David is one of the key figures in the entire story of the Bible. His story divides the Old Testament in two. Chronologically, there’s about 1,000 years from Abraham to David, and David to Jesus. Narratively, his kingship points us to the coming of King Jesus. David’s story contains and enhances many themes we’ve seen in Scripture so far. For greater insight into David and these themes, scan the QR-code.



DISCUSSION

Describe a time that you received correction that has continued to impact you now.

1. Where did God say he took David from, and what had he done for him since? (8–9a)

2. What did God promise about David’s offspring and his throne? (12–13, 16)

3. What did God say would happen when David’s offspring sinned—and what would not happen? (14–15)

4. Describe God’s “steadfast love” from your perspective. (15)

5. God promised David discipline for sin and steadfast love that would never leave. How does knowing both of those are true change how you come back to God after you blow it?

David’s throne points us to the kingship of Christ. We might say “Jesus is Lord,” but does your life reflect that? Need help and encouragement? Talk to your coach today!

ICEBREAKER

OBSERVATION

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION



ATHLETE STUDY

STUDY NOTES

BOOK>MOVIE

"The book is better than the movie." We've all heard it. And, for those of us who have read books, we often say it. Unfortunately, it's usually true.

If you've seen the 2025 animated film, *David*, put out by Angel Studios, the axiom continues to be true. If you saw the film, it's a well-made movie with exciting visuals and good music. It shows several events from the real David's life in a way that brings the story to life—Samuel anointing David, David playing music for King Saul, David defeated Goliath with just a sling and a stone, etc.

The film takes creative liberties, but that's not too bad. The real issue with what the film failed to capture is the timeline of David's life—it crams many events as if they occurred back to back. Several things depicted happened over a period of years, if not decades. And, for as much as the film reveals David to the audience, no film could capture the real guy. David is probably the most complex man in Scripture. He was a fierce warrior, but also a poet and musician. He was wise and humble in some moments, but foolhardy and imprudent in others. Whereas the film shows an idealized version of the man, the Bible reveals that he's no superhero. He's a man who loved and trusted God in spite of and often in the midst of deep flaws and mistakes.

All of this is why, toward the end of David's 40-year reign, his heart was set on building a permanent house for the Lord—a Temple. 1 Chronicles 17 recorded that the Lord prevented him from doing this because he'd *"shed much blood,"* and that his son would be the one to fulfill this task. However, God loved David's heart and his desire such that in this moment, God sent the prophet Nathan to deliver a promise.

OBEDIENCE BLESSINGS INVITE MORE OF BOTH

Starting with a brief reminder of his personal history, the Lord told Nathan to tell David, ***"Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you."*** Again, although the timeline is crunched, the *David* movie depicts some of what God reminded David of in this moment.

Then, just like with Abraham, God blessed David with a promise, ***"I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the***

earth." God's promise of blessing would not only come to David, but through him.

Notice what else God promises David. Through him ***Israel*** will be ***planted*** in a ***place***. In this place, God ***will give you rest from all your enemies***. Like with Abraham, God promised that David's descendants will be ***a house*** through his ***offspring***.

Like many monarchies, David's son only becomes king ***when*** his ***days*** were ***fulfilled and*** he would ***"lie down"*** with his ***fathers***. In other words, after David dies God promised, ***"I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever."***

God even elevated his own promise saying he would ***discipline*** David's offspring, but that his ***steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul***. Again, God reiterated, ***"Your throne shall be established forever."***

#9, OBEYING GOD AND DOIN' FINE

The promise God made to David in our passage is known as the *"Davidic Covenant."* David's son, Solomon, fulfilled some aspects of God's promises when he became king. He built and dedicated the Temple in Jerusalem—often called "Solomon's Temple."

Although Solomon fulfilled some aspects of the *Davidic Covenant*, very quickly people understood the "everlasting throne" would belong to someone else. Every December we read about the One to whom the throne would belong—***For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore*** (Isaiah 9:6–7). Then, after nearly 1,000 years, the angel Gabriel told Mary about her coming son, Jesus, ***"He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David"*** (Luke 1:32).

Ultimately, God's promise to David was fulfilled in Jesus. Like David and Solomon, we're flawed, disobedient, and sinful. Our good works will never overcome our sin. However, through Christ, when God looks at us, he sees the perfection of Jesus. Through Christ, we can obey—and Israel's "golden years" pale in comparison to the hope we have in Jesus.