

Intro: It's not fair! David says as he sits in his palace upon his throne, that I should dwell in a house of cedar and the ark of the Lord should dwell in a tent. David is pious and upright in his thought. God has done good things for David. He has given him rest from all of his enemies. He has protected David from the hand of Saul. He has uplifted David, taking him from a lowly shepherd-boy to the very heights of Kingship. So David wants to do something for God. He is looking at everything he has, his wealth, the extravagates that he has around him, and thinks he needs to build a better house for God than he himself has.

A. Build a house? Lord says no!

Nathan the prophet of God at first agrees to this. It is all well and good, do what you have planned. Yet God says no. He says that He, throughout all of the wanderings in the desert has never asked for a house to be built. Rather, He has dwelled with and moved with, and among His people Israel. Instead, He promises to David an even greater blessing. Rather than David building God a house, God promises that He is going to make David a house instead, a house that shall never end.

B. Lord builds a house for David instead!

- a. The Lord's promise to David is partially fulfilled in Solomon, David's successor and wise son. Solomon built the Lord's temple using the materials that David had gathered. Though Solomon was a sinner, later in his life he fell into massive idolatry due to his foreign wives, God used him to continue David's line of succession. David had a descendent upon his throne for over four hundred (400) years until the time of the exile brought on by sin upon sin.
- b. God's promise of a house for David is completely fulfilled in Jesus Christ.
 - i. This promise from God is ultimately fulfilled, and finds it's completion in David's greater Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. While David has a name with the great ones of the earth, Jesus receives the name that is above every other name. Jesus shares the divine name with the Father and the Spirit. Jesus Christ, as the Obedient Son of the Father, in the fullness of time, takes upon Himself our human flesh and bone. Jesus born of Mary, adopted by Joseph, is of the house and line of David. As Luke records, 'They went to Bethlehem, because they were of the house and line of David.'
- c. The Father's mercies never departed from Jesus, even when He was made sin for us.
 - i. As the fully Obedient Son of the Father, Jesus lives a perfect life in our place. He does what we could not, perfectly fulfilling the Law of God on our behalf. Jesus, He who never sinned, who knew no sin, becomes sin for us. He goes the cross, bearing the sins of David, Solomon, and us as well. There He dies on our behalf. Yet, the mercy of the Father never departed from Jesus. The Father rose Jesus up again from the dead on the third day, as proof that our sins are indeed forgiven, Jesus' sacrifice at Calvary was acceptable in the sight of God, that we too might have life everlasting. Through His perfect life, suffering, death, and resurrection, Jesus frees us from sin, from death, and from the power of the devil, forever and ever.
- d. Jesus does reign and will reign on David's throne forever.
 - i. But the good news does not end there. Forty days after His resurrection, Jesus ascends to the right hand of the Father, still bearing the marks of His crucifixion. There, He is ruling and reigning upon the throne forever and ever over the entirety of creation as God in the flesh for us. We cannot see it with our physical eyes now, but some day we will. When Jesus comes again in power and glory, raises the dead, makes everything new again, and judges the living and the dead.
- e. Jesus is building the Father a magnificent house (Hebrews 3:3-6) in the sense that we are God's temple (1 Peter 2:5) and the church is God's new house.
 - i. Even now, Jesus is ruling and reigning over everything, giving peace and rest to His people, just as He did for David and Israel. Wherever Jesus is found on this earth, there God's people gather and are rooted and centered in him—even as they look forward to the day when the new heavens and earth become their place of safety forever. Now, the

Son of David shepherds us, and, with the authority he has from God because he died for our sins and rose from the dead, he protects us from our enemies, from fear, and from anything that could separate us from the love of God that he has brought into the world. One day, the house of David and the Son of David will be established in all the creation, without remainder. On that day, God's people will still, perhaps, be unable to comprehend the breadth and length and height and depth of Christ's love, unable to understand that love that surpasses knowledge but we will be with Him forever and ever in His House and Kingdom without end.

Con: Not fair? Certainly not, especially for the grace and mercy that God has shown to us. David may have had the right mindset and plan, but God had a greater plan in mind for David's house. A plan of salvation for us. Through Jesus Christ, His death and Resurrection, through the means of grace in the waters of Holy Baptism and the bread and wine of the Holy Eucharist, God makes us into His family and grants us sonship into His house and a home in His Kingdom forever and ever.