

# PART 1: GOD'S COVENANT WITH DAVID

Where We Are In The Story: From Genesis  $\rightarrow$  Abraham  $\rightarrow$  David

#### 1 Chronicles 17:1-15 - Davidic Covenant

**Covenant:** a formal and serious agreement or promise. a written agreement or promise usually under seal between two or more parties especially for the performance of some action. (Merriam-Webster's Dictionary via m-w.com)

## ELEMENTS OF THE DAVIDIC COVENANT (1 CHRON. 17:8-14):

#### I WILL...

- Make your name great (v. 8)
- Appoint a place for my people Israel, "planting" them so they will be safe and not moved again (v. 9)
- Subdue all your enemies (v. 10)
- Build a "house" for you (David) (v. 10)
- God will establish house/kingdom of one of David's descendants FOREVER (v. 11-12)
  - "I will be his father and he shall be My son" (v. 13)
  - "I will not take My lovingkindness away from him" (v. 13)
  - "I will settle him in My house and in My kingdom forever, and his throne shall be established forever." (v. 14)

DAVIDIC	COVE	NANT	•

SON OF \_\_\_\_\_ SON OF \_\_\_\_ KING \_\_\_\_ This promise extends to the *literal* next in line to David's throne - but it also extends beyond that. There is an eternal/everlasting nature to this covenant because one of David's sons will rule *forever*.

Solomon will be the first heir to the throne of David. Jesus will be the forever heir to the throne of David.

## DAVIDIC COVENANT:

**Psalm 89:1-4 -** A Maskil of Ethan the Ezrahite. I will sing of the lovingkindness of the LORD forever; To all generations I will make known Your faithfulness with my mouth. 2 For I have said, "Lovingkindness will be built up forever; In the heavens You will establish Your faithfulness." 3 "I have made a <u>covenant</u> with My chosen; I have <u>sworn to David</u> My servant, 4 I will establish your seed <u>forever</u> And build up your throne <u>to all generations</u>." Selah.

**Psalm 132:10-18 (NIV)** - For the sake of David your servant, do not reject your anointed one. 11 The LORD swore an oath to David, a sure oath that he will not revoke: "One of your own descendants I will place on your throne-- 12 if your sons keep my covenant and the statutes I teach them, then their sons will sit on your throne for ever and ever." 13 For the LORD has chosen Zion, he has desired it for his dwelling: 14 "This is my resting place for ever and ever; here I will sit enthroned, for I have desired it-- 15 I will bless her with abundant provisions; her poor will I satisfy with food. 16 I will clothe her priests with salvation, and her saints will ever sing for joy. 17 "Here I will make a horn grow for David and set up a lamp for my anointed one. 18 I will clothe his enemies with shame, but the crown on his head will be (magnificent)."

This promise extended beyond the early heirs to David's throne, for when the kings and nation of Israel sinned, the following was said:

- **1 Kings 11:13** "However, I will not tear away all the kingdom, but I will give one tribe to your son for the sake of My servant David and for the sake of Jerusalem which I have chosen."
- **1 Kings 11:36 -** 'But to his son I will give one tribe, that My servant David may have a lamp always before Me in Jerusalem, the city where I have chosen for Myself to put My name.
- **2 Chronicles 21:7** Yet the LORD was not willing to destroy the house of David because of the covenant which He had made with David, and since He had promised to give a lamp to him and his sons forever.

When the everlasting hope of a great king ruling was not found in the sons of Israel, the people of God began to shift their expectation from "the next administration finally doing it right this time" to a hope of a future righteous and faithful king who would rule forever on David's throne.

And so the prophets will begin to paint the picture of such a king:

**Isaiah 9:6-7** <sup>6</sup> For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; <u>And the government will rest on His shoulders</u>; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup> There will be <u>no end to the increase of His government or of peace</u>, On the <u>throne of David</u> and over <u>his kingdom</u>, To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness From then on and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will accomplish this.

**Isaiah 11:1-4 (NLT) -** Out of the stump of <u>David's family</u> will grow a shoot-- yes, a new Branch bearing fruit from the old root. 2 And the Spirit of the LORD will rest on him-- the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. 3 He will delight in obeying the LORD. He will not judge by appearance nor make a decision based on hearsay. 4 He will give justice to the poor and make fair decisions for the exploited. The earth will shake at the force of his word, and one breath from his mouth will destroy the wicked.

This became known as the Messianic Hope. To be THE Messiah, you were the one who would rule on David's throne forever.

## WHAT IS A "MESSIAH"?

The king of Israel was the "anointed one" of God. "To anoint" comes from the Hebrew word *mashach.* "The anointed one" in Hebrew is *ha mashiach,* where we get our English "The Messiah." The Greek word for Messiah is *christos* which is where we get our English word "Christ". The king of Israel, God's nation, was the Messiah (or Christ).

Every king of Israel was "anointed" and thus "a messiah" but the concept of "The Messiah" brings with it the understanding of king of Israel, ruling on David's throne, but includes the forever element of the Davidic Covenant. The promised "son of David" who would "rule forever" is "The Messiah"

# JEWISH CONCEPT & UNDERSTANDING OF "THE MESSIAH":

"The Messianic Era will be ushered in by a Jewish leader generally referred to as the Moshiach (messiah: Hebrew for "the anointed one"), a righteous scion (descendant) of King David. He will rebuild the Holy Temple in Jerusalem and gather the Jewish people from all corners of the earth and return them to the Promised Land." ("Mosiach: An Introduction" by the Chabad Organization via http://www.chabad.org/library/moshiach/article\_cdo/aid/1157486/jewish/Introductio n.htm)

"Belief in the eventual coming of the mashiach is a basic and fundamental part of traditional Judaism. It is part of Maimonides' (considered Judaism's greatest philosopher)'s "13 Principles of Faith", the minimum requirements of Jewish belief. In the Shemoneh Esrei prayer, (the major prayer) recited three times daily, we pray for

all of the elements of the coming of the (Messiah): (including)...an end of wickedness, sin and heresy; reward to the righteous; rebuilding of Jerusalem; (and the) restoration of the line of King David;..." ("Judaism 101: Mashiach" by Tracey R Rich via http://www.jewfaq.org/mashiach.htm)

In the daily Prayers Of Modern Jews, three times daily they pray for 19 specific things. This is called the "Amidah". Look at #14 & #15 of the list:

- **#14 Birkat Yerushalayim** Return in mercy to Jerusalem Your city and dwell therein as You have promised; speedily establish therein the throne of David Your servant, and rebuild it, soon in our days, as an everlasting edifice. Blessed are You L-rd, who rebuilds Jerusalem.
- **#15 Birkat David** Speedily cause the scion (descendant) of David Your servant to flourish, and increase his power by Your salvation, for we hope for Your salvation all day. Blessed are You L-rd, who causes the power of salvation to flourish.

(Source: Translation of the Weekly Amidah by the Chabad Organization via http://www.chabad.org/library/article\_cdo/aid/867674/jewish/Translation.htm)

Q - SO WHAT IF THE JEWISH PEOPLE BELIEVE IN THE MESSIAH?

Q - SO WHAT IF THE OLD TESTAMENT TALKS ABOUT A DAVIDIC COVENANT AND KING?

Q - HOW DOES THIS ALL RELATE TO JESUS & CHRISTIANITY?

#### N.T. WRIGHT ON "MESSIAH":

The Hebrew word means literally "anointed one", hence in theory either a prophet, priest or king. In Greek (which is the language the New Testament was written in), this translates as *Christos*; "Christ" in early Christianity was a title, and only gradually became an alternative sproper name for Jesus. In practice, "Messiah" is mostly restricted to the notion...of the coming king who would be David's true heir through whom Yahweh would rescue Israel from pagan enemies... (NT Wright, "Matthew For Everyone: Part 1", pg 215)

What the New Testament writers will be working to prove to their audience, is that Jesus of Nazareth was/is the promised Messiah, aka the Christ aka the son of God aka son of David who would rule forever.