

Doctrine of the Davidic Covenant

1. The Davidic Covenant is stated in 2 Samuel 7:4-16 (see also 1 Chronicles 17:3-15, and 2 Chronicles 22:8ff).

- *2 Samuel 7:4 And it came to pass that night, that the word of the LORD came unto Nathan, saying, 5 Go and tell my servant David, Thus saith the LORD, Shalt thou build me an house for me to dwell in? 6 Whereas I have not dwelt in any house since the time that I brought up the children of Israel out of Egypt, even to this day, but have walked in a tent and in a tabernacle. 7 In all the places wherein I have walked with all the children of Israel spake I a word with any of the tribes of Israel, whom I commanded to feed my people Israel, saying, Why build ye not me an house of cedar? 8 Now therefore so shalt thou say unto my servant David, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, I took thee from the sheeppcote, from following the sheep, to be ruler over my people, over Israel: 9 And I was with thee whithersoever thou wentest, and have cut off all thine enemies out of thy sight, and have made thee a great name, like unto the name of the great men that are in the earth. 10 Moreover I will appoint a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own, and move no more; neither shall the children of wickedness afflict them any more, as beforetime, 11 And as since the time that I commanded judges to be over my people Israel, and have caused thee to rest from all thine enemies. Also the LORD telleth thee that he will make thee an house. 12 And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever. 14 I will be his father, and he shall be my son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men: 15 But my mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away before thee. 16 And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever.*

2. God promised David that his seed would reign over His people in the Promised Land forever. This Davidic promise was in keeping with the promises made to Abraham that he would have a land and a people.

When Israel became a nation in the Land of Promise God returned to establish the Davidic covenant whereby it was promised that David's Seed would reign over the land and over the nation forever and forever.

3. Turning to the New Testament the revelation is made that Jesus Christ is the rightful heir to David's throne. When the angel visited Mary she was told about the child that would be born to her.

- *Luke 1:32 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: 33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.*

4. Mary was told of the royal reign of her Son in order that the words of Isaiah the prophet could be fulfilled.

- *Isaiah 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.*

5. According to the New Testament the Davidic Covenant is even now being fulfilled—but not in the same way that the Jews had come to expect.

6. The following concepts should be kept in mind when considering the subject of how the Davidic covenant is being fulfilled according to New Testament language.

- The nation of Israel was designed to be a spiritual nation.

Exodus 19:6 And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.

- The people of Israel were designed to be a spiritual people. Many Jews never had the faith of Abraham Isaac and Jacob. Those who did were destined to be ruled by the Messiah.

Romans 9:6 For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel: 7 Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, are they all children: but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called. 8 That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed.

- The land of Israel was designed to teach of a spiritual land. While God did promise a physical land to Israel, and while He gave the Jews the land, He promised it was a spiritual land for which Abraham longed, even heaven.

Hebrews 11:9 By faith he [Abraham] sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: 10 For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

7. The New Testament presents the Davidic covenant as being fulfilled with the Advent of Christ, His ascension into heaven, and His session at the right hand of the father.

- *Acts 2:25 For David speaketh concerning him, I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for he is on my right hand, that I should not be moved. 26 Therefore did my heart rejoice, and my tongue was glad; moreover also my flesh shall rest in hope: 27 Because thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. 28 Thou hast made known to me the ways of life; thou shalt make me full of joy with thy countenance. 29 Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day. 30 Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne; 31 He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption. 32 This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses. 33 Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear 34 For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself, The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, 35 Until I make thy foes thy footstool. 36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ 37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?*

8. According to the provisions of the Davidic Covenant God promised David

- an eternal house,
- an eternal throne and
- an eternal Kingdom.

8. In Christ these promises are fulfilled.

- Jesus now rules over a spiritual people, the Church which is the true Israel of God.

1 Peter 2:9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

Galatians 3:7 Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham.

- Jesus now rules and reigns as King of kings from an exalted Davidic throne relocated in the heavens.

Revelation 17:14 for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.

Revelation 19:16 He hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

- Jesus now rules, not only the land of Israel but the whole earth and beyond that, the universe itself.

Psalms 2:8 Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession.

Jesus asked for His inheritance and it was given to Him for we read,

Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. 19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.