

## The Davidic Covenant

One of the promises made to Abraham was that kings would come out of him (Gen 17:6, 16). This promise continued on with Abraham's grandson, Jacob or Israel (Genesis 35:11). There are 400 years from the birth of Abraham's son Isaac until the children of Israel were led out of Egypt and brought to Mount Horeb where they received the law (Genesis 15:13; Acts 7:6). Israel was a nation with millions of people, but they did not have a king.

After Israel entered the Promised Land, over 400 years passed before Israel became a kingdom. The prophet Samuel anointed the first king of Israel (Saul), and he also anointed David as king. God made an everlasting covenant with David. Through a study of David, we can begin to understand the Kingdom of God on earth, we can see a clear example of theocratic government with a monarch in charge, and we can begin to understand of the term "Messiah."

### The Messiah

1 Samuel 2:10 The woman, Hannah, prayed over her son, Samuel, and in her prayer she prophetically spoke of this Messiah that would judge the ends of the earth. The term "*mashiach*" literally means "the anointed one" and refers to the practice of anointing kings with oil when they took the throne. The *mashiach* is the one who will be anointed as king in the end of days.

### **Mashiach: The Messiah**

מָשִׁיחַ

#### **The anointed of Yahweh**

Anointed = Hebrew word *mashiach*

*Mashiach* = messiah

Hebrew *mashiach* = Greek *christos*

Messiah = Christ = The Anointed

John 1:41

He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messias, which is, being interpreted, the Christ.

Before Israel had a king, the high priest was the ruler of God's chosen people. The high priest was the *mashiach*, the anointed of Yahweh. (Leviticus 4:3, 5, 16; 6:22)

The prophet Samuel anointed both the first king of Israel – Saul (1 Samuel 10:1), and the second king of Israel – David (1 Samuel 16:1-13). David was actually anointed three times as Yahweh’s anointed.

### David was anointed three times

1. By Samuel the prophet in Bethlehem (1 Samuel 16:13)
2. By the tribe of Judah in Hebron (2 Samuel 2:4)
3. By all the elders of Israel (2 Samuel 5:3)

As the messiah, Yahweh’s anointed, David ruled the kingdom of God. It was God’s kingdom. The children of Israel were God’s people. But David sat on the throne, ruling as captain over Israel (2 Samuel 5:1-5).

Before David died, he had the prophet Nathan and the high priest Zadok anoint his son Solomon to be the next messiah or king of Israel. Solomon now sat upon David’s throne and ruled Israel (1 Kings 1:33-35).

1 Chronicles 29:20-23 As the messiah over God’s heritage, the king was worshipped. David had Solomon anointed a second time, this time in front of all the congregation of Israel. Solomon then sat on “the throne of Yahweh” in David’s stead. It was called David’s throne (1 Kings 1:35), but in reality it was God’s throne, with God’s anointed, His messiah ruling on His behalf.

As Yahweh’s anointed, Solomon sat on the throne ruling God’s people.  
It was called David’s throne, and it was called Yahweh’s throne.

1 Kings 1:35

"Then you shall come up after him, and he shall come and sit on **my throne (David’s throne)** and be king in my place; for I have appointed him to be ruler over Israel and Judah."

1 Chronicles 29:23

Then Solomon sat on the **throne of the LORD** as king instead of David his father; and he prospered, and all Israel obeyed him.

## The Covenant to David

1 Chronicles 17:1-15 The promise to David

### THE PROMISE TO DAVID

1 Chronicles 17:8-14

- I will make you a name like the name of the great ones who are in the earth
- I will appoint a place for My people Israel and will plant them so that they may dwell in their own place, and not be moved again
- The wicked will not waste them anymore as formerly
- I will subdue all your enemies
- Yahweh will build a house for you
- I will set up one of your descendants after you, who will be of your sons; and I will establish his kingdom.
- He will build for Me a house
- I will establish his throne forever
- I will be his father and he shall be My son
- I will not take My lovingkindness away from him
- I will settle him in My house and in My kingdom for ever
- His throne shall be established forever

Psalm 89:3-4; 34-37 God swore by an oath and made an everlasting covenant with David (2 Samuel 23:5).

The covenant to David was a salt covenant

2 Chronicles 13:5

Do you not know that the LORD God of Israel gave the rule over Israel forever to David and his sons by a covenant of salt?

God promised that he would be faithful to the covenant even if David's descendants were not.

Psalm 89:33-37

But I will not break off My lovingkindness from him, Nor deal falsely in My faithfulness.

My covenant I will not violate, Nor will I alter the utterance of My lips.

Once I have sworn by My holiness; I will not lie to David.

His descendants shall endure forever And his throne as the sun before Me.

It shall be established forever like the moon, And the witness in the sky is faithful."  
Selah.

David's descendants were not faithful. As the kingdom of Judah continued to transgress and the seed of David walked contrary to God's will, it was the covenant to David that kept Judah from being destroyed.

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.

Finally, after hundreds of years of rebellion and transgression, Judah was taken captive into Babylon under King Nebuchadnezzar. He first came and brought some of the children of Israel to Babylon when Jehoiakim was king over Judah. He replaced Jehoiakim with his brother Zedekiah. Zedekiah was the last king of Judah, ruling for eleven years. The prophets Daniel and Ezekiel were some of the children of Israel taken captive to Babylon. During these eleven years while Daniel and Ezekiel were in Babylon, the prophet Jeremiah was in Jerusalem giving Judah the word of the Lord and giving the seed of David the last chance to repent. King Zedekiah, the priests, and the people did not listen.

2 Chronicles 36:15-16

The LORD, the God of their fathers, sent *word* to them again and again by His messengers, because He had compassion on His people and on His dwelling place; but they *continually* mocked the messengers of God, despised His words and scoffed at His prophets, until the wrath of the LORD arose against His people, until there was no remedy.

During this time, while Ezekiel was in captivity in Babylon, some of the elders of Israel came to Ezekiel to enquire of the Lord. God gave the word of the Lord to Ezekiel to speak. Part of what he spoke is that which pertains to the end of the crown in Israel. This was the end of the line for the seed of David until... Ezekiel 21:25-27

Jeremiah 33:15-17; 20-21 Even though Judah and Israel were cast off, there is still an appointed time coming when God will cause the offspring of David to rise up and rule. He will keep His covenant with David. David will have one from his seed to sit on God's throne and rule in the Kingdom of God.

## The Theocratic Monarchy of David

There is a promise of a restoration of the throne of David when Jerusalem will be restored to its glory and the seed of David will rule on the throne. It is a type for the future Millennial Kingdom.

### Some Definitions:

Sovereign – 1) Supreme in power, rank, or authority; 2) one who possesses sovereign authority or power.

Theocracy – The rule of a state by God.

Monarchy – A government or state headed by a monarch (sovereign ruler, king)

Regent – A person appointed to rule a monarchy when the sovereign is absent.

Vice-regent – A second in command to a regent, appointed to act on his behalf.

## Three Important events of David's reign

1. Took the high place of Zion – Jerusalem.
2. Set up a tabernacle and brought the ark into Jerusalem.
3. Took all the land of promise.

### 1. Took Zion, Jerusalem, God's chosen place.

After King Saul's death, David ruled for seven years in Hebron over the southern tribe of Judah. Then, all the tribes of Israel came and made David king over all of Israel. After becoming king over all Israel, David's first act was to take the city of Jerusalem. Jerusalem is Zion (2 Samuel 5:1-7; 1 Chronicles 11:1-5).

Jerusalem was the place that God had chosen.

Psalm 132:13

For the LORD hath chosen Zion; he hath desired *it* for his habitation.

Exodus 15:17 God would dwell in the sanctuary in this place

Exodus 15:18 The Lord would reign for ever and ever from this place

Deuteronomy 12:5 God would put His name in this place

Deuteronomy 12:11 The sacrifices, offerings, and tithes were to be brought to this place  
Deuteronomy 12:26 Vows were to be made at this place  
Deuteronomy 15:19-20 The firstling offering was to be eaten at this place  
Deuteronomy 16:2, 6 The Passover was to be sacrificed in this place  
Deuteronomy 16:11 All the people of Israel were to rejoice before God at this place  
Deuteronomy 16:16 The 3 major feasts were to be kept in this place  
Deuteronomy 17:8-9 Judgment of the high priest or judge was to be done at this place  
Deuteronomy 18:6 The priests and Levites would minister out from this place  
Deuteronomy 31:10-12 Every 7 years the law was to be read to all Israel from this place

During the time of Joshua, when the children of Israel entered the Promised Land, the city of Jerusalem was never taken (Joshua 15:63). The Jebusites occupied it during the time of the Judges and during the 40-year reign of King Saul. David finally took the city once he was anointed king over all Israel.

## **2. David set up the tabernacle of David in Jerusalem.**

David prepared a tent and brought the ark of God to Jerusalem with great celebration and fanfare. David appointed Heman, Asaph, and Ethan as chief musicians and choir directors to appoint singers and musicians from the Levites. They were to sound and lift up the voice with joy, and give thanks to the Lord as every day's work required.  
(2 Samuel 6:1ff; 1 Chronicles 13:1ff; 15:1ff; 16:1ff)

David did not build the temple, but he made provisions for its construction. Also, he set up the proper order and course of service for the priests and Levites. His son Solomon eventually built the temple (1 Chronicles 23:24-32; 28:11-21; 29:1-9).

The temple was a permanent replacement for the tabernacle of Moses. All the elements of the tabernacle (i.e. the veil, the golden candlestick, the alter of incense, and the brazen alter) were duplicated in Solomon's temple. However, the reign of David was a very unique time in Israel's history. David prepared a tent for the ark, and this was located in Jerusalem. The tabernacle and all the other elements were located in the high place of Gibeon during this time. It was here where sacrifices were made on the brazen alter (1 Chronicles 16:37-40; 2 Chronicles 1:3-6).

This time, when David ruled in Jerusalem, sitting on the throne as the Lord's anointed, is the time of Zion's greatness. This was a glorious time in Israel's history. This is the tabernacle of David (2 Samuel 6:17).

## **3. David took the land promised to Abraham, Moses, and Joshua**

1 Chronicles 18:1-14 David defeated the Gentile nations. David became a ruler of Gentiles. Genesis 15:18; Exodus 23:31; Deut. 1:7-8; Deut. 11:24; Josh 1:4; 1 Kings 4:21; Psalm 18 (Title), verses 43-50.



David set up his government with princes ruling the twelve tribes of Israel, priests, military leaders, and the service of the Levites.

2 Samuel 9:15-18 David's heads of state

1 Chronicles 23:2-6; 24-32; 1 Chronicles 25:1-26:32 The division and responsibility of the Levites

1 Chronicles 24:1ff The divisions of the sons of Aaron – the priests

1 Chronicles 27:1-15 The chief fathers and captains of thousands and hundreds.

1 Chronicles 27:16-22 The twelve princes over the twelve tribes of Israel.

1 Chronicles 27:25 The king's treasurers

1 Chronicles 27:26-31 The rulers over agriculture.

1 Chronicles 27:32-34 The king's counselors, scribes, and general of the army.

### **The Sure Mercies of David**

The Messiah would come from the seed of David. He is referred to as the branch, the root and offspring of Jesse. God's mercy will be upon the household of David, and all the house of Israel, as well as the Gentile nations, will be under this son of David.

Isaiah 9:6-7 Upon the throne of David and upon his kingdom

Isaiah 11:1 A rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots

Jeremiah 23:5 I will raise unto David a righteous branch

Matthew 1:1 The son of David, the son of Abraham

Luke 1:31-33 The Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David

Luke 1:68-69 An horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David

John 7:42 Christ cometh of the seed of David

Acts 2:29-30 Of the fruit of his loins he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne

Acts 13:22-23 Of this man's seed hath God according to his promise raised a Savior

Romans 1:3 Which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh

2 Timothy 2:8 Jesus Christ of the seed of David

Revelation 5:5 The Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David

Revelation 22:16 I am the root and offspring of David

A King will rise up from the seed of David to once again sit on the throne in the tabernacle of David.

Isaiah 16:5

And in mercy shall the throne be established: and he shall sit upon it in truth in the tabernacle of David, judging, and seeking judgment, and hasting righteousness.

Amos 9:11

In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old:

Israel and the Gentiles that seek will also be included in this mercy to David

Isaiah 11:10-13 The Gentiles shall seek.

Isaiah 55:3-7

Isaiah 55:3 (New Living Translation)

Come to me with your ears wide open. Listen, for the life of your soul is at stake. I am ready to make an everlasting covenant with you. I will give you all the mercies and unfailing love that I promised David.

Amos 9:11-12 All the heathen (Gentiles) which are called by my name