

July 1, 2020

Good afternoon, Everybody.

Our family usually gathers for Bible reading and prayer somewhere around 8:30 or 9:00 each evening. Last night we read I Chronicles 17, which is the account of the event (David's proposing to Nathan that he build a house of worship for the Lord) that gave rise to the Davidic Covenant. It was timely for us, because in our family's review of the catechism, we'd just arrived at the section on the covenants (29-36). In fact, last night were cards 33 and 34, concerning the Mosaic and Davidic covenants.



As we read together last night I noticed that at sometime in the past I'd underlined portions of three different verses. The first was a phrase in verse 16.

Then David the king went in and sat before the LORD
and said, "Who am I, O LORD God, and what is my house
that You have brought me this far?"

My underlining highlighted the words, went in and sat before the LORD. The day before, the place of David and Nathan's conversation had been in David's house (17:1). Unless David had gone up to Gibeon to visit the tabernacle the following day, his place of going in and sitting before the LORD most likely would have been where he had been: in his own house. But even if not, there is nevertheless something very suggestive about the idea of sitting down *before the LORD* in one's own house.

The second phrase I'd underlined at some time in the past is in verse 23.

Now, O LORD, let the word that You have spoken
concerning Your servant and concerning his house
be established forever, and do as You have spoken.

My underlining highlighted the words, do as You have spoken.

David's request, *do as You have spoken*, reflected his acceptance *by faith* of

all the promises God was giving to him (in the Davidic Covenant). He was aware of his utter unworthiness (see vv 16-17). But despite this, he laid hold upon the immeasurably fabulous promises God was covenanting with him about, and found the *boldness* to actually say, *do as You have spoken*.

If you'll reflect upon it a little bit (and you may have to read the entire passage for yourself), I think that you'll find his petition breathtaking. Its words sound almost audacious. But they were evidently entirely appropriate; in fact, characterized by the very thing that God desired from him—entire acceptance of the promises despite his personal unworthiness, resulting in a kind of confidence whose boldness might strike an outsider as bordering upon audacity.

Well . . . but isn't that what God **calls for** from us? *Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace* (Hebrews 4:16). *Therefore, brethren, since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus . . . Let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith* (Hebrews 10:19, 22). What could possibly display more total capitulation to God's infinite pleasure in providing our righteousness through Christ alone and in atoning for our iniquities through Christ alone, than for poor, helpless, unrighteous, unworthy **us** to just simply respond to every promise of the New Covenant with, *and now, O LORD God, the word that thou hast spoken concerning thy servant . . . do as thou hast said* (II Samuel 7:25; KJV).

Would it not be good for each of us to go in and sit *before the LORD*, within our **own house** and do just that? Day after day? For the remainder of our earthly lives?

Praying for You Today,

Pastor Minnick