

Sermon Brief, Important Cross References and Quotes, Helpful Links, Discussion Questions

May 23, 2021

Was it Not Necessary? How the Old Testament Prepares us for Jesus #4

“David”

2 Samuel 7:1-17

Sermon Brief:

1. We are trying to get to know the Old Testament better.
2. Sometimes people don't see the value in that because they don't think the Old Testament is relevant.
3. One reason people miss what's going on in the Old Testament is because they don't understand what the Old Testament is doing.
4. The Old Testament is answering big questions.
 - a. What is the world supposed to be like?
 - b. What is wrong with the world?
 - c. Is there any hope for us?
 - i. Genesis 3:15 says YES!
5. In fact fundamentally you could say the Old Testament is about a promise. God will make Himself known and show how great He is by judging His enemies and saving sinners through the seed of the woman.
6. And that's what we are looking for as we are reading the Old Testament. How is God going to keep that promise and establish His kingdom and the primary way God reveals that answer is through something we call covenants.
7. These covenants are kind of like God giving us His job description.
 - a. After the promise in Genesis 3, God promises in Genesis 9, He is going to preserve the planet.
 - b. In Genesis 12, God promises something even bigger. He is going to reverse the curse and use Abraham's offspring to bring blessing to the world.
 - i. And of course, that's why we are so interested in Israel and what the Old Testament has to say about them. They are the ones God's promising to use to rescue the world.
 - c. So the big question we started talking about last week was how?
 - i. And we looked specifically at Exodus 19, where it's almost like God is making Israel an offer. He would make the Promised Land like the Garden of Eden and they would serve as His representatives and show the world what it is like to live with God as king if they would only be obedient.
 1. But of course, they wouldn't.
8. Which is why if you are following along at this point, you are looking at the story and wondering, is there maybe something we missed?
 - a. If you go back to the first five books of the Bible you find there are some hints that God already anticipated this problem before it happened.
 - i. Deuteronomy 31:16
 - b. And God also gives us some hints about the solution.
 - i. A singular seed
 1. Genesis 3:15

2. Genesis 22:17,18
 - ii. A king
 1. Genesis 17:6
 2. Genesis 49:10
 3. Numbers 24:17
 4. Deuteronomy 17
 - c. If you didn't get that reading Genesis through Deuteronomy, by the time you get to the book of Judges, it's pretty hard to miss.
 - i. Deuteronomy 12:8 and Judges 21:25
 - d. And Samuel begins by saying you are right, that it's this king who is needed.
 - i. Samuel is all about the Promised King! 1 Samuel 2:10
 - ii. It begins by answering why Israel needs a king and who should appoint the king.
 - iii. Then it starts answering the question, what kind of king do they need?
 1. First it shows us the wrong kind of king.
 2. Then it gives us a picture of the right kind of king.
9. Which brings us to our fourth key word for understanding the Old Testament.
- a. Kingdom
 - b. Covenant
 - c. Israel
 - d. **DAVID!**
10. You are not going to understand the Old Testament or even the New if you take David out and probably the most important place for understanding David's role in God's rescue plan is 2 Samuel 7.
- a. **Looking at 2 Samuel 7:1-7, we see FIRST, that understanding David's role begins with understanding who David is not.**
 - i. He is not the ultimate chosen priest king God is going to use to establish His kingdom on earth.
 - b. **But still David is important, because in 2 Samuel 7:8-17, we see SECOND, that God promises one of His descendants is.**
 - i. One of David's descendants will fulfill the Abrahamic covenant.
 - ii. And, the only way He can do that is by fulfilling the Mosaic covenant.
 1. Sadly, in the Old Testament, all of David's descendants ultimately fail to do that which is why Israel ends up going into exile.
 2. But, even if David's descendants fail, God won't. That's what's huge about the Davidic covenant. One of His descendants will establish God's kingdom.
11. And the good news is we absolutely one hundred percent know who that descendant is!
- a. And I am calling on you to put your hope today in this absolutely perfect priest king who came from the line of David, because God will keep His promise, and one day we'll see Him sitting on His father's throne, doing what Adam should have done, what Israel couldn't do, fulfilling the promise to Abraham, reversing the curse and building a cosmic temple for His people to enjoy the presence of His father God forever and ever.

Important Cross References and Quotes:

1. Genesis 1 and 2, 3:15, 12:1-3, Exodus 19:4-6 and 2 Samuel 7
2. "Abram and his seed carry in their genes the secret of universal blessing."
3. Deuteronomy 31:16
4. Genesis 22:17,18
5. Genesis 49:10
6. Deuteronomy 12:8 and Judges 21:25
7. 1 Samuel 2:10
8. "If you had to pick three texts to explain the story of the Old Testament, this is one of them." (2 Samuel 7)
9. "By attaching to David the promises He made to Abraham, God indicates His intention to bring His kingdom intended for Adam, promised to Abraham, and organized at Sinai, through David."
10. The Davidic covenant is the One Covenant to rule them all.

Helpful Links:

1. [The One Covenant to Rule them All](#) - Beginner (Sort of! This is really a wow kind of message.) For a more extended discussion, see 2 Samuel [lecture 12 and 13](#).
2. (If you want some more simple lectures on the book Samuel, see [here](#).)
3. Also if you want some insight into 2 Samuel as a whole, you can see [here](#).
4. [The Davidic Covenant](#) - Intermediate
5. [The Nature of Nathan's Oracle](#) - Advanced

Discussion Questions:

1. What are you learning or enjoying about the way the Old Testament reveals God's great plan?
2. Many people don't think the Old Testament is relevant. What are some different possible ways you might respond to them?
3. How would you describe what the Old Testament is doing?
4. The Old Testament tells us what is wrong with the world. But it doesn't stop there. It gives us hope. How would you summarize the hope of the Old Testament?
5. In the covenants God is revealing slowly but surely how He is keeping His promise in Genesis 3:15. This Sunday we talked about the Davidic covenant. What passage did we look at to discuss this covenant? Can you think of some other passages that talk about this covenant?
6. The Davidic covenant is the high point of the book of Samuel. How does the book of Samuel get us ready for this? (Think Hannah, Saul, and the beginning of David's rule.)
7. How would you summarize what God is promising in this covenant? How does this passage add to our understanding of God's redemptive plan?
8. You might want to read 2 Samuel 7:1-7. This is the context for the Davidic covenant. As we open this chapter, God's kingdom is being established on earth. What does David think should happen next? What does he get right in how he goes about this? What is God's response however? What exactly is God telling David?
9. David's role is not to be the Ultimate Messiah. What is his role however according to verses 8-17?

10. In order for God's kingdom to be established on earth we need a king from David who will be obedient to the Mosaic covenant. If there's a descendant of David who will do that then we have hope that the Abrahamic covenant is going to be fulfilled. As we read the rest of Samuel and Kings however, what is the problem?
11. This passage in 2 Samuel 7 provides a basic program for what God's going to do through David's descendants. Some of it is still a little fuzzy at this point. That's one reason we have the rest of the Old Testament and even the New. If you have time you might look at some of the following passages and just comment on what you think it says about Jesus and this covenant with David. (Luke 1:31-33; Acts 13:32-34; Acts 15:13-18; 2 Timothy 2:8; Revelation 3:7,5:5,and 22:16)
12. Obviously, Jesus' connection to David is important. In what does the Davidic covenant help you understand why?
13. What are some ways what we studied should impact the way we think, worship, feel or act?