2 Samuel 7:4-16 (New International Version)

⁴ But that night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, saying:

⁵ "Go and tell my servant David, 'This is what the LORD says: Are you the one to build me a house to dwell in?

⁶ I have not dwelt in a house from the day I brought the Israelites up out of Egypt to this day. I have been moving from place to place with a tent as my dwelling.

⁷ Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, did I ever say to any of their rulers whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?"

⁸ "Now then, tell my servant David, 'This is what the LORD Almighty says: I took you from the pasture, from tending the flock, and appointed you ruler over my people Israel.

⁹ I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men on earth.

¹⁰ And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people will not oppress them anymore, as they did at the beginning

¹¹ and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders^[a] over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies. "The LORD declares to you that the LORD himself will establish a house for you:

¹² When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom.

¹³ He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

¹⁴ I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with a rod wielded by men, with floggings inflicted by human hands.

¹⁵ But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you.

 $^{\bf 16}$ Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me $^{[\underline{b}]}$; your throne will be established forever.'''^1

¹ http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+samuel+7%3A7-

^{16&}amp;version=NIV&interface=print

Good Morning First Baptist Members and Friends. I greet you this morning with the joy that comes from knowing Jesus is Lord. I know that you know - that He is the Son of a Living God. I know - that you know that - He was born to die so that you and I might have a way back to the Father. But this morning **if you know** He is Lord of your life, then make some noise. Celebrate what He has done, is doing and will do in your life. He is Lord of Lord and King of Kings.

During the month of March we will have 4 lessons that concentrate on showing us how Jesus is the Messiah and the fulfillment of the promise God the Father made to King David. That promise is often referred to as the Davidic Covenant. This morning we will consider this covenant from 2 Samuel and for the remainder of the month we will look at both OT and NT scriptures. There will not be time during the sermon to provide great depth into the history of the selected passages and so I encourage you to make an extra effort to get to Adult Sunday School in order that you might receive some additional background information.

Over the years I have used the stories of both the Old and New Testament to challenge you to look at your life. We have asked ourselves what kind of soil do we have in our pots. For we know from the parable of the soils that God's Word won't grow just anywhere. We have talked about what we have buried in our tents from the OT story of the man who disobeyed a direct command to destroy everything, but instead brought some of the spoils of war home and buried them in his tent. From that story we are reminded that there is a consequence for disobedience. And today I want to take a familiar story – the story of David's desire to build a house for the Lord – and use this story to challenge you once again to take inventory of your life. Please pray with me as we work with this theme:

WHAT KIND OF HOUSE ARE YOU BUILDING?

SHALL WE PRAY? Father so often we want to do what we want to do and because what we want to do - does not seems like a bad thing we make plans to do - what we want to do. Father, we need you to help us to remember that we need to consult you about everything and all the things we want to do. You wish to be involved, you wish to lead and guide, you wish to be Lord of our lives. So this morning, we come and ask you to allow us into your presence in order that we might learn how to let you be Lord.

A few of us in this room have been blessed to build a house from the ground up and be the first to live in it. But most of us live in houses that others have designed and built and we spend our time and our resources working to make that house a home. When we finally get the furniture just right, the window treatments we have always dreamed of and landscaping that is the envy of all the neighbors we begin to look to see what we can now do with our discretionary income. Some of us might begin to save more, give more to charities, or even take an extra vacation.

But when King David arrived at the place that he was contented with his living situation David's thoughts turned to what he could do for the Lord. David looked at all that he had and how little the Lord had and the Lord's people had and David decided that he would build the Lord a house. A house as grand as his own. David went to his friend and advisor Nathan and told him of his plans and Nathan encouraged him to go ahead.

Right here is our **first teaching point.**

If you are going to do something for God you need to ask God.

Neither Nathan the prophet or David the king anointed by God consulted God, asked God, or waited on God instead they talked to each other and decided to move forward. (Kingdom Seekers this is one reason not to depend on your peers for the answers – they might not know any more than you and might make the same mistakes you are making)

 ⁴ But that night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, saying:
 ⁵ "Go and tell my servant David, 'This is what the LORD says: Are you the one to build me a house to dwell in?

Here is teaching **point number two.**

Your idea may be a good idea and still not be what God wants.

Once God has made it clear that King David will not be the one to build God a house. God begins to tell David what He is going to do for David.

Teaching Point Number Three God may have a different plan for your life

Listen to what God promises David:

¹² When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors,
 I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own
 flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom.

¹³ He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

¹⁴ I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with a rod wielded by men, with floggings inflicted by human hands.

¹⁵ **But my love will never be taken away from him,** as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you.

¹⁶ Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.²²

At the beginning of this sermon I asked you

WHAT KIND OF HOUSE ARE YOU BUILDING?

Just as King David had a promise from God we too have a promise and we too have made a covenant with God. I am asking you to consider the promises you have made to God as the house you are building.

² http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+samuel+7%3A7-

^{16&}amp;version=NIV&interface=print

Does your house have a strong foundation?

- maintaining family and private devotions
- providing your children with religious education

Does your house have windows?

- watching over one another

Does your house have a prayer closet?

- remembering each other in prayer

Does your house have doors?

- are you demonstrating by your every action and deed only that which represents Christian life at its best
- working to help your family and friends seek salvation

Does your house have a library or even a book shelf for the Gospel - the spread of the gospel

Does your house have room for the poor, sick and the distressed?

Does your house have a chimney where your angry may escape?

WHAT KIND OF HOUSE ARE YOU BUILDING?

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly^[1] with your God.³

¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."⁴

WHAT KIND OF HOUSE ARE YOU BUILDING?

³ http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Micah+6&version=NIV

⁴ http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+28&version=NIV