

## **1 Chronicles 17 New American Standard Bible**

### **God's Covenant with David**

And it came about, when David lived in his house, that David said to Nathan the prophet, “Look, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of the covenant of the Lord is under tent curtains.” <sup>2</sup> Then Nathan said to David, “Do whatever is in your heart, for God is with you.”

<sup>3</sup> But it happened that same night, that the word of God came to Nathan, saying, <sup>4</sup> “Go and tell David My servant, ‘This is what the Lord says: “You shall not build a house for Me to dwell in; <sup>5</sup> for I have not dwelt in a house since the day that I brought up Israel to this day, but I have gone from tent to tent and from *one* dwelling place *to another*. <sup>6</sup> In all places where I have walked with all Israel, have I spoken a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd My people, saying, ‘Why have you not built Me a house of cedar?’””

<sup>7</sup> Now, therefore, this is what you shall say to My servant David: ‘This is what the Lord of armies says: “I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader over My people Israel. <sup>8</sup> I have been with you wherever you have gone, and have eliminated all your enemies from you; and I will make for you a name like the name of the great ones who are on the earth.

<sup>9</sup> And I will appoint a place for My people Israel, and will plant them *there*, so that they may live in their own place and not tremble *with anxiety* again; and the wicked will not make them waste away anymore as *they did* previously, <sup>10</sup> even from the day that I commanded judges *to be* over My people Israel. And I will subdue all your enemies.

Moreover, I tell you that the Lord will build a house for you. <sup>11</sup> When your days are fulfilled that you must go *to be* with your fathers, then I will set up *one of* your descendants after you, who will be from your sons; and I will establish his kingdom.

<sup>12</sup> He shall build for Me a house, and I will establish his throne forever. <sup>13</sup> I will be his father and he shall be My son; and I will not take My favor away from him, as I took it from him who was before you. <sup>14</sup> But I will settle him in My house and in My kingdom forever, and his throne will be established forever.””” <sup>15</sup> According to all these words and according to all of this vision, so Nathan spoke to David.

### **David's Prayer in Response**

<sup>16</sup> Then King David came in and sat before the Lord, and said, “Who am I, Lord God, and what is my house that You have brought me this far? <sup>17</sup> This was a small thing in Your eyes, God; but You have spoken of Your servant's house for a great while to come, and have viewed me according to the standard of a person of high degree, Lord God.

<sup>18</sup> What more can David still *say* to You concerning the honor *bestowed* on Your servant? For You know Your servant. <sup>19</sup> Lord, for Your servant's sake, and according to Your own heart, You have accomplished all this greatness, to make known all these great things. <sup>20</sup> Lord, there is none like You, nor is there any God besides You, according to everything that we have heard with our ears.

<sup>21</sup> And what one nation on the earth is like Your people Israel, whom God went to redeem for Himself *as* a people, to make for You a name by great and awesome things, by driving out

nations from before Your people, whom You redeemed from Egypt? <sup>22</sup> For You have made Your people Israel Your own people forever, and You, Lord, became their God.

<sup>23</sup> “Now, Lord, let the word that You have spoken concerning Your servant and concerning his house be established forever, and do just as You have spoken. <sup>24</sup> Let Your name be established and be great forever, saying, ‘The Lord of armies is the God of Israel, a God to Israel; and the house of Your servant David is established before You.’

<sup>25</sup> For You, my God, have revealed to Your servant that You will build him a house; therefore Your servant has found *courage* to pray before You. <sup>26</sup> Now, Lord, You are God, and have promised this good thing to Your servant. <sup>27</sup> And now You have decided to bless the house of Your servant, that it may continue forever before You; for You, Lord, have blessed, and it is blessed forever.”

**We will use five tools on our expedition that are built around five questions**

1. What questions were provoked within you?
2. Did anything confuse you?
3. Did anything move you emotionally?
4. Did God instruct you to do something?
5. Did you gain any insight into God’s character?

**Pauls observations and insights**

1. The desire to build God a house worthy of His name was formed at this point in David’s history.
2. This is where all good things begin, in the heart of our desires.
3. When desire is working as God made it all things will be well. When it is operating out of its sinful rebellious nature there will be trouble ahead.
4. Nathan is a prophet of Israel who heard the word of the Lord for God’s people instinctively without reference to God, he instructs David to do the good desire of his heart, to go ahead and build the temple for God.
5. It would appear on this occasion Nathan had not consulted God, presumption will get you into trouble.
6. God speaks into Nathan’s heart through an inspiration in the night.
7. He instructs David to not build the house.
8. How would Nathan look in the eyes of David having instructed him to fulfil the desires of his heart?
9. It is a humble, wise and courageous person that acknowledges their mistakes.
10. Getting it wrong is not a problem to God, getting it wrong and not facing the truth is.
11. God’s word to Nathan clearly shows God had no intention to live in a house made of bricks.
12. God, through Nathan, reminds David the journey of his life, how He drew him from nowhere to somewhere, how He took him from nothing to something.
13. Why do you think God did this?
14. Through Nathan God prophesies the future for David and Israel.
15. To foretell the future through God is one thing, to do so outside of God is another. Why?
16. God declares a house will be built but it will happen through David’s son, He also reveals David’s line will be successful.

17. As a father to know your children will walk the ways of God is a wonderful thing.  
The prayers for our children are heard.
18. When God says to David - Solomon will always know His loving kindness - He makes reference to Saul.
19. What an amazing promise to hear that Gods loving kindness will remain with our children always.
20. God fulfilled this promise, He did bless Solomon all through his life.
21. How would you have expected David to respond to Nathan's retracted word to him?
22. David goes in to God with a humble heart, he rejoices in the great blessings Nathan had brought, he showed no concern that the opportunity to build the house would not be his.
23. David recognises the implications of all Nathan had said to him regarding the line of his family.
24. David is overwhelmed with gratitude and joy, it leads him into the worship of God regarding the truth and this insight.
25. Within his worship he recalls his journey with God and this amazing loving kindness God had shown him.
26. David shares the blessing he received with God's people Israel.
27. David knew because God had said it, it would happen.
28. He wants God to be exalted forever. It was God's mighty hand that would build him a house through his son.
29. Why do we need courage to pray?
  30. Worship and *blessing* God had formed a part of David's every-day language.