

Sunday, July 30, 2023

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## **This God Makes Covenants**

The Story of Israel, Episode 5 of 10

2 Samuel 7: 1-18

*Welcome to the story of Israel! The story of Israel is (true) history, it is sacred history, and it is our family history. We are telling this story in ten episodes: Promise, Salvation, Law, Land, **Covenant**, Temple, Division, Prophets, Exile, and Restoration. Today is episode #5, as the Lord makes a **covenant** with King David.*

Jonathan: Against all self-interest, he honors his covenant with David (1 Sam 20)

- *You and me, partners till death, against whatever comes our way.*

Series review: Promise, Salvation, Law, Land... and now Covenant

Today's passage: God makes a covenant with King David (2 Samuel 7:1-18)

**(1) "Lord, I'm going to build you a house."** –David (2 Sam 7:1-3)

- "house" = temple

**(2) "No David, I'm going to build *you* a house."** –The Lord (2 Sam 7:11)

- "house" = dynasty

- Archaeology note: "House of David" inscribed on the Tel Dan stele

- Whoa... "Forever" language in this covenant! (2 Sam 7:13,15,16)

**(3) "What? But who am I, O Lord?"** –David (2 Sam 7:18)

- God didn't have to do this. David didn't earn it. (See Westminster Confession 7.1.)

Covenant and Kingship... So what?

### Questions for Reflection and Application

1. What experience with "covenant" have you had in your lifetime?
2. Reflect on Jonathan's amazing behavior in his covenant with David. (1 Sam 20)
  - Is God calling you to honor your commitments made to a particular person?
3. Read 2 Samuel 7.
  - What does God promise to David?
  - What part(s) of this promise can only be fulfilled by Jesus, David's Son?
  - God didn't have to make this covenant. Why is this important for us to know? How does it impact your view of God?
4. What covenant did God make with you? See 1 Cor 11:25.