

May 7, 2024

The House that God Built...Us

[2 Samuel 7:1-11](#)

11...Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house.

The new king David has a grand idea to build a fancy temple for God. But God has other ideas for David. David wants to take God's house to the next level. Our passage opens with "the king settled in his house" and was resting from trials and tribulation. But in his palace, David is unsettled about something.

That something? The house for the ark of God. Is a tent good enough of a home for the Lord? This God deserves a temple. David runs to the prophet Nathan. Without hesitation, Nathan affirms David's vision for a more permanent home for the ark. "Go, and do all that you have in mind."

But then God has words with Nathan in the night. David was unable to discern the will and way of God because he only sees things from his point of view. God doesn't need a fancy house built of stone.

God needs a people built by God.

Here is the plot twist in verse 11: "You will not build me a house," replied the Lord, "I shall build you a house."³ And the house that God builds is not a house with four walls either.

Ultimately it is God who takes this covenant to the next level when God becomes present in human flesh as Jesus Christ. And we are heirs of this promise.

Through baptism, God dwells with us and through us as we journey through trying times and when we dance in joyful processions. God doesn't need us to build a fancy new dwelling. God wants to build **us**.

We need to slow down and let God build us—dwell in us—in humble, simple, usual ways. God takes the covenant to the next level (not us). When did I ever demand a temple from you?

I go where you go. I am with you.

So let us go out into our churches, neighborhoods, communities, and the world and bring the Good News that Jesus, God's Son, is the Prince of Peace.

Prayer: Dear God, we thank you for inviting us to be part of Your Kingdom by sending Jesus to be our forever King. May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, guard our hearts and our minds. In Christ Jesus's name we pray. Amen.

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