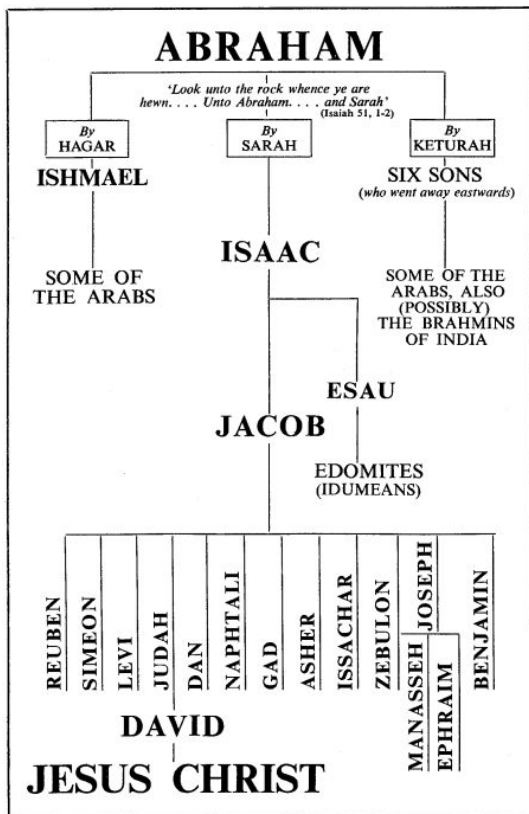
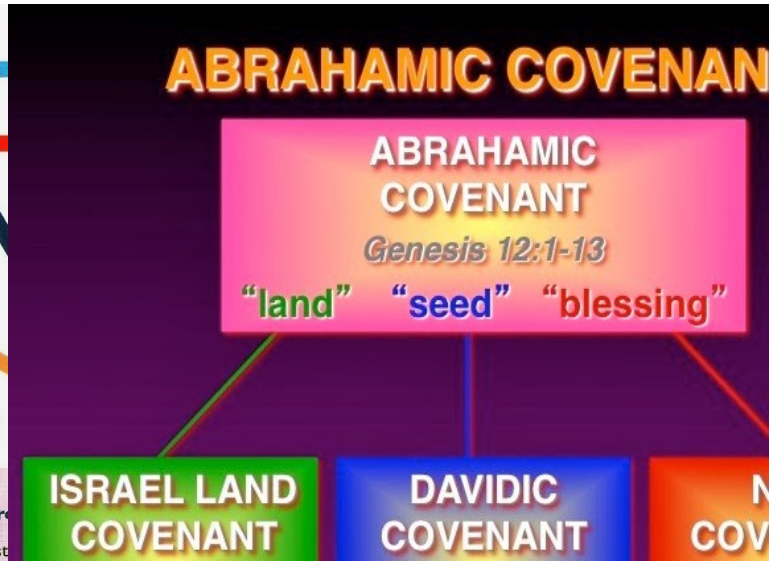
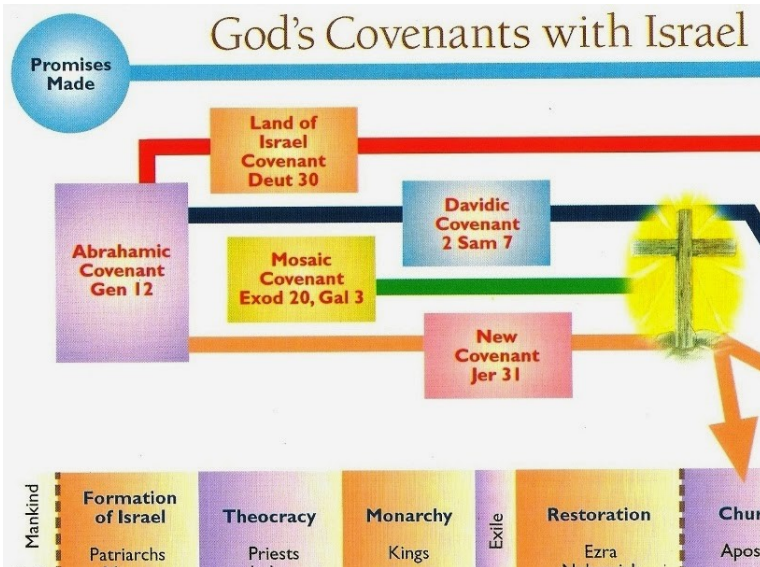


# THE DAVIDIC COVENANT – PART 2

## REVIEW

- God’s covenant with David is an expansion and development of the “seed” promises of the AC
- The promise that David and his seed would be kings fulfilled the even more ancient AC blessing that the patriarchs would be the fathers of kings



- In the AC, God told Abraham that he and Sara would have a son and that a great nation would come from him
- Genesis 17:6** ~ I have made you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make nations of you, and kings will come forth from you.
- This promised eventually narrowed on Isaac, then Jacob....Later, the promise of a kingdom and a throne narrowed to the tribe of Judah
- Genesis 49:10** ~ The scepter shall not depart from Judah, Nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet, Until Shiloh comes, And to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.
- Balaam promised a “star” and “scepter” would come from Israel
- Numbers 24:17** ~ A star shall come forth from Jacob, A scepter shall rise from Israel
- These texts all pointed toward the DC where the scope of God’s promises narrow in on one family within the tribe of Judah, the family of David

- Thus, the DC is a covenant made between God and David through which God promises David and Israel that the Messiah would come from the lineage of David and the tribe of Judah and would establish a kingdom that would endure forever
- God promised to give David a great name and, under David's leadership as king, to provide a secure place for the nation of Israel to dwell, in accordance with the original promises of the AC
- God also promised that a descendant of David would build the Temple that David himself had wanted to build, and that the Davidic dynasty would endure forever.
- David would never lack a man to sit upon God's throne in Jerusalem... God promised to establish a descendant of David on his throne forever
- Thus, the DC secures in perpetuity a Davidic "house" or line, a throne, and a kingdom
- The specific promises God made in His covenant with David are stated in 2 Samuel 7:8-16

**2 Samuel 7:8-16** ~ Now therefore, thus you shall say to My servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, "I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be ruler over My people Israel. 9 I have been with you wherever you have gone and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make you a great name, like the names of the great men who are on the earth. 10 I will also appoint a place for My people Israel and will plant them, that they may live in their own place and not be disturbed again, nor will the wicked afflict them any more as formerly, 11 even from the day that I commanded judges to be over My people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. The LORD also declares to you that the LORD will make a house for you. 12 When your days are complete and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your descendant after you, who will come forth from you, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 14 I will be a father to him and he will be a son to Me; when he commits iniquity, I will correct him with the rod of men and the strokes of the sons of men, 15 but My lovingkindness shall not depart from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. 16 Your house and your kingdom shall endure before Me forever; your throne shall be established forever.' ' ' "

- The DC centers on several key promises that are made to David
- The Promises to be fulfilled in David's lifetime:
  - A Great Name (v. 9)
  - A Place for the People (v. 10)
  - Rest (v. 11a)
- Promises to be fulfilled after David's death:
  - A House (v. 11b)
  - A "Seed" or Descendant (vv. 12-14)
  - A Kingdom (v. 16)

## **God Would Grant David a Great Name**

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**2 Samuel 7:9** ~ I have been with you wherever you have gone and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make you a great name, like the names of the great men who are on the earth.

- That the DC is closely connected to the AC is clear from the fact that God also promised that Abraham would have a great name

**Genesis 12:2** ~ And I will make you a great nation, And I will bless you, And make your name great; And so you shall be a blessing

## **God Would Grant Israel a Place to Dwell and Rest From Their Enemies**

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**2 Samuel 7:10-11a** ~ I will also appoint a place for My people Israel and will plant them, that they may live in their own place and not be disturbed again, nor will the wicked afflict them any more as formerly, even from the day that I commanded judges to be over My people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies.

- This is exactly what happened under David...the people enjoyed rest from their enemies and dwelt securely in their own land

## God Will Make a “House” for David

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**2 Samuel 7:11b** ~ The LORD also declares to you that the LORD will make a house for you.

- The house to be built for David would be a royal house, a dynasty of kings...in David’s physical line
- God promised that the line of David would endure forever and never be cut off
- “This was the new addition to the promise plan: all that had been offered to the patriarchs and Moses was now being offered to David’s dynasty. Nor was that all; it was to last on into the future...It was explained that David’s ‘house’ was a line of descendants (vv. 12, 16, 19, 26, 29) which the Lord would give to him in perpetuity...His ‘dynasty,’ throne, and kingdom would be secure forever; it was established by the Lord.”<sup>1</sup>

## God Will Establish David’s Throne Forever

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**2 Samuel 7:12-14** ~When your days are complete and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your descendant after you, who will come forth from you, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 14 I will be a father to him and he will be a son to Me; when he commits iniquity, I will correct him with the rod of men and the strokes of the sons of men,

- It would be Solomon who would build the “house” for the Lord, the temple
- David would have a son who would sit on the throne of the nation
- The “throne” speaks of ruling authority...this is a promise that the right to rule would always belong to the line of David...and would never pass away permanently (even though there might be times when it might not be exercised)
- “The covenant did not require an unbroken succession of ruling kings in the Davidic dynasty.”<sup>2</sup>
- This does not mean that there cannot be interruptions in the reign of David’s line, but rather that the outcome is guaranteed
- God’s promise to raise up a descendant is unconditional. But a continuous, uninterrupted reign is not. That is conditioned upon the faithfulness of the Davidic kings
- “I will be a father to him and he will be a son to Me” – this language shows the intimacy which will exist between the covenant king and the Lord and it also shows the security of that relationship
- The near fulfillment of this promise is David’s immediate physical descendants: Solomon, Rehoboam, etc.
- They ruled over the temporal kingdom of David’s family in the land
- When God says, “I will correct him with the rod of men and the strokes of the sons of men,” He is referring to the fact that He would discipline the seed of David when necessary (i.e. Solomon, etc.)
- But the ultimate seed of David will not be a sinner like David’s descendants and will, thus, not need such discipline
- Obviously, this provision of the DC refers to David’s greater Son, Jesus Christ...the one who would assume David’s throne (see Isaiah 9:6-7; Luke 1:32-33; Luke 1:69)
- Christ’s Davidic reign will conclude human history
- Clearly David had future in mind when he spoke of the “distant future”

<sup>1</sup> Kaiser, *Toward and Old Testament Theology*, 150-151.

<sup>2</sup>Benware, *Understanding End Times Prophecy*, 59.

**2 Samuel 7:18-19** ~ Then David the king went in and sat before the LORD, and he said, “Who am I, O Lord GOD, and what is my house, that You have brought me this far? 19 And yet this was insignificant in Your eyes, O Lord GOD, for You have spoken also of the house of Your servant concerning **the distant future**. And this is the custom of man, O Lord GOD.”

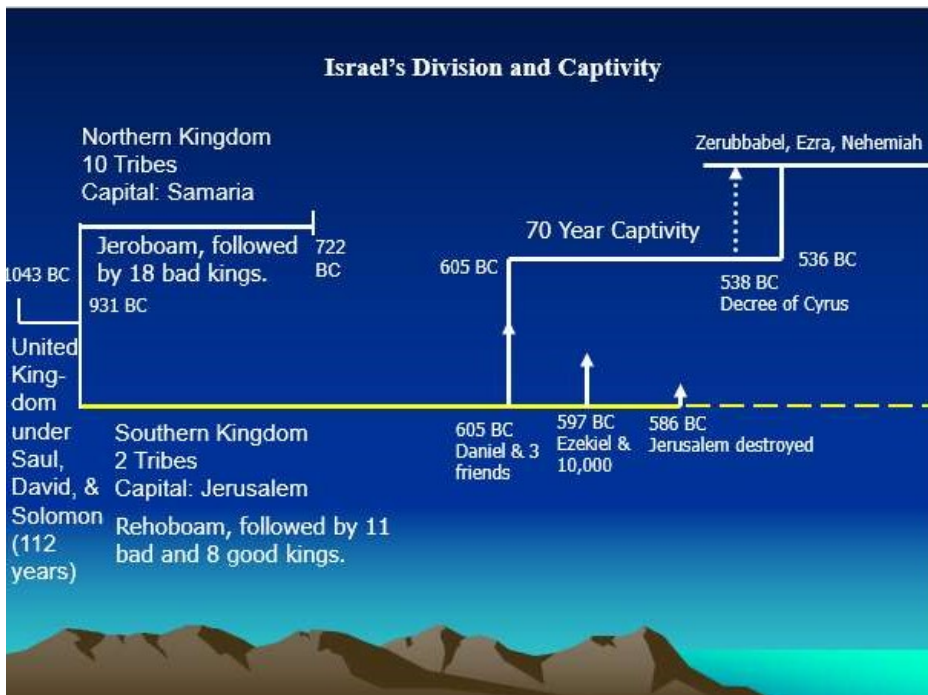
## God Will Establish David’s Kingdom Forever

**2 Samuel 7:15-16** ~but My lovingkindness shall not depart from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. 16 Your house and your kingdom shall endure before Me forever; your throne shall be established forever.



- 1) your house – refers to a dynasty in the lineage of David
  - 2) your kingdom – refers to a people who are governed by a king
  - 3) your throne – refers to the authority of the king’s rule
- What began as a promise that David’s son Solomon would be blessed and build the temple turns into something different – the promise of an everlasting kingdom
  - Another Son of David would rule forever and build a lasting House
  - This is a reference to the Messiah, David’s ultimate Son, who would rule a kingdom that will never end
  - “forever” emphasizes the eternal and unconditional nature of this promise to David and Israel

- The Highlight of the DC is the promise to establish a Davidic dynasty
- 3 phrases in vs. 16 really summarize the DC:



## THE DAVIDIC COVENANT IN THE ROYAL PSALMS

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- The royal Psalms provide insight on the DC by focusing on the Davidic dynasty and depict the king as one who rules according to the stipulations of the Mosaic Covenant...they discuss God's king and his rule
- "Scholars have categorized a number of Psalms under the heading of 'royal psalms' because they share a common motif – the king. These psalms...draw heavily on the idea of a Davidic dynasty and presuppose the covenant God established with David. They focus on a Davidic figure who, as Yahweh's son, lived in Zion, ruled over God's people, and was heir to the divine promise."<sup>3</sup>
- "The royal psalms are steeped in the ideology of the Davidic dynasty and presupposed the promise and oath made to him. They formed a unity centering on the Davidic king who, as Yahweh's son, resided in Zion, the chosen city, ruled over Yahweh's people, and was heir to the promise."<sup>4</sup>
- "The Royal Psalms are linked with the kings of Israel and offer comfort to the people of Israel and warning to Israel's enemies. God's enemies may resist and revolt, but their efforts are futile. God will establish His king from Jerusalem and he will rule over Israel and the nations with righteousness and justice."<sup>5</sup>

### Psalm 2

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- This psalm contrasted the hostility of the nations directed at the Lord and His Anointed over against God's answer to them in the Davidic king
- It moves fluidly from the lesser David through the Davidic dynasty to the greater David – Jesus Christ
- In this sense, it pictures the coming rule of the Messiah over the nations that is fulfilled with Jesus
- Vs. 1-3 show how wicked people want to free themselves from the authority of God

**Psalm 2:1-3** ~ Why are the nations in an uproar And the peoples devising a vain thing? 2 The kings of the earth take their stand And the rulers take counsel together Against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying, 3 "Let us tear their fetters apart And cast away their cords from us!"

- This opposition is futile...God mocks His opponents

**Psalm 2:4-5** ~He who sits in the heavens laughs, The Lord scoffs at them. 5 Then He will speak to them in His anger And terrify them in His fury, saying,

- God deals with His enemies by installing His king on the earth

**Psalm 2:6-8** ~ But as for Me, I have installed My King Upon Zion, My holy mountain. 7 I will surely tell of the decree of the LORD: He said to Me, 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You. 8 Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, And the very ends of the earth as Your possession.'

- Vs. 7 announces that the "King" is also God's "Son"...this recalls God's promise to David in 2 Sam 7:14 that "I will be a father to him and he will be a son to Me"...obviously a reference to the Messiah
- The statement that "Today I have begotten You" is prophetic of Christ and applied to Him in Hebrews 1:5-6

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<sup>3</sup> Michael Grisanti, "The Davidic Covenant," in *TMSJ* 10 (1999), 243-44.

<sup>4</sup> Walter Kaiser, *Toward an Old Testament Theology*, 159.

<sup>5</sup> Michael Vlach, *He Will Reign Forever*, 127-128.

- Vs. 8 shows that God intends for His Davidic King to rule over all the nations of the earth...although David and Solomon reigned over Israel, the reign depicted here is a universal one, referring to Messiah's future reign over the whole world
- Such a reign by Messiah leads to a devastating rule in His subjugating might

**Psalm 2:9** ~ You shall break them with a rod of iron, You shall shatter them like earthenware.

- The Psalm ends with exhortations for the nations to repent and worship the Son, because He will rule the earth and they need to be ready

**Psalm 2:10-12** ~Now therefore, O kings, show discernment; Take warning, O judges of the earth. 11 Worship the LORD with reverence And rejoice with trembling. 12 Do homage to the Son, that He not become angry, and you perish in the way, For His wrath may soon be kindled. How blessed are all who take refuge in Him!

## Psalm 18

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- This psalm pictures the victory and triumph of David when God delivered him from his enemies (see superscription)

**Psalm 18:1-3** ~"I love You, O LORD, my strength." 2 The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, My God, my rock, in whom I take refuge; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. 3 I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised, And I am saved from my enemies.

- As a result, God's name was lauded in front of the nations and the covenant was kept forever

**Psalm 18:46-50** ~ The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock; And exalted be the God of my salvation, 47 The God who executes vengeance for me, And subdues peoples under me. 48 He delivers me from my enemies; Surely You lift me above those who rise up against me; You rescue me from the violent man. 49 Therefore I will give thanks to You among the nations, O LORD, And I will sing praises to Your name. 50 He gives great deliverance to His king, And shows lovingkindness to His anointed, To David and his descendants forever.

- Vs. 50 is another royal messianic affirmation of the Davidic Covenant in 2 Sam 7

## Psalm 20-21

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- These two psalms appear to be paired as a petition for deliverance (Ps 20) and praise for deliverance (Ps 21)...a ceremony before the battle (Ps 20) and a celebration after the battle (Ps 21)
- "Psalm 20, in anticipation of a military campaign, commemorates a 3-phased ceremony regularly conducted by the people in the presence of the Commander-in-Chief on behalf of the king-general."<sup>6</sup>
- "The first part of Ps. 21 is a thanksgiving for victory; the last part is an anticipation of future victories in the Lord through the king-general. Two scenarios of victory provide a context for praise and prayer to the Commander-in-Chief of Israel's king-general."<sup>7</sup>

**Psalm 21:7-13** ~ For the king trusts in the LORD, And through the lovingkindness of the Most High he will not be shaken. 8 Your hand will find out all your enemies; Your right hand will find out those who hate you. 9 You will make them as a fiery oven in the time of your anger; The LORD will swallow them up in His wrath, And fire will devour them. 10 Their offspring You will destroy from the earth, And their descendants from among the sons of men. 11 Though they intended evil against You And devised a plot, They will not succeed. 12 For You will make them turn their back; You will aim with Your bowstrings at their faces. 13 Be exalted, O LORD, in Your strength; We will sing and praise Your power.

<sup>6</sup> MacArthur, J., Jr. (Ed.). (1997). *The MacArthur Study Bible* (electronic ed., p. 759). Nashville, TN: Word Pub.

<sup>7</sup> MacArthur, J., Jr. (Ed.). (1997). *The MacArthur Study Bible* (electronic ed., p. 760). Nashville, TN: Word Pub.

## Psalm 45

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**Psalm 45:6-7** ~ Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of uprightness is the scepter of Your kingdom. 7 You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of joy above Your fellows.

- This king-groom was likely a member of the Davidic dynasty
- That this text has both a near application (Davidic king) and a future application to the Messiah is evident from the fact that these two verses are quoted in Hebrews 1:8-9 in reference to Christ

**Hebrews 1:8-9** ~ But of the Son He says, “YOUR THRONE, O GOD, IS FOREVER AND EVER, AND THE RIGHTEOUS SCEPTER IS THE SCEPTER OF HIS KINGDOM. 9 YOU HAVE LOVED RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HATED LAWLESSNESS; THEREFORE GOD, YOUR GOD, HAS ANOINTED YOU WITH THE OIL OF GLADNESS ABOVE YOUR COMPANIONS.”

- The “anointing” of the king has Messianic implications in that “Messiah/Christ” means “anointed one”

## Psalm 72

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- This psalm emphasizes the righteousness, blessing, endlessness, and world-wide extent of the Davidic kingdom
- It describes the blessing that flow from the righteousness of God’s theocratic ruler
- The conditions described here go far beyond any historical situation under David or Solomon and, therefore, must point forward to Jesus the Messiah
- “By personal example and deed, the Davidic king was to promote righteousness and justice in the land (v. 1). He would do this by defending the cause of the afflicted, weak, and helpless and by crushing their oppressors (vv. 2, 4, 12-14). The ideal Davidic ruler would occasion the national experience of peace, prosperity, and international recognition (cf. vv. 3, 5-11, 15-17). God promised to give His anointed king dominion over the entire earth (vv. 8-11). Although this psalm may have been written at the beginning of Solomon’s reign, it envisions ideals never fully realized in Israel’s history. Only during the millennial reign of Christ will the peace and prosperity depicted by this psalm find fulfillment.”<sup>8</sup>

## Psalm 89

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- Psalm 89 affirms the DC and its promise of a perpetual kingdom for David’s descendants
- “This psalm describes the author’s attempt to reconcile the seeming contradictions between his theology and the reality of his nation’s conditions. Through the first 37 verses, he rehearses what he knows to be theologically accurate: God has sovereignly chosen Israel to be His nation, and David’s descendants to rule. The last third of the psalm reflects the psalmist’s chagrin that the nation had been ravaged and the Davidic monarchy had apparently come to a disgraceful end. To his credit, the psalmist refuses to explain away his theology, but instead keeps the tension, hopefully to be resolved at a later time with the promised reestablishment of an earthly kingdom under one of David’s descendants (cf. Pss. 110, 132).”<sup>9</sup>
- After reminding God of his promise to David’s house (vv. 1-37), the Psalmist lamented the fate experienced by the Davidic dynasty in his lifetime (vv. 38-51)
- Notice the many provisions of the DC mentioned in this Psalm in vs. 1-37:
  - It is called a “covenant”

**Psalm 89:3** ~ I have made a covenant with My chosen; I have sworn to David My servant,

<sup>8</sup> Michael Grisanti, “The Davidic Covenant,” in *TMSJ* 10 (1999), 244.

<sup>9</sup> MacArthur, J., Jr. (Ed.). (1997). *The MacArthur Study Bible* (electronic ed., p. 821). Nashville, TN: Word Pub.

**Psalm 89:28** ~ My lovingkindness I will keep for him forever, And My covenant shall be confirmed to him.

**Psalm 89:34** ~ My covenant I will not violate, Nor will I alter the utterance of My lips.

- David's seed and throne would be established forever

**Psalm 89:4** ~ I will establish your seed **forever** And build up your throne to all generations.

**Psalm 89:28-29** ~ My lovingkindness I will keep for him **forever**, And My covenant shall be confirmed to him. 29 So I will establish his descendants **forever** And his throne as the days of heaven.

**Psalm 89:36-37** ~ His descendants shall endure **forever** And his throne as the sun before Me. 37 It shall be established **forever** like the moon, And the witness in the sky is faithful.

- The righteous Ruler was considered God's anointed

**Psalm 89:20** ~ I have found David My servant; With My holy oil I have anointed him,

- The righteous Ruler was strengthened by the Lord

**Psalm 89:21** ~ With whom My hand will be established; My arm also will strengthen him.

- The righteous Ruler would defeat David's enemies

**Psalm 89:22-23** ~ The enemy will not deceive him, Nor the son of wickedness afflict him. 23 But I shall crush his adversaries before him, And strike those who hate him.

- He will be exalted

**Psalm 89:24** ~ My faithfulness and My lovingkindness will be with him, And in My name his horn will be exalted.

- He would have a wide reign

**Psalm 89:25** ~ I shall also set his hand on the sea And his right hand on the rivers.

- He would have a Father-Son relationship with God

**Psalm 89:26** ~ He will cry to Me, 'You are my Father, My God, and the rock of my salvation.'

- He will be the Highest of the Kings of earth

**Psalm 89:27** ~ I also shall make him My firstborn, The highest of the kings of the earth.

- He will be forever loved by God

**Psalm 89:28** ~ My lovingkindness I will keep for him forever, And My covenant shall be confirmed to him.

- Even if David's sons sin, there will be no removal of the dynasty promised in the covenant

**Psalm 89:30-33** ~ If his sons forsake My law And do not walk in My judgments, 31 If they violate My statutes And do not keep My commandments, 32 Then I will punish their transgression with the rod And their iniquity with stripes. 33 But I will not break off My lovingkindness from him, Nor deal falsely in My faithfulness.

- The covenant is an unconditional one and the guarantee of a throne that endures forever is guaranteed



**Psalm 89:34-37** ~ My covenant I will not violate, Nor will I alter the utterance of My lips. 35 Once I have sworn by My holiness; I will not lie to David. 36 His descendants shall endure forever And his throne as the sun before Me. 37 It shall be established forever like the moon, And the witness in the sky is faithful.”

- Despite these promises of the DC, the Psalmist’s frustration over the current state of the nation in contrast to the promises of the DC reveals the necessity of a coming righteous Ruler
- The idea of a just king who would bring the nation lasting peace and prosperity was still an unfulfilled ideal
- Also, the fact that Davidic rulers could not live and rule in accordance with God’s demands requires a Davidic figure who would one day perfectly satisfy those expectations
- Thus, Psalm 89 ends with a somber realization of the need for someone who could bring complete fulfillment of the glories of the DC

## Psalm 110

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- Although only 7 verses long, this psalm is not only the most quoted psalm in the NT, it is the most quoted OT passage in the NT
- The topic is God’s King...it presents Jesus Christ as the perfect king and declares His current role in heaven as the resurrected Savior (vs. 1) and His role on earth as the reigning Monarch (vs. 2-7)

**Psalm 110:1-7** ~ The LORD says to my Lord: “Sit at My right hand Until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet.” 2 The LORD will stretch forth Your strong scepter from Zion, saying, “Rule in the midst of Your enemies.” 3 Your people will volunteer freely in the day of Your power; In holy array, from the womb of the dawn, Your youth are to You as the dew. 4 The LORD has sworn and will not change His mind, “You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek.” 5 The Lord is at Your right hand; He will shatter kings in the day of His wrath. 6 He will judge among the nations, He will fill them with corpses, He will shatter the chief men over a broad country. 7 He will drink from the brook by the wayside; Therefore He will lift up His head.

- Vs. 1 shows that God’s man (Christ) is at the right hand of God...he shares a throne with God in heaven ...this place of prominence is unique and is not true of any historic Davidic King...Christ is there only for a period of time (“until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet”)...when that time period is over, Christ will exercise a rule of total dominance and subjugation of His enemies
- Vs. 2 describes the ruling that will take place with this superior King – he will reign from Zion (on an earthly throne...as opposed to the heavenly throne of vs. 1)...“God’s king, i.e. David’s Lord, transfers his presence from the Lord’s throne in heaven to a kingly reign on earth from Jerusalem...This reveals a tangible kingly rule from Jerusalem *after* a session in heaven...While closely connected, there is a distinction between sitting at the right hand of Yahweh in vs. 1a and ruling over God’s enemies with a strong scepter from Zion in 1b-2. The former takes place in heaven while the latter is from the sphere of Zion (i.e. Jerusalem).”<sup>10</sup>
- Vs. 5-6 describe the powerful reign of Messiah

## Psalm 144

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- This psalm is very similar to Psalm 18...It speaks of God as the heavenly warrior who comes to fight on earth on behalf of David against God’s enemies

**Psalm 144:5-8** ~ Bow Your heavens, O LORD, and come down; Touch the mountains, that they may smoke. 6 Flash forth lightning and scatter them; Send out Your arrows and confuse them. 7 Stretch forth Your hand from on high; Rescue me and deliver me out of great waters, Out of the hand of aliens 8 Whose mouths speak deceit, And whose right hand is a right hand of falsehood.

- It speaks of the song of victory that celebrates God’s deliverance and salvation

<sup>10</sup> Vlach, *He Will Reign Forever*, 138-139.

**Psalm 144:9** ~ I will sing a new song to You, O God; Upon a harp of ten strings I will sing praises to You,