**Week 4 - April 3/4 - 2 Samuel 5**

**Introduction**

**What is something that you’ve had to wait a really long time to receive?** We can have confidence knowing that if God has declared something, it will come to pass. Tonight we will see God upholding His faithful promises before us as David ascends to the throne and establishes his kingdom.

**Read 2 Samuel 5:1-5**

**Who remembers when David was first anointed to be King?** In 1 Samuel 16, Samuel anoints David when he was a young boy most likely around the age of 10-15. Later on David is recognized as King over the tribe of Judah in 2 Samuel 2:4. **How old is David when he is finally recognized as King over all of Israel? What can we observe from the way David had to wait such a long period of time before becoming King? Have you experienced or are you currently experiencing a season of waiting?** Consider these statements: *a) God is never in a hurry. b)* *It’s while waiting for God that many fail in their faith and obedience. c) Satan often attacks by trying to capitalize on “delays” we experience with God. d) times of waiting on the Lord occur when our faith is stretched and our intimacy with Him is enhanced. e) waiting isn’t a time of passivity. f) God always makes waiting worthwhile.*

**Which of these statements have you experienced or saw take place during David’s season of waiting?**

**What was the Israelites’ original response with regard to having a king over them?** *(1 Sam 8, they demanded a king from God wanting to be like every other nation and rejected God as their King.)* We see a distinct change in the Israelites' response to having a King over them, now acting out of obedience towards God’s plan. **They acknowledge several vital truths, which are the basis for David’s kingship and thus their submission to him as their king. In verses 1-2, what are these three vital truths the Israelites recognize?**

1. Relationship - “We are your bone and flesh” (v1). **What’s the significance of this considering the division between the house of Saul and the house of David that previously took place?** *(They see themselves as one nation, not two).*
2. Leadership - “You were the one who was leading us out to and in form battle” (v2a).
3. God’s promise - “the LORD said to you, ‘You shall be shepherd of my people Israel…’” (v2b).

**How are each of these truths more fully realized in Jesus, the ultimate King? How do they inform and shape your submission to King Jesus?***(Relationship - Heb 2:14. Leadership - Col 2:15 or 2 Cor 2:14. God’s promise - John 10:11).*

**Read 2 Samuel 5:6-10**

Before David captured Jerusalem, it was known as Jebu and its inhabitants were the Jebusites. This is a part of the land that God promised to Abraham in Genesis 15:18-21. **What does the successful capture of Jerusalem signify in the context of David's kingship and God's promises?** “800 years [from Abraham to David] does not erode the reliability of God’s word. His promises are not stamped with an expiration date in small print” (Davis, 64). Jerusalem became the capital city of David’s kingdom and would play a significant role in Israel’s history, ultimately becoming the place of Jesus’ crucifixion. **What does the narrator draw our attention to as the reason for David’s success? How should we operate with an understanding of living in the presence of God? Read John 14:23. How does Jesus further inform our understanding of what necessitates His presence in our lives?**

**Read 5:11-16.** The building of David’s house by the king of Tyre did not occur until much later in David’s reign. **If the author’s priority is not simply giving a chronological narrative, what may be the author’s intent adding this information right after the establishment of Jerusalem?** *(Look at verse 12, “David’s inferring that his new permanent residence is a sign of how God had established or confirmed his kingship of Israel'' (Davis 65)).* After making it clear that God had well established David’s kingdom, **what was the purpose of exalting David’s Kingdom?** *(“Kingship was not an end in itself but a means to an end - the benefit of God’s people. David is over Israel for Israel” (Davis 65)).* **As you consider the positions/opportunities God has placed you in, how might this same idea be reflected in your circumstances? How does this bleed into an understanding of your entire life as one who’s been bought with a price and are no longer your own? What opportunities in your life has God called you to for the purpose of impacting His people?** In verses 13-16, David is in violation of Deut 17:17. **How might you abuse the positions God has placed you in and how can you guard yourself against that?**

**Read 2 Samuel 5:17-25**

These victorious battles over the Philistines also depart from the chronological narrative but they bring to our attention God’s promises to David coming into effect. **Read 1 Samuel 3:18.** After David was announced as King over united Israel, the Philistines knew they would have to destroy David if they wanted to maintain control. **What do you notice David does prior to each battle with the Philistines?** We’ll often seek the Lord the first time we have a problem, but once we seem to have figured it out, we don’t feel the need to seek God’s wisdom a second time. **Have there been moments where this was true of you and what does this reveal about our heart posture? How might we readjust our sense of seeking and inquiring of the Lord to be like that of David’s?**

As David attributes this victory completely unto God, **what name does David give that place and what does it signify?** *(v20 - he names it “Baal-perazim” which means “Lord of breaking through” depicting this massive flood leveling everything in its sight).* **What does David’s naming of this place suggest about the character of God?** We must not be tempted to mask the vigorous power of a God who is mighty in battle, able to defend His people and conquer all His enemies.

**Conclusion**

It’s been a long journey for David to finally get to this point as King of Israel. There have been great moments such as defeating Goliath and forming a deep friendship with Jonathan. But there have also been many painful experiences such as having to seek refuge among his enemies while on the run from Saul. All of these experiences have culminated in his preparation as King, but more importantly have put on display the certainty of God’s word coming to pass. David is certainly a reflection of the Son of David who is to come,

 but also a reflection of our sinfulness and our great need for the gospel. Let us await with excitement the return of our King who will come to Earth to defeat His enemies, and to rule over His kingdom for the sake of His people.