The Psalms of Ascents

Week 7 – Wednesday

2 Sam. 7:12-13 – Footnote 13¹

After he brought the ark to Jerusalem, David wanted to build a permanent building to house it. He told Nathan, the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells inside tent curtains" (7:2). "Then Nathan said to the king, 'Go, do all that is in your heart, for the Lord is with you" (v. 3). In other words, when David told Nathan that he wanted to build a dwelling place for God, Nathan told him that he should go and do it. But that night the word of the Lord came to Nathan telling David that he could not build a dwelling place for the Lord. His son would build the dwelling place that David desired for the Lord.

Then the Lord told David, "When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever" (vv. 12-13). When David desired to build a dwelling place for God, God told him that he could not build it for Him. Later David told his son, "My son, as for me, it was in my mind to build a house to the name of the Lord my God; but the word of the Lord came to me, saying, 'You have shed much blood and have made great wars; you shall not build a house for My name, because you have shed much blood on the earth in My sight. Behold, a son shall be born to you, who shall be a man of rest; and I will give him rest from all his enemies all around. His name shall be Solomon, for I will give peace and quietness to Israel in his days. He shall build a house for My name" (1 Chron. 22:7-10a).

When David had the desire to build a house for God and after God had spoken to him, God also made a covenant with him even though He did not allow him to build the house. God promised to establish David's house and his kingdom forever. The two main points of Psalm 132 are David's desire to build a dwelling place for God and God's revelation to David that his seed would sit on his throne forever. This is a beautiful picture. Because David cared for God's dwelling place, God made a covenant with him to establish his house and his kingdom so that his throne would be forever. God promised David that his kingdom would be forever. Today it seems as if the kingdom of David is no longer here. The kingdom was captured about 600 years before the Lord Jesus and even up to today it has not been re-established. The nation of Israel was established in 1948 but that is not the kingdom of David. David's kingdom still needs to be re-established but this can only happen when the Lord comes again because He is the seed of David. He is the only qualified heir of David who will re-establish the fallen tabernacle and kingdom of David. That kingdom will last to eternity and that will completely fulfill God's promise to David in 2 Samuel chapter 7.