

## **I Will Be His Father**

### **2 Samuel 7:13-16**

13 "He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 14 "I will be his Father, and he shall be My son. If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the blows of the sons of men. 15 "But My mercy shall not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I removed from before you. 16 "And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever." NKJV

In our study over the last few weeks we have looked at a number of men; Eli, Samuel, Saul, and now David. None of them are what we could call the example of what father's should be.

Later Solomon will give many good words of wisdom (Pr 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it.) but it seems his son followed none of them.

Some fathers of the Old Testament might be given as examples of good fathers but not very many.

Abraham is commended in Gen. 18:19 "For I have known him, in order that he may command his children and his household after him, that they keep the way of the LORD, to do righteousness and justice, that the LORD may bring to Abraham what He has spoken to him."

Joshua makes the bold proclamation: "But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD." Josh 24:15

Then there is that strange case of the Rechabites, the descendants of Jonadab who followed the word of Jonadab so faithfully for generations. Jeremiah 35

But in our text this morning we find a unique passage. Because of David's dedication to God and because of God's unchanging covenant with David, we find a marvelous promise.

The promise is that God will become the father of David's son Solomon and in reality the father of an entire posterity of David. In these verses we find many things about fatherhood.

- I. A father's love is not to be based on performance but relationship.
  - A. We have seen what happens when God treats men according to their obedience.
    1. In the case of Eli
      - a. God warned him more than once.
      - b. But Eli failed to get things under control.
      - c. Finally God brought an end to Eli's life and his family's position as priests.
    2. In the case of Saul.
      - a. Saul hardly begins before he disobeys God.
      - b. His disobedience brings God pronouncement that the kingdom will

depart from his family.

- c. On the next occasion God departs from Saul and leaves him to his own choices.
- d. As we saw in our text God withdraws His mercy.
- e. Saul left to his own wisdom brings his life and that of his entire family to destruction.

B. But God treats David and his descendants differently.

- 1. David sins in committing adultery and in having Uriah killed to cover up his sin.
  - a. Yet God does not remove His mercy or loving kindness from him.
  - b. God pronounces judgment.
  - c. David doesn't "get away with it" as some would think.
  - d. And God even brings a blessing from David's sin.
  - e. Solomon is born Bathsheba, and he will be the next king on the throne and is some was will be the greatest king of all Israel's history.
- 2. David later in life numbers the people and God brings a terrible judgment on the nation.
  - a. In 2 Sam 24 David wants to know how great a nation he rules and he has the army count the military age men, 1.3 million.
  - b. But because of David's sin God sends a destroying angel who destroys 70,000 men of Israel.
  - c. But when the angel comes to Jerusalem, God withholds his judgment and commands David to buy a certain field and offer sacrifices there.
  - d. The field David buys is the place where God will have His temple built.
  - e. The temple that brings great blessing on God's people and represents God's presence with them.
  - f. We see how God designed His relationship with David after that of a Father rather than on performance.
  - g. So sad it is today to find God's children thinking that God's relationship with them is based on their performance of Gods' will.
- 3. Later on Solomon will also sin, but the relationship is based God as Father and not on Solomon's performance.

4. Later, one after another, David's descendants follow.
  - a. Some are good kings while others are evil kings.
  - b. Yet God responds to them as a father.
  - c. What a difference from that of Saul.

II. Disobedience is always corrected.

- A. To say that God doesn't disclaim His children is not to say that He does not discipline them.
  1. In our text God says that He will be to them a Father.
  2. That He will chasten them, correct them, to bring them back to the right path.
  3. I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the blows of the sons of men. V-14
- B. In the same way that God teaches that a father should correct a wayward child so God does to us.
  1. Today parents have loads of options.
    - a. You can't play video games.
    - b. You can't watch TV.
    - c. You can't go to a friend's house.
    - d. No cell phone.
    - e. Most kids today have so much stuff that we can take away that we need a computer generated list just to enumerate them.
    - f. Go to your room, with its computer, TV, MP3 players, ipods.
    - g. Sit on a chair. Mom used that one a lot, Dad had a shorter method.
  2. Well God has loads of options also.
    - a. Years ago I had a lady in my office who had so many bad things happen in her life.
    - b. She was not doing what she knew God wanted her to do.
    - c. So I felt compelled to ask, "Do you ever get the feeling that God is trying to get your attention?"
    - d. She broke down and cried for she knew that it was true, but she never changed, and God still has not run out of options.
    - e. God loves us and He will forgive us, but He also will bring to bear in our lives what He needs to in order to accomplish His will in our lives.

C. All of God's children are chasten by God.

1. Now someone might say well God has never chastened me.

a. Well if that is true then the Bible says you are not God's child.

2. Heb 12: 5 And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: "My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; 6 For whom the LORD loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives." 7 If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? 8 But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons.

III. Discipline is tempered with mercy.

A. God deals with us in love and mercy, not as slaves or servants.

1. Psa 89:31 If they break My statutes And do not keep My commandments, 32 Then I will punish their transgression with the rod, And their iniquity with stripes. 33 Nevertheless My lovingkindness I will not utterly take from him, Nor allow My faithfulness to fail. 34 My covenant I will not break, Nor alter the word that has gone out of My lips.

2. 14 "I will be his Father, and he shall be My son. If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the blows of the sons of men. 15 "But My mercy shall not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I removed from before you. 16 "And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever." NKJV

B. Let us like David, instruct our children.

1. 1Ki 2:1 ¶ Now the days of David drew near that he should die, and he charged Solomon his son, saying: 2 "I go the way of all the earth; be strong, therefore, and prove yourself a man. 3 "And keep the charge of the LORD your God: to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes, His commandments, His judgments, and His testimonies, as it is written in the Law of Moses, that you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn; 4 "that the LORD may fulfill His word which He spoke concerning me, saying, 'If your sons take heed to their way, to walk before Me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul,' He said, 'you shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel.'

Psa 78:1 Give ear, O my people, to my law; Incline your ears to the words of my mouth. 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings of old, 3 Which we have heard and known, And our fathers have told us. 4 We will not hide them from their children, Telling to the

generation to come the praises of the LORD, And His strength and His wonderful works that He has done. 5 For He established a testimony in Jacob, And appointed a law in Israel, Which He commanded our fathers, That they should make them known to their children; 6 That the generation to come might know them, The children who would be born, That they may arise and declare them to their children, 7 That they may set their hope in God, And not forget the works of God, But keep His commandments; 8 And may not be like their fathers, A stubborn and rebellious generation, A generation that did not set its heart aright, And whose spirit was not faithful to God.