



What does David do with the words that Nathan delivers to him from God? Pastor leads his family in today's "Hopewell @Home" passage. 2Samuel 7:18–29 prepares us for the first serial reading in the public worship on the coming Lord's Day. In these twelve verses of Holy Scripture, we see how the very words of Scripture form our praises, our priorities, and our prayers.

Wednesday, March 24, 2021 • Read 2Samuel 7:18–29

Questions from the Scripture text: Before Whom does David go sit (v18)? What two things does he ask? What kind of thing was it to bring him thus far (v19)? What has the Lord spoken of, for how long? What can't David think of (v20)? What does Yahweh know? Why has He done all these things (v21)? What did He make His servant to know? What doesn't exist (v22)? What makes Israel special (v23)? From what has He redeemed them? What has He made them (v24)? For how long? What has He made Himself to be unto them? What does David ask the Lord to do (v25)? What does David ask to be done forever (v26)? What does he ask would be established? What enables David to pray such a prayer (v27)? What is true (v28)? What have those words said? What does David ask that blessing his house would do (v29)? For how long? What enables him to ask for this?

David turns God's words over to Him in astonished praise, v18–24. He has no good reason for why the Lord would choose him (v18). The Lord's answer is just that He chose him (cf. v8). And he has no good reason for why the Lord would bring him thus far (v18). The Lord's answer is just that He did (cf. v9). And he has no good words of praise (v20) for such an astonishing promise as he has been made (v19, cf. v12–16). And he has nothing to which to compare Israel (v23–24), since the Lord has been pleased to make permanent promises concerning them as well (v10–11).

In all of this, David's astonishment and response flow directly out of what God has just said by His prophet. That teaches us something about how to receive and respond to the Word of God: that we ought to be amazed by what He says concerning His people and that His own words should form our praises unto Him.

David turns God's words back over to Him in earnest prayer, v25–29. He makes it clear that this is what he is doing by the introduction to the "petitions" portion of his prayer, "Now, O Yahweh God, the word which You have spoken [...] do as You have said" (v25). And what Yahweh of hosts has revealed (v27a) is what puts it into His servant's heart to pray (v27b).

When our prayers request what God has promised, we are helped to pray them for the sake of His glory. "Let Your name be magnified forever" (v26a) is the ultimate purpose of "let the house of Your servant David be established" (v26b). Because God is infinitely glorious, His righteousness demands that He infinitely exalt His glory. There is no greater argument that we can make in prayer, and no greater encouragement to ourselves as we pray, than that God is accomplishing His glory by this.

When our prayers request what God has promised, we are enabled to pray with absolute confidence. "Your words are true, and You have promised this goodness" (v28). What a glorious thing to be able to say! And, dear believer, when you are praying Scripture back to God, you can always say it!

When our prayers request what God has promised, we are enabled to pray with pleasure. We can pray "let it please You" (v29a) "for You, O Lord Yahweh, have spoken it" (v29b). And as the Spirit conforms us to Christ, what pleases Him will also please us. Such is His mercy that what pleases Him in v29 is "to bless [...] with Your blessing [...] blessed forever" (cf. v29). This was God's disposition toward David in Christ, which means that it is His disposition toward all who are in Christ.

How have you been developing the skill of praising and praying directly from the words of God in Scripture?

Suggested songs: ARP119G "Keep Your Promise to Your Servant" or TPH521 "The Lord's Prayer"

For more Hopewell @Home devotionals, please visit bit.ly/harpCHAH

(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are welcome to listen to the audio recording, which you may find via tinysa.com/hopewellarp)

These are God's words. Then the king went in and sat down before Yahweh and he said Who am I? Oh Lord often. And what is my house? That you have brought me thus far. And yet, this was a small thing in your sight. Oh Lord. Yahweh. You have also spoken of your servant's house for a great while to come.

Is this the manner of man? Oh Lord. Yahoo. Now, what more can David say to you? For you Lord. Yahoo, I know your servant. For your word sake and according to your own heart you have done all these great things to make your servant know them. Therefore, you are great.

O Lord. Yahweh. For there is no one like you. Nor is there any God besides you according to all that we have heard with our ears? And who is like your people like Israel? The one nation on earth whom God went to redeem for himself as a people to make for himself a name and to do for yourself great and awesome deeds for your land.

Before your people whom you redeemed for yourself from Egypt. The nations and their gods. For you have made your people. Israel your very own people forever. And you Yahweh. Have become their God. Now Yahweh God. The word which you have spoken concerning your servant. And concerning his house. Establish it forever.

And do as you have said, So, let your name be magnified forever saying you always have hosts is God over Israel. And let the house of your servant. David be established before you. For you oh Yahweh of hosts God of Israel have revealed this to your servant saying I will build you a house.

Therefore, your servant has found it in his heart to pray this prayer to you. And now O Lord Yahweh. You are God and your words are true. And you have promised this goodness to your servant. Now, therefore, let it please you to bless the house of your servant that it may continue before you forever.

For you. Oh Lord. Yahweh have spoken it. And with your blessing Let the house of your servant be blessed forever. So far the reading of God's inspired in an Erin worked. David here is responding to what Yahweh gave Nathan the prophet to say to him in verse 4 through 16 of this

chapter.

And he established this for us. He exemplifies for us. Praising God. Having God's word form our praises in verses 18 through 22. Having God's word form our priorities. And verses 23 and 24. And having God's word form our prayers. And verses 25 through 29. Verses 18 through 22, he exemplifies for us having God's word form our praises.

In fact, he admits that he has no words of his own to add if you look at verse 20, now what more can David say to you? He's talking to the Lord Yahweh. He says I want to praise you but. The words that you have given. Are the great words with which to do so.

When David had proposed to build a house for Yahweh, you always had told him in verse. Verse 8, therefore thus you shall say to my servant. David thus says you always host I took you from the sheepfold from following the sheep to be ruler over my people over Israel and I have been with you wherever you have gone and have cut off or your enemies from before you and have made you a great name like the name of the great men who are on the earth and so one of the first things that the Lord did is after he told David that the temple idea was not.

One that he had commanded one of the first things he did was he said look how far I have brought you. And so David hears Yahweh say look how far I have brought you in verse 8 and 9 and he says who am I? Oh Lord Yahweh and what is my house that you have brought me thus far?

You see how his praises respond immediately to the Word of God. Then he says and yet this was a small thing in your sight. Oh, Lord Yvonne, you have also spoken of your servants house for a great while to come. And so he goes on to responding to the Lord's promise about the seed that would come from David the one who would be the forever king even the Lord Jesus the forever king and so he moves on from praising God for how far he has brought for how he has brought him thus far and he goes on to praise God for the rest of what God said about.

About the seed that would come from him and then he says now what more can David say to you for you? Lord Yahoo, I know your servant then he says for your words sake and according to your own heart you have done all these great things to make your servant know them and so we see that we are to praise God, especially for those things that his word tells us he is doing for his own praise that God.

Decides what is praiseworthy about himself and so we are to take our cues from scripture in praising God to see how God presents himself to see what God says he is doing for his own glory to see what God says is glorious about himself and then turn those things over to God and praise because who's more reliable as a judge of for what to praise God us our hearts what makes us feel good what we think is pleasant or what God.

Declares about himself and what God declares he will do and what God declares he has done. God, of course is the judge of what is praiseworthy about God and so David forms examples for us having God's word form our praises but he also exemplifies for us having God's word form our priorities verses 23 and 24 who is like your people Israel, like let your people like Israel the one nation on earth whom God went to redeem for himself as a people, so what's north noteworthy, but?

Israel how great they are no that God decided to redeem them. Israel has not been great but God decides to treat them greatly and to display his greatness in their redemption to make for himself a name to do for yourself. David says to God great and awesome deeds for your land before your people whom you redeemed for yourself.

Notice how it's all about. God from Egypt and from the nations from their gods, you have made your people. Israel your very own people forever. For you your way have become their God. This is why the church has priority for us. Not because we are so dependent upon the church, although God has appointed in the church many of the means by which he brings us to faith and grows us in faith place for us to serve etc but the great reason why the church is our priority is because that is where God has decided.

To invest the display of his glory. He has set it apart unto himself as holy that's why we call church members saints the set of heart ones the separated from the world and the separated unto God people and so the word of God forms are priorities or must form our priorities and when when David hears the Lord say verse 10, That not only is he gonna from verse 8 give David seed to rule over his people Israel he says Mutant David the Lord said in verse 10 more over I will appoint a place for my people Israel and verse 11 since the time I commanded judges to be over my people Israel and so David takes his Q.

He says God has decided that this people would be his people and so they must have priority they must be treated as. A marvel the people who have been separated unto God and so he says who is like your people is real verse 23, so God's word forms are praises.

God word. God's word forms are priorities and God's word forms are prayers and here David doesn't just use words that he's heard from God. He reminds God that that's what he's doing. No. Yoly God the Word which you have spoken verse 25 establish it forever and do as you have said verse 25.

You you always have God of Israel have revealed this to your servant verse 27 you said saying I will build you a house verse 27, therefore your servant has found it in his heart to pray this prayer to you. You see what he's saying there, where did he get this prayer that he's praying to God.

He got it from the words that God had said to him. We need to develop this habit of turning over whatever we see in the scripture as prayer to God and God promises something pray that. He will do it. When God commands something pray that He will help you to obey it.

And so forth.

Yeah. Now you all went now Lord. Ya'll way you are God your words are true. You have promised this goodness to your sir servant verse 28, your words your promise. You Lord Yahweh have spoken it verse 29, and so you see how he keeps saying what you have said what you have

spoken what you said saying?

Your words are true and so forth. It's very important that we see the Scripture teaching us to. Pray to God in the words that He has given us. So my dear children. That God's word form your praises. That which God declares about Himself as praiseworthy. That which God declares that.

He will do or has done that is praiseworthy. Praise Him, especially for those things. Let's God's word form your priorities those things that He says as most important If He says that what He is doing in the church is the most important thing for instance. When He says in Ephesians Colossians that Christ has been given head over all things for the church or that Christ being first place in the church gives him first place in all things then you make what is going on in the Lord's church your great priority that God's word form your praises.

Let's godward let God's word form your priorities that God's word form your prayers come to him with his own words and say you have said this oh God and so do this. Oh God. For because you have spoken it, therefore, your servant has found it in his heart to pray this prayer to you.

Let's pray.

Our Father in heaven make us those who meditate in your word day and night. So that when we open our mouths to praise you. We'll praise you with that, which is from your word that has been mulling in around in our minds and hearts and we pray that your word would move us to be people up praise.

We confess our God that our. We do not lift up our hearts to you and praise continually as we ought to but if you would hear this prayer and if you'd help us by your spirit. And how much more continually we would be praising you or is that not what your word continually moves us to do and so help us our God.

To praise you from your word and to be moved to praise by your word and we pray that you would help us with our priorities because we are focused on so many other things and we forget that the great thing that you are doing right now is gathering and building and perfecting your church.

Those whom you are saving. And your. Covenant people help us O Lord to love and serve the congregation of which you have made us a part and help us so God to care very much for the purity and peace and prospering of all of the true congregations of your church.

Let your churches health let your churches faithfulness. Let your churches prospering and be precious to us as we see it is to you and make your words to form our priorities and then oh God help us in our praying we feel like infants before you when we pray not knowing how to open our mouths not knowing how to put words together, but you have just shown us that David himself when he was at a loss and, What more could I say to you that he could turn back to those words that he had just received from you and say that you have said this and you have said that.

And so help us out God neither to be arrogant and to think that we can put together great poetry that will somehow make great prayers. But help us also not to be despairing as if we have nothing to pray but make us good students of your spirit who has given us the words of Scripture so that we can take those words and plead them back to you and find it in our hearts to repeat those prayers to you because you have given us confidence that everything that you say is true.

To help us O Lord to be those who pray your words back to you, even as praying this portion of your word back to you moves us to ask for our other prayers. And so we call upon your name for this. I ask you oh God that what we see exemplified in David here by the work of your spirit and him that I might see and hear it repeated in these children by the work of your spirit and then.

We thank you. Oh God for hearing us we know that you do because of that very Christ who has been promised in this passage. And so it is in his name that we ask. And then.