

Weekly Word

June 2, 2008

By Mary Ruth Stone

Devotion

Son of Covenant

The stories of David and Solomon, 2nd and 3rd kings of Israel, comprise an epic of unparalleled father and son leadership. David is the king by whom all subsequent rulers are measured—not just by humankind, but by God Himself. The biography of David covers 62 chapters of the Old Testament. He is referred to at least 59 times in the New. No other mere human has been given such attention in God's Word.

David's auspicious anointing by Samuel was announced by the prophet: "The Lord has sought for Himself a man after His own heart, and the Lord has commanded him to be commander over His people . . ." (1 Samuel 13:14). Samuel obeyed God in anointing David: "Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward" (1 Samuel 16:12, 13).

David was confidently aware throughout his reign that God had placed him in that role: "So David knew that the Lord had established him as king over Israel, and that He had exalted His kingdom for the sake of His people Israel" (2 Samuel 5:12). It was this confidence that enabled David to rule fairly and mercifully. Before his coronation, he showed mercy to Saul who tried to kill him. After his coronation, he showed mercy to Saul's progeny and David's own enemies. He spared Shemeii saying, "Shall any man be put to death today in Israel? For do I not know that today I am king over Israel?" (2 Samuel 19:22).

The covenant God made with David went beyond his reign. Hear the summation of the Word of the Lord to David through the prophet Nathan: "And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever" (2 Samuel 7:16).

God's promises are sure. David's son Solomon sat on his throne. Many sons of his son followed. And now the Son of David, Jesus, the Son of God is set to reign forever and ever!

Scripture

"So David knew that the Lord had established him as king over Israel, and that He had exalted His kingdom for the sake of His people Israel"
(2 Samuel 5:12).

This 'n That

"God has been making arrangements for your part in His plan long before you were born. Your past does not surprise Him. Your present does not worry Him. Your future is not a mystery to Him."

— Alicia Britt Chole

Prayer

Dear Lord,

Thank You for being mindful of me as You were of Your servant David. Amen.

Gratefully,
Mary Ruth