

Scriptures: Ps 23:1-4; 2Sam 5:4-5; 7:8-12,16; Ps 51:1-3,16-17; Acts 13:22,36; Rev 5:5, 22:16

- I. David's place in God's heart
 - a. My servant David (2Sam 7:8, 1Kin 11:36)
 - i. The LORD measured later kings of Israel and Judah according to David.
 - b. I have found David ... who is after My heart, and will do all My will. (Acts 13:22)
 - i. David served the purpose of God in his generation and slept. (Acts 13:36)
 - c. Christ Jesus is called the root and offspring of David. (Rev 5:5, 22:16)

- II. Session 1: The shepherd and fugitive - David before 30
 - a. The Lord is my shepherd (Ps 23) – relation with the LORD, responsibility to His sheep
 - i. Green pastures and still waters
 - ii. The path of righteousness for His name's sake
 - iii. Valley of the shadow of death, You are with me
 - iv. Table in the wilderness; oil of anointing on my head
 - v. I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever
 - b. The anointed became the fugitive – the way of the cross
 - i. The LORD was the only one David could lean on. The LORD is:
 - 1. My righteousness – while pursued (Ps 4:1, 59:16)
 - 2. The honor of my face – when he faked as insane in Philistines (Ps 34:5)
 - 3. My tower – while being hunted (Ps 59:1.16-17)
 - 4. His mercy and loving kindness I depend on – after knowing the priest's family were slaughtered because of him. (Ps.52: 1, 8)
 - ii. 400 people in distress, in debt, or bitter in soul came to David. (1Sam 22:2)
 - 1. David knew distress, debt and bitterness in soul
 - 2. David had a Root who has abundance of mercy
 - a. A man of sorrows, acquainted with grieves; (Isa 53: 3b)
 - b. The bruised reed He would not break, the flickering wick he would not put off. He has mercy.
 - iii. David's heart smote him, because he had cut off Saul's skirt. (1Sa 24:5, Darby)
 - 1. "The LORD forbids that I should stretch out my hand against His anointed." (1Sam 24:6)
 - 2. David allowed nothing between his heart and the Lord.
 - a. "Search me, O God, and know my heart. Try me, and know my soul. And see if there is any wicked way in me.... (Ps 139:23-24)
 - c. He treasured his portion in the inheritance of the LORD
 - i. Flea, partridge, sacrifice, curse, inheritance, other gods, the face of the Lord. (1Sam 26:19)
 - ii. Today God's inheritance, Christ Jesus, is our portion to treasure and to guard jealously.
 - iii. Also, Christ is sufficient. All the fullness of the Godhead dwells in Him bodily. And we are complete in Him. (Col 2:9-10)
 - iv. How do we see the inheritance today? Like the 2.5 tribes? Like the prodigal son and his unhappy brother? Or like Ruth, David's great grandmother?

III. Session 2: Jerusalem, the Ark, the House of God - David the king in early years

As king of Israel, David sought after God's heart and occupied himself with 3 things.

- a. He immediately took Jerusalem as capital.
 - i. It has been 400 years since Israel entered into Canaan.
 - ii. It was hard. The Jebusites were strong and had stronghold.
 - iii. David knew God's mind on one specific place of sacrifice. See Deu 12:5, 11,13.
 - iv. Zion appears often in David's psalms. (Ps 9:11, 14:7, 20:2, 51:18, 69:35, 132:13)
 1. For the LORD has chosen Zion. He has desired it for His dwelling. (Ps 132:13)
 - v. David took Jerusalem right after he became king, not missing a beat.
 - vi. Since then, Jerusalem has been crucial to God's purpose:
 1. Center of God's dealing with His people from about 1000 BC to 100 AD.
 2. The heavenly Jerusalem in the NT time.
- b. He found the ark in the woods and moved it to Jerusalem.
 - i. It was forgotten for more than 60 years. (1Sa 7:1-2, 1Ch 13:4)
 - ii. He knew it represented God's presence, and made every effort to find it and move it to Jerusalem. (Ps 132 : 1-6)
 1. He inspired Israelites to do together. (1Ch 13:1-4)
 - iii. The meaning of the ark
 1. Where the LORD speaks to His people
 2. The tablets of commandment, the urn of manna, Aaron's rod that budded, the mercy seat
 3. The meaning to you and me today.
- c. He wanted to build a house for the LORD
 - i. He loved the LORD and couldn't stand seeing the ark left in a tent, without a permanent house. He wanted to build the LORD a house right by his own.
 - ii. The Lord did not allow Him, but was so moved He entrusted His kingdom to him and his descendants.
 - iii. Although he wasn't allowed to build the house, he found the pattern, found the location, and prepared all material needed to build the house.
 - iv. He did it with full energy and zeal. And he led all Israel to offer together gladly for building the house. (1Chr 29)
 1. "Who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly as this? For all things come from you, and of your own we have given you." (1Chr 29:14)
 2. 2Cor 8 reflected this wonderful spirit of offering. (2Cor 8:3-5)
 - v. The house, later called the temple, was built for God. But in God's sight, its value was solely determined by the spiritual condition of His people at that time.
 1. When Jesus came, the temple in Jerusalem already degenerated to a house of merchandise. (John 2:16)
 2. The Lord Jesus Himself became the temple. People came to Him, instead of the physical temple.

- a. Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. (Joh 1:29)
 - b. Destroy the temple and I will raise it in 3 days. (Joh 2:19)
 - c. Time has come, true worshippers worship not in Jerusalem, and not on this mountain, but in spirit and in truth. (Joh 4:21,23)
 - 3. His church became the temple where God dwells in Spirit. (1Cor 3:16)
 - a. His temple now is His church, us!
- d. How could David be so keen and so obedient to God's will?
 - i. David had an uninterrupted history with the LORD. He had never left the face of the LORD. Only once he went off, then he sinned. That was the most painful experience in his life.
 - ii. David had a root, Christ Jesus the Son of God, who would later come to do His Father's will. (Heb 10:7-9) And He only did the Father's will.
 - 1. When Jesus was 12: "I ought to be occupied with My Father's business." (Luk 2:49b)
 - 2. "But a body You have prepared for me ... Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God." (Heb 10:5-7)
 - 3. In Gethsemane: Not My will, but Thy will be done. (Matt 26:39b)
 - 4. In His last prayer He said, Father, what you have sent me to do I have done. (John 17)
 - iii. We now have that life, the life of Christ, in us as our root. Do we consider Him as our source, our constant and ultimate source?

- IV. Session 3: Repentance and Mercy - David the king in latter years
- a. Sin, punishment, repentance
 - i. "He who did this should die." (2Sam 12:5b)
 - ii. "The sword shall never leave your house." (2Sam 12:10)
 - iii. "When I kept silent, my bones grew old...for day and night your hand was heavy upon me." (Ps 32:3-4)
 - iv. "A broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise." (Ps 51:17)
 1. Wash me fully from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. (v. 2)
 2. Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. (v. 9)
 3. Create in me a new heart. (v. 10a)
 4. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not away your spirit of holiness from me. (v. 11)
 5. Sacrifices and burnt offerings you do not desire. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you do not despise. (v. 16-17)
 6. Do good in thy good pleasure to Zion; build walls to Jerusalem. (v.18)
 - b. The lesson – We must abide in Him at all time, walk in His light, live in His presence
 - i. David wanted to set the Lord always before him. (Ps 16:8)
 - ii. David asked the Lord to search his heart to see if there is any wicked thought in him. (Ps 139:23-24)
 - iii. "I am the vine; you are the branches. He who abides in me and I in you, bears much fruit." (John 15:5a)
 1. Grieve not the Holy Spirit. (Eph 4:30)
 - c. Later he lived a life of repentance and mercy, was called the lamp of Israel
 - i. "You shall go out no more with us to battle, that you quench not the lamp of Israel." (2Sam 21:17)
 - ii. "Your gentleness has made me great." (2Sam 22:36)
 - iii. "I would rather fall into the hand of the Lord, for He has mercy." (2Sam 24:14a)
 - d. David served God's purpose in His generation and slept. (Acts 13:36)
 - i. Serving God is first and foremost a matter of the heart, a heart attitude.
 1. David's heart was pursuing after God's heart. (13:22b)
 - ii. Serving God is a life-long pursuit toward a final goal: God's purpose.
 1. The servant matures, and is perfected, along the way.
 - e. The LORD used David as standard to measure latter kings.
 - i. He told Solomon "if you walk before me as your father David walked ..." (2Chr 7:17)
 - ii. He told Jeroboam, "you have not been as my servant David, who kept my commandments and who followed me with all his heart, to do only what was right in my eyes. (1Kin 14:8)
 - iii. He was with Jehoshaphat, because he walked in the former ways of his father David. (2Chr17:3)
 - iv. Hezekiah did what was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father David had done. (2Chr 29:2)

V. Session 4: The Root of David

- a. David walked an inward journey with God by His grace
 - i. He was able to confess and to repent (Ps 32, 51)
 - ii. He was humble enough to be corrected by others. (Abigail, Nathan, Gad, Joab)
 - iii. He knew that he must live and walk before the LORD. (Ps 16:8)
 - iv. He opened himself completely to the LORD:
 - 1. "Search me, O God, and know my heart; prove me, and know my thoughts; and see if there is any wicked way in me; lead me in the way of everlasting." (Ps 139:23-24)
 - v. He realized that inward reality meant everything to God, outward formality meant nothing to Him. "For You desire not sacrifices; ...the sacrifices of God are a broken spirit." (Ps 51:16-17) God's voice rings clear throughout history.
 - 1. Samuel: "To obey is better than sacrifice, to heed than the fat of rams." (1Sam 15:22)
 - 2. Christ: "Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, but a body You have prepared for me... Behold, I have come...to do Your will, O God!" (Heb10:5-7)
- b. David saw a righteous king, which was not he himself. (2Sam 23:3-5)
 - i. The ruler of men shall be just, ruling in the fear of God; ...
 - 1. As the light of the morning, the rising of the sun, a morning without cloud;
 - 2. From the sunshine after rain, the green grass springs from the earth.
 - 3. Although my house is not so before God, yet He has made with me an everlasting covenant.
 - ii. This king that David saw in vision guided David in his days on the throne.
 - 1. He believed God must rule over Israel before he and his house could be established on the throne. (2Sam 7:26)
 - a. "Let your name be magnified forever, saying "The LORD of host is the God over Israel", and let the house of your servant David be established before you."
 - iii. What does it mean to us?
- c. David saw "my Lord" who sits on the right hand of the LORD, God.
 - i. The LORD said unto my Lord, sit at my right hand until I make your enemies your footstool. (Ps 110:1)
 - ii. Today, do we see Christ Jesus as "my Lord" who is at the right hand of God His Father?
 - 1. Are we willing to have Him before us when we make any decision? In school, at work, at home, among brothers and sisters in the church?
- d. David saw the body of Christ and the spiritual service in it. (Ps 133)
 - i. Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! (v.1)

1. It is like precious oil upon the head, running down on the beard of Aaron, running down on the edge of his garment. (v. 2)
 - a. We are all members of the body of Christ. (1Cor 12:12). Christ is the head, from Him flows all spiritual life and supply. (Col 2:19)
 - b. The precious oil speaks of the Holy Spirit who separates our service to be holy before God. It is He, the Holy Spirit, who leads us and gives us the energy to offer spiritual service to God and in His house.
2. It is like the dew of Hermon, descending upon the mountains of Zion. For there the Lord commanded the blessing, life forevermore. (v.3)
 - a. Life forevermore comes from heaven, as from Mt. Hermon to Zion.
 - b. God's commanded blessing is in Zion. Zion in the Bible is what Jerusalem should be in God's sight. It is spiritual. For the Lord has chosen Zion; He has desired it for His dwelling. (Ps 132:13)
- ii. True unity among ourselves depends on our fellowship and union with God.
 1. For verse 1 to be solid and long lasting we need verses 2 and 3.
- iii. David made himself a clear vessel, instead of a hindrance, to the flow of life and blessing from the LORD.
 1. He could be disciplined by the Spirit of God. (His own heart smote him. 1Sam24:15.)
 2. He could be rebuked or corrected by people. (Abigail, Joab, Nathan, Gad)
 3. Are we willing? Each one of us?
- e. The root of David, and the offspring of David
 - i. Behold, the lion of the tribe of Judah, the root of David, has overcome to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals. (Rev 5:5a)
 1. Lion is the authority and power.
 2. Root is the source of every thing from God, the source of everything spiritual.
 - a. Equally important, David the tree is a manifestation of the root, a testimony to the root.
 - ii. "I am the Root and the Offspring of David." (Rev 22:16a)
 1. By mentioning the offspring of David Christ Jesus reminds us that God's promise to David, of an eternal kingdom and eternal throne, is fulfilled.
 2. But Christ Jesus is first and foremost the root of David, from which David's heart desire for God and his obedience to God came, and to which the life and work of "My servant David" testifies.
 - a. Today, Christ is our life. (Col 3:4a) He ought to be our root: our source and our testimony.
 - b. Are we willing to let Him be our root, and no other root?