### 2 Samuel

## Chapter 7

1It was after Jehovah had conquered all [of David’s] enemies roundabout him, that one day, as the king was sitting in his palace, 2he said to the prophet Nathan:  
  
 ‘Look, here I am, living in a palace of cedars, while the Chest of God is just sitting there in a tent!’  
  
3And Nathan said to the king:  
  
 ‘Then, do whatever your heart moves you to do, because Jehovah is with you!’  
  
4But that night, the word of the Lord came to Nathan, which said:  
  
 5‘Go and speak to My servant David, and tell him that this is what Jehovah says:  
  
 ‘You must not build a house for Me to dwell in, 6because I haven’t stayed in a house from the time that I led the sons of IsraEl out of Egypt until now.  
  
 ‘Rather, I’ve been moving about in a tent 7in all the places where IsraEl has traveled.’  
  
 ‘Now, as you speak to him, ask him this:  
  
 ‘Have I spoken to any of those whom I’ve assigned over My people, the tribes of IsraEl, and asked them to build a house of Cedars for Me?’  
  
 8‘Then tell my servant David that Jehovah the Almighty says this:  
  
 ‘I took you away from your sheep pens to be the leader over My people IsraEl, 9and wherever you went I’ve been with you... I’ve destroyed all your enemies and I’ve made your name famous among all the great men of the earth.  
  
 10‘And now I’ll establish a place for my people IsraEl… I’ll plant it in a place where they’ll camp by themselves, and where they won’t have to worry anymore.  
  
 ‘It’s a place where the sons of the unrighteousness won’t humble them as they did in ancient times, 11back when I put judges over My people IsraEl. And it’s only then, after I provide you with rest from all your enemies, that I’ll show you how to build a Temple for Jehovah.  
  
 12‘And after your days are finished and you’ve gone to sleep with your ancestors, I’ll raise up your offspring after you – someone who’s come from within you – and I’ll prepare his kingdom.  
  
 13‘He’s the one who’ll build a Temple to My Name, and I’ll establish his throne throughout the ages… 14I’ll be a father to him, and he will be a son to Me.  
  
 ‘So, whenever he misbehaves, I’ll discipline him with the type of switch that men use, and spank him in the same way that the sons of men do [to their sons].  
  
 15‘But I’ll never remove My mercy from him in the same way that I’ve removed My mercy from others. 16Rather, his house and his kingdom will stand before Me throughout the age, and his throne will last throughout the ages.’  
  
17Well after that, Nathan went and spoke to David about all the words that he’d heard in the vision.  
  
18Then King David went in and sat down before Jehovah and asked:  
  
 ‘Just who am I, O my Lord Jehovah, and what is my house that You’ve shown such love for me?  
  
 19‘Even though I was once very small before You, O my Lord Jehovah, You spoke about my house long ahead of time... So now, what laws are you giving to me, O my Lord, 20and what should David say before You?  
  
 ‘You know Your servant, O my Lord Jehovah, 21and You’ve treated Your servant as Your heart has directed… 22You’ve brought about all these great things to let your servant know that he should glorify You, O my Lord Jehovah; for there’s no one else like You, and we’ve heard of no God other than You.  
  
 23‘And what are Your people IsraEl? For, no other nation on the earth is being guided by their God!  
  
 ‘However, now You’ve purchased a people to establish Your Name and to show Your greatness and grandeur! You drove nations away in front of these people whom You purchased out of Egypt, and then You had them live in tents.  
  
 24‘So, You’ve set aside IsraEl to be Your people throughout the ages… And You, O Jehovah, have become their God!  
  
 25‘And now, O my Lord Jehovah, may the things that You said about Your servant and his house prove to be true throughout the ages, just as You said.  
  
 26‘And may Your Name, 27Jehovah the Almighty God over IsraEl, be glorified throughout the ages!  
  
 ‘For You’ve uncovered the ears of your servant and told me that I’ll build a Temple for You. This is why Your servant’s heart has been moved to speak this prayer to You.  
  
 28‘And now, O my Lord; you are The God!  
  
 ‘So, the words that You said about the good things that You’ll do for Your servant will prove to be true! 29Therefore, start blessing this house of Your servant, which will stand before You throughout the ages.  
  
 ‘For You, O my Lord Jehovah, have spoken, and You’ve promised to bless the house of your servant throughout the ages.’