

FAMILY CONNECTIONS Sunday School- March 9, 2014

Unifying Topic: SON OF DAVID

Lesson Text

I. A Promise To David (Psalm 89:35-37)

II. A Child Prophesied (Isaiah 9:6-7)

III. Promises And Prophecies Fulfilled (Matthew 1:18-21)

The Main Thought: And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet (Matthew 1:21-22 KJV).

Unifying Principle: People have expectations and hopes regarding their descendants. What assurance do people have that their line of descendants will continue? As God promised David and as Isaiah prophesied, Matthew reports that the birth of Jesus fulfills the traditional expectation that a descendant of David would be coming as the Savior.

Lesson Aim: To better understand Jewish messianic expectation and how Jesus fulfilled prophecies.

Life aim: To have all Christians take comfort in the eternal nature and hope that are in the promises of God

89:35 Once have I sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David.

89:36 His seed shall endure for ever, and his throne as the sun before me.

89:37 It shall be established for ever as the moon, and as a faithful witness in heaven. Selah.

9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

9:7 Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

1:18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

1:19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily.

1:20 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

1:21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins.

HISTORY:

In Psalm 89 written by the psalmist (Ethan the Ezrachite), praises God as the sovereign Creator of the world. He recalls God's covenant with David, but then laments that the promises of the covenant remain unrealized. Beginning with verses 30-34 of Psalm 89, God makes it plain that *"If His children forsake His law and don't obey them; if they break His statutes and not keep His commandments, He will punish them, but He will never completely take away His lovingkindness from them, nor let His promise fail. His covenant will He not break nor alter the thing that has gone out of His lips—He will not take back one Word."* Regardless of how faithless the descendants of David, God purposed in His heart that lovingkindness will not be taken from David. What an awesome God!

LESSON:

Psalm 89:35-37 A Promise To David

89:35 Once have I sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David. If God had sworn it once, that's all it takes. He would still honor His covenant. Numbers 23:19 says *"God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?"* The reference to *"Once have I sworn"* will be found in II Samuel 7. God swearing by His holiness is swearing by Himself! Holiness is the very essence of His nature. He keeps His Word because if He didn't, He wouldn't be God!

89:36 His seed shall endure for ever, and his throne as the sun before me. God's solemn promise that David's seed or lineage shall endure forever is a magnificent oath. It shall be forever in and through Jesus Christ. His throne will

be in God's presence like the sun. Jesus Christ is right now sitting on the throne at the right hand of God.

89:37 It shall be established for ever as the moon, and as a faithful witness in heaven. Selah. This gives reference that like the moon in its permanence, the promise would be established forever. When I look up at the sky at any time, I am in awe of its beauty. When I'm gone from this earth, the heaven will still be as a faithful witness to God's promise. We know that this world may pass away, but God's Word will never pass away. Jesus is the eternal King. "Selah" means it is time to pause and think on this.

Isaiah 9:6-7 A Child Prophesied

9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. . Birth indicates the beginning of something and this beginning would appear as a child. The end of war depends upon the coming of this child. ¹God would not defeat Israel's enemies by using larger more powerful armies, but it would be through the influence of a child to be born. For our benefit, the Prophet saw in vision the darkness and gloom of the nation, and saw also the Son that would be born to remove that darkness, and to enlighten the world. Not that the child—the Messiah was born when the Prophet spoke, but in prophetic vision, as the events of the future passed before his mind, he saw that promised Son, and the eye was fixed intently on Him.

²"A child is born" brings to mind His humanity. "A Son is given" calls to mind His Deity and His Death. Even though Jesus was the "Son of Man", He was also the "Son of God". Notice that the Son is given. That which is given already exists. The little phrase "is given", which literally means "to be delivered up", reminds us that this God-man came into the world for a singular purpose. He came into this world to deliver Himself up as the ransom for sin on the cross of Calvary. The word rendered "government" here, (mis'rah), means His Empire, His Principality. "And the government shall be upon his shoulders" - Here the government on Messiah's shoulder is in marked antithesis (direct opposite) to the "yoke and staff" of the oppressor on Israel's "shoulder" (Is. 9:4). He shall receive the kingdom of the earth from the Father, to vindicate it from the misrule of those to whom it was entrusted to hold it for, the Most High, but who sought to hold it in defiance of His right; the Father asserts His right by the Son, the "Heir of all things," who will hold it for Him (Dan.7:13, 14). The rule of His Empire and Principality will be on the neck of Jesus. This will be fulfilled in the Millennium, when Jesus Christ will rule the earth as King of kings and Lord of lords (Rev. 20:4-6, Ps. 72, Is. 2:1-4, Is. 11, Is. 65:17-25, Zech. 14:6-21). ³Gayle Erwin writes about the government God promises, both ultimately and right now:

- What might such a government look like? First of all, it would look like its King. Politicians of this day look for what they can get from you. **JESUS** looks for what He can do for you.
- Leaders of this day surround themselves with servants. **JESUS** surrounds us with His servanthood.
- Leaders of this day use their power to build their empire. **JESUS** uses His power to wash our feet and make us clean and comfortable.
- Leaders of this day trade their influence for money. **GOD** so loved that He gave . . .
- Generals of this day need regular wars to keep their weapons and skills up to date and insure their own advancement. **JESUS** brings peace and rest to hearts.
- The higher the plane of importance one reaches in this world, the more inaccessible he becomes. **JESUS** is Emanuel, "God with us", very accessible.
- Leaders of this day are desperate to be seen and heard. **JESUS** sought anonymity so He could be useful.
- Obviously, Jesus is not (*obviously seen*) in charge of the halls of Washington, London, Moscow, Baghdad, Paris or Bonn. So, how can we ever believe the "government will be upon His shoulders"?
 - Actually, His government shows its workings in wonderful ways. Whenever I see someone who miraculously leaves a life of drugs or alcohol and is restored to his family and work, I can see that he is now

¹ <http://bible.cc/isaiah/9-6.htm>

² http://www.sermonnotebook.org/old%20testament/Isa%209_6.htm

³ <http://www.study-light.org/com/guz/view.cgi?book=isa&chapter=009>

governed by God.

- Whenever I see loving Christians gently caring for orphans and those rejected by family, I know I am watching people governed by God.
- Whenever I see people eagerly learning the Bible and joyously praising, I know they are governed by God.
- Whenever I see people give up lucrative careers, simply to go and share the Good News of Jesus, I know are governed by God.
- When I see pastors carefully teach and lead the flock God has given them, I know they are getting signals from the great King.
- When I see people leave family to live and teach in distant lands because they love the people who have not heard, I know they are governed by God.
- So, indeed, the government is alive and working. Often silently, mostly unseen. We can be and are, by choice, governed by God. Hope and joy and peace and rest cover its subjects. Justice, mercy and grace, amazingly coexist. I like this Kingdom. The borders are open. Come on in.

His name will be called... Commentators differ to the number of names.

- The Messiah is Wonderful: The glory of who He is and what He has done for us should fill us with wonder. He has inconceivable methods of assisting us, and because His power is far beyond what we are able to conceive. You can never really look at Jesus, really know Him, and be bored. He is Wonderful, and will fill your heart and mind with amazement!
- The Messiah is our Counselor: Jesus is the One fit to guide our lives, and should be the Christian's immediate resource as a Counselor. Jesus can help you in your problems. Though a child, He has no need for counselors. He alone counsels those without counsel. He has a plan for man's salvation. His plan is laid in eternity. It is a plan according to God's love and mercy; faultless discernability.
- The Messiah is our Mighty God: The God of all Creation and glory, the Lord who reigns in heaven, the One worthy of our worship and praise; absolute authority and all might!
- The Messiah is our Everlasting Father: The idea in these Hebrew words is that Jesus is the source and author of all eternity, that He is the Creator Himself. Here we clearly see how the throne of David, which is to be forever, is to be preserved. It will seat a ruler who Himself is Eternal; endless longevity.
- The Messiah is our Prince of Peace: He is the One who makes peace, especially between God and man. It is only those who have grace that has peace. Rather than a warring monarch, He who is the Mighty God will be a benevolent Father, bringing a peace that will be eternally established in His kingdom; enduring tranquility.

9:7 Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end,— ⁴His princely rule shall perpetually increase and be unlimited. It shall be multiplied; the bounds of His kingdom shall be more and more enlarged, and many shall be added to it daily. His peaceable and happy government shall be extended to all the ends of the earth.

9:7b ...upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom,— He that is the Son of David shall reign upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, which He is entitled to. God shall give Him the throne of His father David, Luke 1: 32, 33. ⁵Unlike David's kingdom that had been greatly weakened from within and without, His kingdom will continually increase. Unlike David's rule that came to an end, His kingdom shall have no end. Everything is, and shall be, well managed, in the kingdom of Christ, and none of His subjects shall ever have cause to complain. He shall reign henceforth even for ever; not only throughout all generations of time, but, even when the kingdom shall be delivered up to God even the Father, the glory both of the Redeemer and the redeemed shall continue eternally.

9:7c ...to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. Unlike David's kingdom, as great as it was, the Messiah's kingdom is a perfect kingdom of justice and righteousness forever. *Justice* is that part of Law which condemns. *Righteousness* is that part which absolves (to declare free). In the kingdom of Christ the ungodly are condemned, the godly are justified, saved, set free from sin and death. God Himself has

⁴ <http://www.ccel.org/ccel/henry/mhc4.ls.x.html>

⁵ <http://www.wlsessays.net/files/DobbersteinIsaiah.pdf>

<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-sundayschool.html>

undertaken to bring it all about.

9:7d The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this. We have to consider that this is God's plan. From what we have been reading, God made an outstanding promise. Now we come down to God's intenseness; His zeal to perform this. He is the only One who can. ⁶By zeal I understand that ardent desire which God will display in preserving His Church, by removing all difficulties and obstructions which might otherwise have hindered its redemption. The title "*Lord of hosts*" says several things about the nature of God and about His creation. It emphasizes God's ultimate power over the whole universe and every living creature, where God showed intense love for His people, a kind of jealousy by which He is determined to protect them at the great expense of any who interfere. The prophecy concerning the light, the child, and the king is fulfilled in Jesus. Jesus can be Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and the Prince of Peace for everyone now. It takes God's zeal to perform it!

Matthew 1:18-21 Promises And Prophecies Fulfilled

1:18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, — And so Mary and Joseph are betrothed, but not united in physical contact. At this point in their relationship, she was found to be with child –pregnant. But she had not committed the sin of adultery nor had relations with any man. The adultery law said that a betrothed virgin who committed adultery was to be stoned to death (Deut.22:21-24). She was with child before they were united in marriage.

1:18b ...she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. She was found to be with child. You can only imagine Joseph's reaction to this. What does it mean "*to be with child by the Holy Spirit?*" The gospel of Luke explains that the angel Gabriel told Mary: *Luke 1:31 "...you will conceive in your womb and bear a son..."* When Mary inquired as to how this would happen, since she was a virgin, Luke 1:35 The angel answered and said to her, "*The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the Son of God.*" Mary, a virgin who had not been with any man, became pregnant. This pregnancy was a supernatural act by the power of God and the presence of the Holy Spirit.

1:19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily. Joseph was a righteous man. And righteousness is God's perfect balance of justice and mercy. Justice said that divorce was the thing to do - break the vow of betrothal. If a man find that the woman he is to marry is found not to be a virgin, "*Then they shall bring out the girl to the doorway of her father's house, and the men of her city shall stone her to death...*" Deut. 22:21. That is justice, but being a righteous man meant Joseph was also merciful. He knew he couldn't marry her, but also wanted to show mercy. And so, rather than a public stoning, Joseph was thinking that he would quietly divorce her and send her away somewhere.

1:20 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. Without supernatural intervention, Joseph would not have wed Mary. But an angel appeared to him in a dream and reassured him that Mary was still a virgin, and that the wedding should still take place.

1:21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins. Joseph was not excluded from the parenting of God's Son. The angel told Joseph that the child was God's, and shall call His name **JESUS!** Call His name: "**YAH-weh** which means **salvation.**" He was to give the child a certain name. Jewish boys would get their names when they were eight days old, on the day of their circumcision (*See Luke 2:21*). Because it is HE who will save HIS people from their sins, YAH-weh - God Himself - who is in Mary's womb. The Bible says in **1Tim. 1:15 ...Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.**

⁶ <http://www.cbclearfield.com/rwt-blog-31520>
<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-sundayschool.html>

SUMMARY:

God doesn't lie for He had sworn once and for all by His own holy name, that David's family will always rule. His line will continue forever and his throne will endure like the sun. And it will continue forever like the moon. And God's promise will be a faithful witness in heaven (**Ps.89:35-37**).

⁷Isaiah records five things about the coming Messiah. (1) He is to be born a child; (2) He will rule over God's people, (3) He will have four distinctive names--Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father; (4) He will be seated on David's throne and (5) The zeal of the lord will perform this (**Is.9:6-7**).

In order for the family line of David to be forever; to continue, it would have to come through the birth of a child who was prophesized long ago that would be son of man and Son of God who is eternal. This was the only channel for God to be upon the earth—through a virgin espoused to a man named Joseph, and impregnated by the Holy Ghost without a man. Joseph a just man had many thoughts going through his mind, but the angel of the Lord appeared to him to make things clearer for him. Joseph was the man in charge as the angel gave him direction. He was to marry Mary and he was to name him **JESUS**; for Jesus was to save His people from their sins (**Matt.1:18-21**).

APPLICATION:

Take God at His Word as He connects the family to bring about His plan!

⁷ <http://www.family-times.net/commentary/the-government-of-the-promised-son/>
<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-sundayschool.html>