

The Lord's Christmas Gift to David

1. **"You're Not Going to Build a House for Me."**
2. **"I'm Going to Build a House for You!"**

- It's that time yr again when ppl are givng Xmas gifts. Maybe you planning give Xmas gifts to: chldrn, prnts, spouse, friends. On Fri, kids in school exchnegd gifts w/clssmts. Smtms at Xmas parties cowrkr exchneg wht elphnt gifts; meant be funny, get laugh out ppl. But smtms smone gives you very special gift, that becomes fam heirlm, of great value, given in love, treasured forever.
- Today Ld (could say) gives Xmas gift Dvd. Today looking 2 Sam 7; mid OT, during time Kg Dvd, 1000 yrs before J even born, before Xmas even word. And this Xmas gift from Lord to Dvd wasn't silly/funny little wht elphnt gift; fam heirlm, gift great value, last forever – Ld's Xmas gift to Dvd.
- It actly strtd off as idea of Dvd to give gift to Ld. Dvd, Kg Isrl, had grand idea: wanted build tmpl for God – permnt buildng where ppl wrshp/scrfs. See up this point, never had tmpl. Dvd only 2nd kg; before, Saul; yrs before, Isrlts wndrng in wildrns until God brought them to Prmsd Land. Whole time/hstry, main buildng for worship: Tab – essntly great big tent. God designd Tab be tent, so could taken down/set back up, bec ppl always on move, always under attack. But when you make it here to 2 Sam (1&2 Sam hstry books), couple imp things hapn: 1) Dvd becomes king after Saul; 2) Dvd fights/wins many battles, incl captrng city/Jrslm, making his captl city; 3) Dvd moves Ark/Covnt into Jrslm. Problem: when get 2 Sam 7, Dvd has built beatfl cedar palace for self (king, luxrs home); but Ark/Covnt just sitting under makeshift tent (wasn't even Tab, just reg tent). So Dvd thought: that's just not right; Ld desrvs better. Why: vs. 1-2. So Dvd's big idea: I've got this palace; things peaceful – I'm going build beatfl tmpl for Ld.
- But God had diff idea. Vs. 5-7. Ld: "So, no, Dvd, you're not build house me." Then Ld sorta reminds Dvd just how abndntly he's blessed him. Vs. 8b. Remem how Dvd: youngest son/Jesse, just little shphrd boy, but God picked him, over big bros, be next kg/Isrl. Then, vs. 9ab. If you read 1 Sam: Dvd always in battle, always fighting; God always protects him. Vs. 9c. Jrslm became known as City/Dvd; and to this day on Israeli flag: star/Dvd – that's how great Dvd's name became. He's probly greatest OT Israelite ever lived.
- Be that as it may, Ld still to Dvd: "No, Dvd, you're not build house me." In 1 Chr 22, Ld tells Dvd, **"You have shed much blood and have fought many wars. You are not to build a house for my Name, because you have shed much blood on the earth in my sight" (8)** – which Ld told him do; wanted him fight these battles, so not that Dvd was in wrong. Just: Ld had diff plan. You could call it: Ld's Xmas gift to Dvd. "You're not build house me;" instead, "I'm going build house for you!"
- Vs. 11bc – I'm build house you! Might say, house? Doesn't Dvd already have palace? But play on words here. Word house can mean diff things: home where live (or palace if king); house/God, tmpl where wrshp. Or word house can also mean kngdm/dynsty of ppl under a ruler. And that's what Ld means here when: vs. 11c – not buildng but kngdm. And what follows: marvls, very imp proms, from Ld to Dvd, re this house/kngdm. Vs. 12. So physcl dscndnt/Dvd, own flsh/bld, would rule kngdm – a son. That son, 3rd king Israel: Slmn. Remem Slmn: w/all wsdm, wlth, (unfrntly) wives. Slmn was Dvd's son, who succdd him as king, ruled kngdm. And then, vs. 13a – tmpl. Ld gave, not to Dvd but Slmn, task of buildng tmpl. In book 1 Kgs (right after 2 Sam) you read all re Slmn buildng glrious, mgnfcent tmpl for Ld in Jrslm, where Isrlts wrshpd/scrfd ~400 yrs – before tmpl dstryd by Babylnns.
- Wait minute. Was destroyed, wasn't it? And Dvd's kngdm conqrd. But I thought Ld said, vs. 13b, 16. Tmpl didn't last forever; neither Dvd's kngdm. Which must mean: while Slmn was a partial/initial fulfillmnt these words (was physcl son, did rule kngdm, did build tmpl) – NTL, must be 2nd, greater fulfillmnt – another son! What makes 2 Sam 7 so special: these words were fulfilled not only in Slmn (in partial/initial way), but also in J (in much greater/perfect way)! J is in this promise, where Ld says to Dvd: you're not build house me; I'm build house for you!
- Let's take another look these words and find J. Vs. 12. J was physcl dscndnt/Dvd. Both Mary/Joe physcl dscndnts/Dvd. Remem the Lk 2 story J's birth? **"So Joseph also went up from the town/Naz**

in Gal to Judea, to Bthlm the town/Dvd, bec he belonged to the house and line/Dvd” (4). Little Town Bthlm, where J born, also hometwn/Dvd. Even the genealgs in Mt & Lk draw direct conexn btwn J & Dvd, bec J was flsh/bld offsprng/Dvd. **Vs. 13a.** J didn’t build the tmpl; raised it from dead. Remem when J: **“Destroy this tmpl, and I will raise it again in 3 days” (Jn 2:19)?** Talking re his body; the res! J himself: flflmnt/tmpl. We don’t need tmpl anymore, bec have resctd J! **Vs. 13b, 16.** Means J is Kg whose kngdm lasts forever! Remem what J said to Pilate, right before crucfxn? **“My kngdm is not of this wrld... My kngdm is from another place” (Jn 18:36).** Xp doesn’t rule some plot real estate smwhr on planet. Rules in hrts/Xians! Means Xp’s kngdm is Ch, HCC. *“I bel HCC, CS.”* We pray: *“Thy kngdm come.”* Xp’s kngdm is the Ch, a kngdm/faith. It’s inside of you/me, bec we love/bel in Xp, our crcfd/rsn Sav! And this kngdm will **vs. 16bc.** Never end! Slmn’s tmpl fell; Dvd’s kngdm did end. But J’s kngdm will never end; last forever – for rest/time here earth, and then w/all God’s ppl forever in hvn. That’s what means when Ld says to Dvd **vs. 16.** And that’s exactly what angel Gab means when says to Mary in today’s Gos: **“You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him J. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father Dvd, and he will reign over Jacob’s dscndnts forever; his kngdm will never end” (Lk 1:31-33).**

- J is the real flflmnt of the promise the Ld makes here to Dvd. “Dvd, you’re not build house me; I’m build house you!” J is Lord’s Xmas gift to Dvd. Know smtng: J is Lord’s Xmas gift to us, as well. Ld kept word, to Dvd & to us. He sent us J; J was born for us, in Bthlm, to be our Kg – that’s what Xmas all about! When Ld says, **vs. 14a** – that’s God/Fr sending us God/Son. And when says, **vs. 14b**, doesn’t mean J will do anything wrong; J is sinless/holy/perf. But we’re not. So J took our sins, upon himself. And on cross, God/Fr did **vs. 14b.** We recall the horrific events of GF to remind us why J came and how much he loves us – and why we love him.
- J is Lord’s Xmas gift to us. And to Dvd. Dvd loved Ld, wanted build tmpl. But Ld: you’re not build house me; I’m build house you – a kngdm that will endure forever, through J the Kg. He is Ld’s Xmas gift: to Dvd, and us.

2 Samuel 7:1-16

After the king was settled in his palace and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him,² he said to Nathan the prophet, “Here I am, living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God remains in a tent.”³ Nathan replied to the king, “Whatever you have in mind, go ahead and do it, for the Lord is with you.”⁴ But that night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, saying:

⁵“Go and tell my servant David, ‘This is what the Lord says: Are you the one to build me a house to dwell in? ⁶I have not dwelt in a house from the day I brought the Israelites up out of Egypt to this day. I have been moving from place to place with a tent as my dwelling. ⁷Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, did I ever say to any of their rulers whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”’”

⁸“Now then, tell my servant David, ‘This is what the Lord Almighty says: I took you from the pasture, from tending the flock, and appointed you ruler over my people Israel. ⁹I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men on earth. ¹⁰And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people will not oppress them anymore, as they did at the beginning ¹¹and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies.

“The Lord declares to you that the Lord himself will establish a house for you: ¹²When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with a rod wielded by men, with floggings inflicted by human hands. ¹⁵But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. ¹⁶Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.’”