Jesus: The New David

Please read through this Bible Study together, answering the questions as prompted.

After David is anointed King of Israel, he conquers the surrounding peoples through military might. He was a tremendous warrior and leader. Once he’s defeated all of Israel’s enemies, he realizes that Israel is not only a great nation (the first promise God made to Abraham—which was fulfilled at Mt. Sinai with Moses), but that Israel has become an empire. Now, Israel ruled over many nations. David wants to celebrate this empire and the fact that there’s peace in the land by building God a house/Temple.

**You can read about David’s desire to build the Temple in 2 Samuel 7:1-3.**

However, God has other plans, and he lets David know these plans through Nathan the prophet. David isn’t going to build a house for God, rather, God is going to build the house of David. **Please read 2 Sam. 7:9-16.**

Remember that God promised Abraham that he would make Abraham’s name great? God promised that from Abraham would come a great nation and a great name. Well, God is fulfilling that promise here, in his covenant with David. God makes David’s name great, meaning that he’s establishing a dynasty through David. A dynasty is a family-line of leaders in a country or empire—the throne is handed on from one descendent to the next (e.g., from father to son at the passing of the father). So, God is establishing the Davidic kingdom/empire as a dynasty that would last forever.

The basic promises of God’s covenant with David in 2 Sam. 7 goes like this: (1) David will have a son and an heir; (2) this son will build the Temple; (3) this son will also be the Son of God; and (4) this son will rule over the Kingdom of David forever. Solomon, David’s son, is an initial fulfillment of these promises, but the Temple Solomon built was torn down. Solomon was God’s son by adoption, but not really God’s Son. Finally, Solomon’s reign came to an end. In fact, by the time of Jesus, it seemed as though David’s “house,” his “great name,” had collapsed. A Davidic king wasn’t even on the throne.

But, Jesus *is* the New David. Let’s use the following chart to help us see this connection. We have provided you with keywords from 2 Sam. 7:8-17. **Read Luke 1:32-33 and see if you can identify the phrases that correspond to 2 Sam. 7** and show us that Jesus is this New David.

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| **2 Sam. 7:8-17** | **Luke 1:32-33** |
| “a great name” (9) |  |
| “he shall be my son” (14) |  |
| “your throne shall be established” (16) |  |
| “forever” (16) |  |

 See Reverse 🡪

Jesus is the New David—the connection is clear. In fact, in Matthew’s Gospel, Matthew says explicitly says that Jesus is “*the* son of David…” (Mt. 1:1). He’s not just any descendent or son of David, he’s *the* son of David—the one everyone had been waiting for.

Jesus is *the* son of David through Mary’s ancestry. So, he’s biologically a son of David and a proper heir to the throne. But, even more than that, Jesus *is* the Son of God—not through adoption like Solomon, but in his very being. The Temple that Jesus “builds” or gives us is not made out of bricks, but it is a living Temple–his body. A Temple is a place where God dwells or is present. In Jesus, God is present in Jesus’ own body. And, Jesus’ kingdom literally lasts forever—he did rise from the dead after all!