

I Have No Words But Your Words

(2 Samuel 7:18-29)

4/6/16; Wed PM Pine Grove

Introduction

The largest iceberg in the world is an iceberg named B-15..

It is roughly the size of the size of the state of Connecticut.

It is adrift in the Antarctic Ocean on the bottom of the world...

What is even more amazing about the size of this iceberg is that 90% of it is under the water..

You can see from the picture on the screen that our eyes only catch a glimpse of the actual iceberg that floats on the surface of the water...

Which means that the iceberg under B-15 is nine times larger than what we see on top...

That means that what see on top of the water only scratches the surface of what this iceberg is all about...

Much of the same can be said about people...

Often times, we only get a glimpse of who people are..

We get to interact with them in public...

We get to speak to them in passing...

But rarely, do we get to know people..

Know them to the point of seeing who they are beneath the surface of what we see...

Well, tonight we are going to get that behind the scenes look at David in 2 Samuel 7...

Now, many of you know David very well...

You can't read the book of Psalms without coming to know David...

As God inspired David to write these heavenly hymns, we see David's heart and character in so many ways in the many psalms that he did write..

But tonight, we are going to be taken to a time in David's life where he isn't writing a psalm or fighting a battle...

And we are going to meet David may be in a deeper way than other passages....

And let me be clear here...

The point of this passage is not to know David better...

The point of the passage is to know God better by seeing how David relates to Him..

I have divided these verses into 3 parts to help our minds kinda see what is happening here...

We will see....

I. David's Praise (18-22)

II. David's People (23-24)

III. David's Plea (25-29)

And as we see the depths of David's life, I pray that we will be overwhelmed more by David's God..

Let's begin in verses 18-22 with...

I. David's Praise (18-22)

Now, as we come to verse 18, keep in mind what happened in the first part of chapter 7 last week...

God made a covenant promise with David that his descendants and family line would be king over Israel forever...

God also promised to make David's name great..

God promised to never remove his promise from David's family tree...

It was an incredible act of grace on the part of God because David had done nothing to earn it or deserve it...

God had simply called him out of a sheep field in Bethlehem and chose to bless Him more than any family tree on earth..

It is one of the high points in all the Bible because in that promise to David in 1000 BC is the promise of Jesus Christ...

In that promise to David is the promise of the gospel of salvation that would come through David's line to the whole world...

Now, how are you supposed to react to the news of such a promise to you?

How do you react to good news?

How do you react to incredible news?

Well, I would suggest that your reaction gets back to who you are as a person...

It touches who you truly are...

And I think we are going to see David's true colors tonight..

Yes, David is a sinner...

Yes, David has multiple wives.

No, David does not always fully trust the Lord...

But when it all comes down to it, David is a man after God's own heart...

David tries to seek the Lord in all things and David tries to please the Lord with his life...

And when we get down to it, that should be the aim of our lives..

Yes, we are sinners..

Yes, we are fallen creatures who give into sin at times...

But in that, we should be people who seek the Lord's glory in all we do..

So, on the heels of God's incredible promises to Him, let's see how David responds....

Verse 18...

18 Then David the king went in and sat before the Lord, and he said, "Who am I, O Lord [ff]God, and what is my house, that You have brought me this far? 19 And yet this was insignificant in Your eyes, O Lord God, for You have spoken also of the house of Your servant concerning the distant future. And this is the [g]custom of man, O Lord God. 20 Again what more can David say to You? For You know Your servant, O Lord God! 21 For the sake of Your word, and according to Your own heart, You have done all this greatness to let Your servant know. 22 For this reason You are great, O Lord God; for there is none like You, and there is no God besides You, according to all that we have heard with our ears.

You can't miss verse 18....

David, THE KING, went in and sat before the Lord...

Everyone normally bows to the king, but David the king, bows to the Lord...

You cannot miss that, and we cannot miss that as people...

Good news brings us low before the Lord...

Yes, we rejoice.

Yes, we are happy and excited and grateful...

But above all, we acknowledge the source of all our blessings...

Want another reason to start your morning with prayer?

Every morning you wake up, it is a reminder of just how helpless you are...

You didn't keep yourself alive all night by your will and you didn't wake yourself up...

It was all a gift of God and when you get up, it should be a reminder to sit before the Lord and praise him for getting you through the night..

David gets the most incredible good news of all time...

And it doesn't go to his head, it puts him down before the Lord...

And then we see verse 19...

Who am I Lord and what is my family that you have brought me so far..

What an incredible statement, and though I have preached it over and over...

How true is that about all of us?

Who are we that God would save us and forgive our sin and grant us eternal life through Christ?

Who are we to be so privileged to grow up in a country where the gospel is freely preached and where being a Christian is free from persecution?

Have you ever sat and thought about how blessed you are that the gospel ever even go to your ears?

And that you weren't born to Muslim parents or Buddhist parents who taught you a false religion?

Who are we that God has shown His goodness to us?

Listen to what David writes in Psalm 8...

3

***When I [c]consider Your heavens, the work of
Your fingers,
The moon and the stars, which You have [d]or-
dained;***

4

***What is man that You [e]take thought of him,
And the son of man that You care for him?***

Insert your name in that psalm...

Who is Bud Moss that You have thought of him...

And that is DAvid's heart here in verse 18...

Humility is the mark of a man after God's own heart...

And as long as you stay humble and see others as better than yourselves and God as much bigger than you, you too will be a man or woman after God's own heart...

I am reminded of what I often say...

The Bible describes so many blessings that come to truly humble people...

And so many curse that come to those who are prideful...

And I would also remind you of this...

True humility is hard to find and even harder to hold on to...

Pursue humility and root out all pride, and though it will be a lifelong battle, it will be worth it...

David begins his praise by pointing to God's glory and his lowly state...

And then verse 19, he praises God's power....

God, all of this promise to me was nothing to you...

IT was insignificant for you to do this...

When John Andrew was born in California, I was waiting in the hallway of the operating room on the doctor.

Tonya had to have a C-section and the doctor was running behind and I had to wait on him to get there...

And he showed up walking down the hall with a coke in his hand and a pack of cheese crackers...

I mean this is his normal day...

For me, it is the birth of our third child...

It's no ordinary day at all...

But I couldn't help but chuckle when he go near...

I told him...

“This is a typical day for you, but it is far from typical for me.”

He laughed, put his coke and cheese crackers in the trash and went in and did normal thing...

Delivering baby #13 thousand and something that was named John Andrew Moss...

But that helps me relate to what David is saying here in some way...

God, you just promised me that my children would be kings forever over the greatest nation in the world because it is your nation...

You just promised me that my family line would never give up the throne to rule over ISrael...

Yet, as incredible as this promise is to me, it is a normal day even an insignificant day in who You are as God...

This is nothing for you...

That is how you praise the power of God...

You are low and have no power; God is great and has all power...

And then we see this interesting phrase toward the end of verse 19...

This is the custom of man..

Your translation may be very different depending on what you have....

And you can read about the various ways to translate it...

But here is my take on what David is saying to God...

God who am I and who is my family that you have blessed me...

And what you have done today is going to be the way of the world forever...

In other words, what God did through his promises to David will affect the world forever...

David's family being king would have an eternal impact on the world...

Think about all the incredible inventions over time..

The printing press.

The automobile.

The airplane.

The computer.

The cell phone.

All had enormous impacts on the world that lasted beyond their day, but God's promise to David has had the greatest impact on the world ever.

Sure, it is nice to be able to print books, and travel easier by car or plane or communicate through a computer or phone...

But the world is forever changed by what God promised to do through David's line..

To deliver a Savior to take away sin for all time..

To deliver a King who would rule the world as it was meant to be ruled.

What God was going to do through David was going to be the law of how the world operates...

It was going to be the custom of men to call upon the name of Jesus to be saved...

And the plan was going to come from David's family line..

So, David has praised God's power to do this incredible thing..

Then in verses 20-21, David simply praises God's knowledge...

David is left speechless in verse 20..

What can I say God for all you have done for me...

And then listen to David's words...

"For you know your servant."

Though people give different interpretations of this...

I think David is simply overwhelmed at what God has done even though God knew David to his innermost parts..

And I think David is saying, God what you are doing has left me speechless but you know me well enough to know how overwhelmed I am to learn this...

Here's the bottom line...

God saves people despite knowing all about them.

God saves people even though he has every word that ever proceeded from their mouth and every thought that has passed through their mind...

Just that truth alone should live us all speechless...

That God would choose to save us and use us despite what he knows is the greatest example of grace imaginable...

Yet, that was true of David...

And all David could do was praise the Lord for being anything David had ever known...

Look at the praise in verse 22..

22 For this reason You are great, O Lord God; for there is none like You, and there is no God besides You,.....

We had a substitute teacher in 4th grade...

I cant remember her name, but she must have been an emergency substitute...

When we got to class, she told us that we were going to play games the entire class...

And that is exactly what we did all day...

We played a game called 7 Up,...

We played 4 Corners...

We played Mother May I...

Red Light, Green Light...

Duck Duck Goose...

And we literally played them all morning...

Went to lunch and recess and came back and played them until the final bell of the day...

It was the greatest day of school ever...

And guess what every kid said as we left?

You are the greatest substitute in the history of the world...please come back...we have never met a teacher like you...

That is where David finds himself after hearing all the good things that God is going to do in his life and in his family..

God, there is no one like you, and there is no God besides you..

And that is even where we are today as believers...

When you truly consider God's goodness to you despite what He and you know about you, there is but to do....

Praise God for His uniqueness and goodness...

And that is what we should all do...

Let's move from David's praise to...

II. David's People (23-24)

In verses 23-24, David praises the Lord for his goodness to David's people as well...

In the same way that David wasn't deserving of God's goodness, Israel was not deserving of it either...

Yet, God had chosen the nation Israel to make His name great in the world...

Look at verses 23-24...

23 And what one nation on the earth is like Your people Israel, whom God went to redeem for Himself as a people and to make a name for Himself, and to do a great thing for You and awesome things for Your land, before Your people whom You have redeemed for Yourself from Egypt, from nations and their gods? 24 For You have established for Yourself Your people Israel as Your own people forever, and You, O Lord, have become their God.

I made this a separate section in this passage for a reason...

Israel is one of the greatest miracles of the Bible...

Here, you have nation that came from the descendants of one man named Abraham...

And yet, it is a nation that still survives today even though it was founded in 2000 BC or before...

Here, you have nation that has done everything to break its relationship to the Lord, yet God is not done with them yet...

David is overwhelmed by the thought of God's goodness only a 1000 years later after Israel's founding...

If he were around today, nearly 4000 years after God going to Abraham, He would be just as amazed...

I think I have told this before but King Frederick of Prussia went to his religious adviser and asked him to prove to him that the Bible was true....

The chaplain replied, "Oh that's easy. I can prove the Bible is true in one word...ISRAEL."

"The fact that Israel still exists is proof that God's Word in the Bible is true and trustworthy..."

"All the former nations of the world have disappeared..."

“I have never met a Canaanite or a Jebusite or a Moabite or a Philistine....

But I can take you my king to meet an Israelite even today.”

And long story short, the existence of Israel shows the faithfulness of God...

David understood that 3000 years ago, and we should certainly understand that 3000 years later..

Now, that isn't to say that we should approve all the current nation of Israel does and support them in all things..

They are not currently living in obedience to God because they still reject God's Messiah...

And when they sin, we need to call it sin...

But we must never forget that God will be faithful to His people to the day that he opened their eyes to the gospel and Israel comes to know their Messiah..

For our purposes and passage tonight, we just simply need to be reminded that God is faithful to His promises...

Whether that is a promise to King David...

Or to Kind David's people...

Or to any of us Gentiles who are saved in here
tonight...

The Lord is faithful and God's people are always
amazed at His goodness and love to these least de-
serving of it...

One more section to tackle beginning in verse 25..

III. David's Plea (25-29)

25 Now therefore, O Lord God, the word that You have spoken concerning Your servant and his house, confirm it forever, and do as You have spoken, 26 that Your name may be magnified forever, by saying, 'The Lord of hosts is God over Israel'; and may the house of Your servant David be established before You. 27 For You, O Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, have [h]made a revelation to Your servant, saying, 'I will build you a house'; therefore Your servant has found [i]courage to pray this prayer to You. 28 Now, O Lord God, You are God, and Your words are truth, and You have [j]promised this good thing to Your servant. 29 Now therefore, may it please You to bless the house of Your servant, that it may continue forever before You. For You, O Lord God, have spoken; and with Your blessing may the house of Your servant be blessed forever."

As a kid, you were always hoping to see a fight at school but you were never hoping that it involved you...

I remember a friend in school telling me one day that he was going to settle a score with a boy at lunch...

The guy he was going to fight was much bigger than him, so I couldn't wait to see who it turned out...

We were in class all morning that day and my buddy kept getting madder and madder as he talked about what this guy had done to him...

And he kept telling me his plan to walk up to him in the lunch line and just slug him in the face...

So, we go to to lunch and I was right behind him in line...

And I kept telling the guy, "Ok, we are here. There he is. You need to follow through with what you told me."

"I am ready to see this happen."

It is time to put up or shut up..

And he simply waited in line until he got his food, and then he walked over to where the guy was sitting and took a seat across from him and treated him like normal...

I remember being so disappointed...

After lunch I asked him, "What happened? Why didn't live up to what you said?"

He looked at me and said, “He is huge. What was I thinking?”

And isn't that how life goes often...

Words go out but the action never follows...

But I want you to look at how David praised but then David prayed...

In these verses, David simply says this...

God, you have made promises to me and my family. Now, go out and fulfill these promises to me.

Verse 25, “Lord, confirm what you have said. Do as you have spoken.”

Look, this is a great reminder of a wonderful way to pray...

Take God's promises and pray to Him asking him to keep His promises to you.

Lord, you told me you would never leave me or forsake me. I about to undergo a surgery. Stay with me.

Lord, you said that you would never leave me or forsake me.

I am about to confront a friend about their sin. Be with me as I do this difficult thing.

Lord, you told me to go into all the world and preach the gospel, and you said that you would save people...

I am about to share the gospel with a good relative of mine. Save them through the gospel that I will give to them...

And look at how David prayed this prayer...

He is not calling on the Lord to keep His word so that David gets the glory...

Verse 26...

Fulfill your word so that your name may be magnified forever...

Keep your promises so that the world will see your faithfulness...

David then reminds God to keep his promises because his Word never fails...

Verse 28...

Your words are truth Lord..

This is such an important part of our prayer life...

Pray that God would keep His word in order to
make His name great and to prove it trustworthy...

God, you have said that trials come to grow us in our
faith and to make us more like Christ...

Lord, I'm in a trial.

Keep your word to grow me and mature me in my
faith...

Lord, I am being tempted.

Your word says that I will not be tempted beyond
what I can bear and that you will always provide a
way out of the temptation...

I am to the point of breaking...

Show me the way of escape...

Praying for God to keep His word is a great way to
pray...

It's what I call the "But Daddy you said" method..

Everyone knows and has at one time taken part in the
"But Daddy you said" method...

It usually happens after 8 hours at an amusement park when you are dead tired, and your youngest child reminds you....

“But Daddy, you said we would stay until the park closes at 11. It is only 8.”

It usually happens after eating out with the family and getting a larger than expected bill....

And so you bypass the rest of your night to head home and save money...

“But Daddy you said we would get ice cream after supper.”

And I don't know what exactly it is about the “But Daddy you said” method, but I know this...

It works...

And David simply ends his time sting before the Lord reminding God to keep His word that he had spoken to Him only moments before....

And I would be willing to bet that David prayed this for the rest of his life...

Especially in those difficult days...

“Lord, I am a sinful man, and I don't deserve your goodness. But I still ask that you would keep your word to me and my family...”

And guess what God has done up until this very day...

God has kept to word to David to the very letter of it...

David's descendants sat on the throne....

David's ultimate descendant, Jesus Christ, was born into the world, lived the perfect life, and died the perfect death to earn Him the right to sit on David's throne forever...

Conclusion

So what do we see in David's response to God's promise to him that helps us today?

#1 - I think we see extended praise to the Lord to the Lord for His goodness to us..

David sat before the Lord in utter astonishment and unending praise of God who would take him out of a field and make him king...

And David sat in utter astonishment and unending price that God would take Israel out of the world and use them to make His name great...

And we need to sit here tonight in utter astonishment that God would use any part of our once sin filled lives to bring any sort of glory to Him...

How God can take a sinner, make him a saint and then teach him how to grow in holiness and love others is still the greatest miracle we see every day.

#2 - I think we see a man who trusts the Word of God so much that he uses the Word of God to cause God to act...

David is a man who shows complete dependence on the word of God...

IF God says it, David not only listens...

He believes every word of it, and even uses it to remind God to fulfill it...

That is a man who trust God's word...

Don't you love the innocence of kids who take every word of their father to heart?

When they use that method on me, I want to tell them "Well, Daddy lies sometimes. We aint getting any ice cream tonight."

But in many ways, we need that childlike faith, and tonight is a great reminder of how important it is to trust the Word of God and to trust God to keep His word...

Let us pray.