**Week of Dec 29, 2019**

**1 Chronicles 17:16-27**

**Key Verse:** “16 And David the king came and sat before the LORD, and said, Who am I, O LORD God, and what is mine house, that thou hast brought me hitherto?”

(1 Chronicles 17:16)

**16 And David the king came and sat before the LORD, and said, Who am I, O LORD God, and what is mine house, that thou hast brought me hitherto? 17 And yet this was a small thing in thine eyes, O God; for thou hast also spoken of thy servant's house for a great while to come, and hast regarded me according to the estate of a man of high degree, O LORD God. 18 What can David speak more to thee for the honour of thy servant? for thou knowest thy servant. 19 O LORD, for thy servant's sake, and according to thine own heart, hast thou done all this greatness, in making known all these great things. 20 O LORD, there is none like thee, neither is there any God beside thee, according to all that we have heard with our ears. 21 And what one nation in the earth is like thy people Israel, whom God went to redeem to be his own people, to make thee a name of greatness and terribleness, by driving out nations from before thy people, whom thou hast redeemed out of Egypt? 22 For thy people Israel didst thou make thine own people for ever; and thou, LORD, becamest their God. 23 Therefore now, LORD, let the thing that thou hast spoken concerning thy servant and concerning his house be established forever, and do as thou hast said. 24 Let it even be established, that thy name may be magnified forever, saying, The LORD of hosts is the God of Israel, even a God to Israel: and let the house of David thy servant be established before thee. 25 For thou, O my God, hast told\* thy servant that thou wilt build him a house: therefore, thy servant hath found in his heart to pray before thee. 26 And now, LORD, thou art God, and hast promised this goodness unto thy servant: 27 Now therefore let it please thee to bless the house of thy servant, that it may be before thee forever: for thou blessest, O LORD, and it shall be blessed forever.**

**Understanding the Scriptures**

Today’s lesson focuses on David’s prayer in response to learning that his son Solomon would be given the honor of building the Temple. David’s prayer is preceded by a prophetic oracle delivered by the prophet Nathan that God would not allow David to build the Temple. David realized that even though he was denied the opportunity to build the Temple for God, God was showing him special favor by choosing Solomon to establish a family dynasty and legacy that would be remembered and honored forever. The word house is used in the passage refers to both David’s dynasty and to the Temple of God.

David was a mighty king, God allowed him to win many victories. He was highly respected in Israel and was a man of great wealth and resources. A man with such power and success could have been offended by God’s rejection of his plan to build a magnificent Temple in his honor. But David accepted God’s divine plan to use his son for the special assignment. In fact, David was humbled and overwhelmed by God’s love and generosity. David’s realization of how God had planned to establish a long-standing legacy for his family led David to express his thoughts in prayer. David’s prayer had elements of thanksgiving, praise and petition.

In his prayer, David humbled himself. David was not perfect. He made many mistakes in life his life. David knew many mistakes in his life. David new that God knew everything about him, and his family in such a great way. David accepted God’s promise that there would be a permanent “house of David”. David planned the Temple that his son Solomon built called “Solomon’s Temple” and also “the First Temple”. It stood for approximately four hundred years until it was destroyed during an invasion of Jerusalem by the Babylonian empire.

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