

## Zion's King Shall Reign Victorious! - 9

In His covenant with David, God promised, "...I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom...And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever" - 2 Samuel 7:12.

The divinely inspired message in David's "last words" show that the reign of Solomon did not fulfil God's covenant or formal commitment with David, to sustain His kingdom in an unrestricted duration -

"For - NOT SO is my house with God... for - He HAS NOT caused it to spring up" - v.5, (Young's Lit.Trans.), adding, "...For this is all my salvation and all my desire" - 2 Sam 23:1-5.

- David's dynasty in the time of Solomon did not fulfil the requirement in 2 Samuel 23:3, "...he who rules over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God..." Solomon disregarded the law of God that kings must not multiply horses, personal riches or wives. This FAITHLESSNESS quickly led Israel into idolatry.
- By the end of Solomon's reign, when the people asked his son to lighten their heavy tax burden - 1 Kings 12 :4 - Rehoboam instead promised to increase it! There was NO JUSTICE in such imposition during a time of national prosperity.
- David declared, "He has made with me an everlasting covenant ...For this is all my salvation and all my desire" - 2 Samuel 23:1-5. There were none of David's descendants until Jesus who, in manifesting the righteousness of God - Psalm 72:1 - was able to "give knowledge of SALVATION to His people by the remission of their sins" - Luke 1:77.

The 2nd book of Samuel chapter 7 describes the circumstances in which God made His COVENANT WITH DAVID - "... when the king was dwelling in his house...the king said to Nathan the prophet, 'See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells inside tent curtains.'...the word of the Lord came to Nathan, saying, 'Go and tell My servant David, Thus says the Lord: Would you build a house for Me to dwell in?

- "For I have not dwelt in a house since the time that I brought the children of Israel up from Egypt, even to this day, but have moved about in a tent and in a tabernacle. In all the places where I have walked with all the children of Israel, have I ever spoken a word to anyone from the tribes of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd My people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built Me a house of cedar'?" Now therefore, thus shall you say to My servant David,
- "Thus says the Lord of hosts: 'I took you from the sheepfold, from following the sheep, to be ruler over My people, over Israel. And I have been with you wherever you have gone, and have cut off all your enemies from before you, and have made you a great name, like the name of the great men who are on the earth.
- "Moreover I will appoint a place for My people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own and move no more; nor shall the sons of wickedness oppress them anymore, as previously, since the time that I commanded judges to be over My people Israel, and have caused you to rest from all your enemies.
- "Also the Lord tells you that HE will make YOU a house."