

SRM14122

12/14/2014 3rd Advent

“Previews of Christmas:

David, a King After God's Heart” 1 Samuel 13:14

Attention: This advent season we are looking at the coming of Jesus Christ as previewed in types of the Messiah in the Old Testament.

Last week, we saw the Messiah previewed in the life of Samuel, a Prophet. Priest and King.

This week, we will see the Messiah, the Son of David, in the life of King David.

Earl Palmer wrote, “The religious and political leaders who were in power at the time misread the events of Jesus' birth. When a woman is to have a baby, she goes to the best hospital she and her husband can afford. They find the best doctors and highly trained specialists. They get the best that money can buy. And they do this not because they feel strong, but because they feel weak.

“When God's Son was born, He was born in a stable under very austere and unsanitary conditions. It happened this way not because God was poor, but because God was sure of himself.

“The leaders misread the signs. The baby born in the stable is not a sign of a weak and ineffectual king. But it is a sign of a majesty who is secure and knows who He is. It's a sign of love.

“The leaders of that time didn't know anything about that. And so they missed it.

As we look at David's life, we will see that David's humble beginnings show us a humbled Savior, who comes to people who are humbled, David's struggles are an invitation for the struggling to follow the Anointed one, and David's victories call us to trust a victorious Savior.

1. David's humble beginnings show us a humbled Savior.

John Marcus: “One of the first similarities between Jesus and David is they both were born in Bethlehem. The scriptures prophesy the Messiah Jesus would be born in Bethlehem and the religious leaders confirmed this to Herod and the Magi.

“David came from small beginnings, he was chosen as a person who had no significance, because when Samuel was to anoint one of Jesse's sons to be king, it was thought impossible God would chose David, so he was left out in the fields tending the sheep. Jesus was also of small beginning, lived in Nazareth, with all types of rabble-rousers, to where people thought, “How can anything good come out of Nazareth,” but He was chosen by God to be the king of Israel.”

“David was a shepherd of sheep and Jesus was a shepherd of people.” A Shepherd does three things for sheep.

A shepherd feeds his sheep: Psalm 23:1-2, 3a, 5 (NKJV) The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters He restores my soul. ...You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.

Jesus feeds His sheep: John 6:51-55 (NKJV)

“I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world.” The Jews therefore quarreled among themselves, saying, “How can this Man give us His flesh to eat?” Then Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed.”

A shepherd leads his sheep: Psalm 23:3 (NKJV)

“He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.”

Jesus leads us in paths of righteousness: Matthew 7:24-27 (NKJV) “Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.”

A shepherd protects his sheep: Psalm 23:4,6

(NKJV) “Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. ... Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the LORD Forever.”

Jesus is the Good Shepherd: Ezekiel 37:24-26 (NKJV) “David My servant shall be king over them, and they shall all have one shepherd; they shall also walk in My judgments and observe My statutes, and do them. Then they shall dwell in the land that I have given to Jacob My servant, where your fathers dwelt; and they shall dwell there, they, their children, and their children's children, forever; and My servant David shall be their prince forever. Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them, and it shall be an everlasting covenant with them; I will

establish them and multiply them, and I will set My sanctuary in their midst forevermore.

John 10:11-15 (NKJV) “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep. I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.”

Luke 15:1-7 (NKJV) “Then all the tax collectors and the sinners drew near to Him to hear Him. And the Pharisees and scribes complained, saying, “This Man receives sinners and eats with them.” So He spoke this parable to them, saying: “What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he loses one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!’ I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.”

Trans: David’s humble beginnings show us a humbled Savior, who comes to people who are humble.

2. David’s struggles are an invitation for the struggling to follow the Anointed one.

Though he was very young when anointed king, he did not ascend to the throne without struggle.

Through his victory over Goliath, he made a name for himself, but Saul was far from cooperative with God's plan for him to become king.

In his desire to keep the throne and pass it on to his son, he tried to kill David, and David became a fugitive for some time.

Likewise, Jesus parents had to escape the efforts of King Herod to kill Jesus by fleeing to Egypt until Herod died.

David was rejected by his brothers. When he went to bring a “care package” to his brothers, and, coming upon the standoff with Goliath, he began to ask about it, we read, 1 Samuel 17:28 (NKJV) “Now Eliab his oldest brother heard when he spoke to the men; and Eliab's anger was aroused against David, and he said, “Why did you come down here? And with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your pride and the insolence of your heart, for you have come down to see the battle.”

Even though David would prove to be Israel's Savior, he certainly didn't get much encouragement from his brothers. In fact, upon arriving at the battle, David's oldest brother Eliab rebuked him, accusing David of having a wicked heart.

So it was for Jesus. He was even rejected by those closest to him. John 7:5 (NKJV) "For even His brothers did not believe in Him."

While David was fleeing Saul, he was joined by 400 men, who followed him. Listen to the way the Bible describes these men: 1 Samuel 22:2 (NKJV) "And everyone who was in distress, everyone who was in debt, and everyone who was discontented gathered to him. So he became captain over them. And there were about four hundred men with him."

I. Gordon points out that we are in this passage. He writes, "Let me ask you a question. Why did you come to believe in the Lord Jesus? Was it distress, debt, or discontent? It will probably be one of these three reasons (or possibly all three!)"

You were either in distress – that is, a hardship or trial in this life caused you to seek and cry out to God for help.

Or you were in debt – a debt of sin that is. You saw that you owed God a debt you could never pay and cried out for God for his grace to save you.

Or finally, you were discontented – you had experienced all that this world offers and seen the emptiness of it all. Discontented with your life you sought the real answer to why we are on this planet, and the God who could bring meaning into your life."

"I have a feeling that most people come to Jesus Christ because of one of those three reasons. Which was yours? Is there any one of these three reasons for becoming a Christian that is better than the others? I believe there is. In fact I want to order all three from the worst to the best.

"Distress – this I believe is the worst motivation of the three for becoming a Christian. The reason being is that trials and hardships come and go and a person who seeks God simply to comfort them in a hard time can just as easily walk away from God when times become easier.

"Discontented – This is a better reason for becoming a Christian. These people have at least seen that the world has nothing to offer in terms of lasting love and joy – things that only God can give. Yet it is still not the best reason for becoming a Christian as there is always 'something else' that the world can promise which will really make a person happy.

"Debt – The best reason for becoming a Christian!

The person who sees that they are a sinner and owe a debt to God that they can never pay, won't fall away. They are the most grateful to God for His grace. It matters little whether they are experiencing an easy or hard time in this life for they know that their eternity is safe for the blood of Jesus has cancelled their debt!

David's followers were kind of a sorry bunch in the world's eyes, but under David's leadership, they won many battles.

Jesus' followers are like that, too: 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 (NKJV) For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, that no flesh should glory in His presence. But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God--and righteousness and sanctification and redemption-- that, as it is written, "He who glories, let him glory in the LORD."

A time came in David's life when he was sorely tempted, and he fell into sin.

Jesus likewise struggled with sin, but he did not fall into it: Hebrews 4:15 (NKJV) "For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin."

Trans: David's humble beginnings show us a humbled Savior, who comes to people who are humbled.

And David's struggles are an invitation for the struggling to follow the Anointed one.

3. David's victories call us to trust a victorious Savior.

David stood alone against the giant, Goliath, and prevailed.

Jesus stood alone against sin and prevailed: Romans 5:18-19 (NKJV) "Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous."

John Marcus: "David brought victory and peace for his people. Jesus has brought victory and peace to all those who have placed their trust in him as their king. In the new heaven and earth, Jesus will bring peace for all his people."

“David, when he first became king; he was only king of those who accepted him as king which was the tribe of Judah. Jesus when he first became king, did not have all the support of all the people, but those who have confessed him as savior, have confessed him their king. David waited seven years until all of Israel came to make him their king.”

How long will he have to wait for us?

When God rejected Saul as king, God said to him, 1 Samuel 13:14 (NKJV) “But now your kingdom shall not continue. The LORD has sought for Himself a man after His own heart, and the LORD has commanded him to be commander over His people, because you have not kept what the LORD commanded you.”

I. Gordon: “Now this is the biggest of similarities. It is commendable to any person who wants to please God. David had a heart after God. It means David panted after God’s own heart and wanted a heart like Gods.

“David wanted to shepherd God’s people as God loves his people. Jesus has always had the heart of God, for he is the express image of God. He and the Father are one.

“If you have seen Jesus, you have seen the heart of the father. Jesus always did what was pleasing to the Father, always in obedience, and shall do all things as God the Father has done.”

David’s humble beginnings show us a humbled Savior, who comes to people who are humbled, David’s struggles are an invitation for the struggling to follow the Anointed one, and David’s victories call us to trust a victorious Savior.

Action: Have you decided to humble yourself like a lost sheep, and have Jesus take you up in His arms?

Name a struggle you are going through, and trust Jesus with it.

Don’t accept spiritual defeat. With Calvary in view, you dare not be defeated.