

Psalms of the Degrees (Psalms 120-134)
Celebrating Triumph Over Trouble Through Trust in God
Psalm 132 - Relying on God's Covenant

1 Remember, O Lord, on David's behalf,
All his affliction;
2 How he swore to the Lord
And vowed to the Mighty One of Jacob,
3 "Surely I will not enter my house,
Nor lie on my bed;
4 I will not give sleep to my eyes
Or slumber to my eyelids,
5 Until I find a place for the Lord,
A dwelling place for the Mighty One of Jacob."
6 Behold, we heard of it in Ephrathah,
We found it in the field of Jaar.
7 Let us go into His dwelling place;
Let us worship at His footstool.
8 Arise, O Lord, to Your resting place,
You and the ark of Your strength.
9 Let Your priests be clothed with righteousness,
And let Your godly ones sing for joy.
10 For the sake of David Your servant,
Do not turn away the face of Your anointed.
11 The Lord has sworn to David
A truth from which He will not turn back:
"Of the fruit of your body I will set upon your throne.
12 "If your sons will keep My covenant
And My testimony which I will teach them,
Their sons also shall sit upon your throne forever."
13 For the Lord has chosen Zion;
He has desired it for His habitation.
14 "This is My resting place forever;
Here I will dwell, for I have desired it.
15 "I will abundantly bless her provision;
I will satisfy her needy with bread.
16 "Her priests also I will clothe with salvation,
And her godly ones will sing aloud for joy.
17 "There I will cause the horn of David to spring forth;
I have prepared a lamp for Mine anointed.
18 "His enemies I will clothe with shame,
But upon himself his crown shall shine."

Psalm 132 is a prayer based on the Davidic Covenant in 2 Samuel 7. It is important to understand three significant truths about the Davidic covenant.

1. It was God's promise to David that his house, kingdom, and throne would be established **FOREVER**.

2. The covenant is **UNCONDITIONAL**. Inside the covenant there is a provision against the sin of David's descendants in v. 14, but this is not a condition on which the fulfillment of the covenant depends, as indicated in v. 15 (Psalm 89: 28-37).

3. The Davidic covenant was a major development in prophecy because God's guarantee that David's kingdom and throne would be established forever is fulfilled in CHRIST (Isaiah 9: 6-7; Jeremiah 23: 5-6; Luke 1: 31-33; Acts 2: 29-31; Revelation 22: 16).

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: When Hezekiah was told by God he would die from his illness, Hezekiah was childless. Hezekiah must have questioned, "How can I die without an heir to the throne in light of God's promise to David that one of his descendants would continue on the throne? In his distress, Hezekiah placed his trust in God to keep the covenant He made with David. The heart of Hezekiah's prayer is Psalm 132: 10-11,

For the sake of David Your servant, do not turn away the face of Your anointed. The Lord has sworn to David a truth from which He will not turn back: "Of the fruit of your body I will set upon your throne."

As Hezekiah trusted in Jehovah's promise of deliverance from the Assyrians, as he trusted in Jehovah's promise for recovery from his illness, he trusted Jehovah's promise to David that his descendants would occupy the throne forever. God answered Hezekiah's prayer when, three years after Hezekiah's recovery from illness, God provided him a son.

LESSONS TO BE LEARNED FOR TODAY

1. The ability to believe a promise lies in my knowledge of the PROMISER. Therefore, the key to growing in faith is focusing on my RELATIONSHIP with God by learning God's WORD, trusting God's PROMISES, and obeying God's COMMANDS.

And thus Hezekiah...did what was good, right, and true before God. And every work which he began in the service of the house of God in law and commandment, seeking his God, he did with all his heart and prospered. 2 Chronicles 31: 31-32

In those days Hezekiah became mortally ill. And Isaiah the prophet...came to him and said to him, "Thus says the Lord, 'Set your house in order, for you shall die & not live.'" Then he turned his face to the wall and prayed to the Lord, saying, "Remember now, O Lord, I beseech You, how I have walked before You in truth and with a whole heart and have done what is good in Your sight." And Hezekiah wept bitterly. Before Isaiah had gone out of the middle court, the word of the Lord came to him, saying, "Return and say to Hezekiah the leader of My people, 'Thus says the Lord, the God of your father David, "I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears; behold, I will heal you. On the third day you shall go up to the house of the Lord." 2 Kings 20: 1-5

2. Faith is weighing the HUMAN impossibility of my circumstances against the DIVINE impossibility of God breaking His Word, and then coming to the only reasonable conclusion: If God promised it, it is AS GOOD AS DONE! (Psalm 132: 10-11)

3. STEPS TO FAITH

- I COME to God totally dependent on Him alone.
- I BELIEVE in God with the assurance He is able.
- I COUNT on God to keep His Word and fulfill His promises.

And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him. Hebrews 11: 6

4. God's COVENANT with all His children is Hebrews 10: 14-23.