

# The United Monarchy

Bill Wilder

## Death Knell of the Saulide Line

David again brought together out of Israel chosen men, thirty thousand in all. <sup>2</sup> He and all his men set out from Baalah of Judah to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the Name, the name of the LORD Almighty, who is enthroned between the cherubim that are on the ark. 2 Samuel 6:1-2

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<sup>3</sup>“Let us bring the ark of our God back to us, for we did not inquire of it during the reign of Saul.” 1 Chronicles 13:3

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<sup>16</sup> As the ark of the LORD was entering the City of David, Michal daughter of Saul watched from a window. And when she saw King David leaping and dancing before the LORD, she despised him in her heart.

NIV 2 Samuel 6:16

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<sup>20</sup> When David returned home to bless his household, Michal daughter of Saul came out to meet him and said, "How the king of Israel has distinguished himself today, disrobing in the sight of the slave girls of his servants as any vulgar fellow would!" NIV 2 Samuel 6:20

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<sup>21</sup> David said to Michal, "It was before the LORD, who chose me rather than your father or anyone from his house when he appointed me ruler over the LORD's people Israel-- I will celebrate before the LORD.

<sup>22</sup> I will become even more undignified than this, and I will be humiliated in my own eyes. But by these slave girls you spoke of, I will be held in honor." NIV 2 Samuel 6:21-22

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<sup>23</sup> And Michal daughter of Saul had no children to the day of her death. 2 Samuel 6:23

## David's Desire

After the king was settled in his palace and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, <sup>2</sup> he said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am, living in a palace of cedar, while the ark of God remains in a tent."

<sup>3</sup> Nathan replied to the king, "Whatever you have in mind, go ahead and do it, for the LORD is with you." NIV 2 Samuel 7:1-3

# Building a House

<sup>4</sup> That night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, saying: <sup>5</sup> "Go and tell my servant David, 'This is what the LORD says: Are you the one to build me a house to dwell in?"

2 Samuel 7:4-5

"The LORD declares to you that the LORD himself will establish a house for you:

2 Samuel 7:11

# A Great Name

Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men of the earth.

2 Samuel 7:9b

<sup>2</sup> "I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. Genesis 12:2

# The Davidic Covenant

<sup>11</sup> The LORD declares to you that the LORD himself will establish a house for you:

<sup>12</sup> When your days are over and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring {seed} to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom.

<sup>13</sup> He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

<sup>14</sup> I will be his father, and he will be my son.

2 Samuel 7:11-14a

# The Davidic Covenant

<sup>14b</sup> When he does wrong, I will punish him with the rod of men, with floggings inflicted by men.

<sup>15</sup> But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you.

<sup>16</sup> Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.

2 Samuel 7:14b-16

# The Davidic Covenant—Fulfilled

1 Chronicles 28:5-7 <sup>5</sup> Of all my sons-- and the LORD has given me many-- he has chosen my son Solomon to sit on the throne of the kingdom of the LORD over Israel. <sup>6</sup> He said to me: 'Solomon your son is the one who will build my house and my courts, for I have chosen him to be my son, and I will be his father. <sup>7</sup> I will establish his kingdom forever if he is unswerving in carrying out my commands and laws, as is being done at this time.'

# The Davidic Covenant--Fulfilled

1 Chronicles 29:23 <sup>23</sup> So Solomon sat on the throne of the LORD as king in place of his father David. He prospered and all Israel obeyed him (cf. 2 Chron 9:8).

# “Son of God” & Davidic Kingship

2 Samuel 7:14 <sup>14</sup> I will be his father, and he will be my son.

Psalm 2:7 <sup>7</sup> I will proclaim the decree of the LORD: He said to me, "You are my son; today I have begotten you.

**Psalm 2:1-12** ESV 1 Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? 2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against his anointed, saying, 3 "Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us."

4 He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision. 5 Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying, 6 "As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill."

7 I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me, "**You are my Son; today I have begotten you.** 8 Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession. 9 You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

10 Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.

11 Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. 12 Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

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Psalms 89:26-27 <sup>26</sup> He will call out to me, 'You are my Father, my God, the Rock my Savior.' <sup>27</sup> I will also appoint him my firstborn, the most exalted of the kings of the earth.

# “Son of God” & Pagan Kings

Ps 82:6-7 “I said, ‘You are “gods”; you are all **sons of the Most High.**’ But you will die like mere men; you will fall like every other ruler.”

Gen 6:1-2 When men began to increase in number on the earth and daughters were born to them, 2 the **sons of God** saw that the daughters of men were beautiful and they married any of them they chose.

# “Son of God” & Angels

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Ps 89:6 For who in the skies above can compare with the Lord? Who is like the Lord among the heavenly beings (lit. “**sons of God**”)?

## “Son of God” & Angels

Ps 29:1 Ascribe to the Lord, O mighty ones (lit. “sons of God”), ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Job 1:6 On day the angels (lit. “sons of God”) came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came with them. Cf. 2:1; 38:7!

## “Son of God” & Angels

Dan 3:25 He [Nebuchadnezzar] said, “Look! I see four men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and the fourth looks like a **son of the gods**” (MT: בַּר-אֱלֹהִים; LXX ἀγγέλου θεοῦ; Theodotion υἱῷ θεοῦ).

Dan 3:28 Then Nebuchadnezzar said, “Praise be to the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who has sent his **angel** and rescued his servants!”

# “Son of God” & Israel

Exod 4:22-23 “Then say to Pharaoh, ‘This is what the Lord says: **Israel is my firstborn son**, and I told you, “Let my son go, so he may worship me.” But you refused to let him go; so I will kill your firstborn son.

Hos 11:1 “When Israel was a child, I loved him, and **out of Egypt I called my son.**”

Jer 31:9 “...I am Israel’s father, and **Ephraim is my first-born son.**” Cf. v. 20.

# “Son of God” & Israel

Deut 32:18 You deserted the Rock, who fathered you; you forgot **the God who gave you birth.**

Deut 32:19 The Lord saw this and rejected them because he was angered by **his sons and daughters.**

Hos 1:10 (in Rom 9:26): “It will happen that in the very place where it was said to them, ‘You are not my people,’ they will be called ‘**sons of the living God.**’”

# Sonship & Inheritance in Deut

**Deuteronomy 21:15-17** <sup>15</sup> If a man has two wives, and he loves one but not the other, and both bear him sons but the firstborn is the son of the wife he does not love, <sup>16</sup> when he wills his property to his sons, he must not give the rights of the firstborn to the son of the wife he loves in preference to his actual firstborn, the son of the wife he does not love. <sup>17</sup> He must acknowledge the son of his unloved wife as the firstborn by giving him a double share of all he has. That son is the first sign of his father's strength. The right of the firstborn belongs to him.

# Sonship & Inheritance in Deut

- Explicit connection between sonship and inheritance in Deuteronomy 21:15-17.
- Numerous references in Deuteronomy to “the good land which the LORD your God gives you for an inheritance” (4:21, 37; 12:8; 15:4; 19:10; 20:16; 21:23; 24:4; 25:19).
- References in Deuteronomy to God as Israel’s father (Deut 32:6, 18)—and thus Israel as God’s son.

## Sonship & Inheritance in Deut

“It emerges, therefore, that the gift of the land... is directly related to the same unconditional feature of Israel’s sonship; it is because Israel is Yahweh’s firstborn son that the land is given as an inheritance.”

C. J. H. Wright, *God’s People in God’s Land*.

# “Son of God” & “Image of God”

Gen 5:3 When Adam had lived 130 years, he had a son in his own likeness, in his own image; and he named him Seth.

Luke 3:23 Jesus, when he began his ministry, was about thirty years of age, being the son (as was supposed) of Joseph, the son of Heli, 24 the son of Matthat, the son of Levi, 38 the son of Enos, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.

# Sonship and Kingship in the NT

John 1:49 Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the **Son of God!** You are the **King** of Israel!"

John 19:7,12 <sup>7</sup> The Jews insisted, "We have a law, and according to that law he must die, because he claimed to be the **Son of God.**" <sup>12</sup>From then on, Pilate tried to set Jesus free, but the Jews kept shouting, "If you let this man go, you are no friend of Caesar. Anyone who claims to be a **king** opposes Caesar."

# Sonship and Kingship in the NT

Matt 4:3 The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the **Son of God**, tell these stones to become bread.”

Matt 4:6 “If you are the **Son of God**,” he said, “throw yourself down.”

Matt 4:8-9 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. 9 “All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.”

# Sonship and Kingship in the NT

Mark 3:11-12 Whenever the evil spirits saw him, they fell down before him and cried out, “You are the **Son of God.**” 12 But he gave them strict orders not to tell who he was.

Luke 4:41 Moreover, demons came out of many people, shouting, “You are the **Son of God!**” But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew that he was the **Christ** (Messiah!).

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<sup>14</sup> ..."Here is your king," Pilate said to the Jews. <sup>15</sup> But they shouted, "Take him away! Take him away! Crucify him!" "Shall I crucify your king?" Pilate asked. "We have no king but Caesar," the chief priests answered.

# Sonship and the Resurrection

**Acts 13:32-33** We tell you the good news: What God promised our fathers 33 he has fulfilled for us, their children, by raising up Jesus.

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# Sonship and Resurrection

**Acts 2:32-36** <sup>32</sup> God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact. <sup>33</sup> Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. <sup>34</sup> For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said, "The Lord said to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand <sup>35</sup> until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet." <sup>36</sup> "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."

## ESV Psalm 110 A PSALM OF DAVID.

The LORD says to my Lord: "**Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.**" 2 The LORD sends forth from Zion your mighty scepter. Rule in the midst of your enemies! 3 Your people will offer themselves freely on the day of your power, in holy garments; from the womb of the morning, the dew of your youth will be yours.

4 The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind, "You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek." 5 The Lord is at your right hand; he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath. 6 He will execute judgment among the nations, filling them with corpses; he will shatter chiefs over the wide earth. 7 He will drink from the brook by the way; therefore he will lift up his head.

# Sonship and the Resurrection

**NAS Romans 1:1-4** Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, <sup>2</sup> which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures, <sup>3</sup> concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh, <sup>4</sup> **who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead**, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord

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## His Sonship—and Ours

**Romans 8:16-17** <sup>16</sup> The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. <sup>17</sup> Now if we are children, then we are heirs-- heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

## His Sonship—and Ours

**Romans 8:18-21** <sup>18</sup> I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. <sup>19</sup> The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. <sup>20</sup> For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup> that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

# His Sonship—and Ours

**Romans 8:22-25** <sup>22</sup> We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. <sup>23</sup> Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup> For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what he already has? <sup>25</sup> But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

# His Sonship—and Ours

Rom 8:29 For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. 30 And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

## His Sonship—and Ours

2 Cor 6:16-18 What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For **we are the temple of the living God**. As God has said: “I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people.” 17 “Therefore come out from them and be separate, says the Lord. Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you. 18 **I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.**

# His Sonship—and Ours

**Revelation 1:4-6** 4 John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace, from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne, 5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, *the firstborn of the dead*, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us and released us from our sins by His blood-- 6 *and He has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father--* to Him *be* the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

# His Sonship—and Ours

**Revelation 2:25-27** 25 Only hold fast what you have until I come. 26 The one who conquers and who keeps my works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations, 27 and he will rule them with a rod of iron, as when earthen pots are broken in pieces, even as I myself have received authority from my Father.

# His Sonship—and Ours

**Revelation 5:9-10** 9 And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood *men* from every tribe and tongue and people and nation. 10 "You have made them *to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth.*"

# Sonship and the Resurrection

Luke 1:30-33 <sup>30</sup> But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup> and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."

But get this...

# Sonship and the Incarnation

Luke 1:34-35 "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup>The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.

## Sonship and Creation

**Hebrews 1:1-5** In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets..., <sup>2</sup> but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. <sup>3</sup> The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. <sup>4</sup> So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs. <sup>5</sup> For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"?

# Sonship and Pre-existence

See also John 8.23, 38, 42, 58; 10.36; 16.28.

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**John 6:35-40** <sup>35</sup> Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty. <sup>36</sup> But as I told you, you have seen me and still you do not believe. <sup>37</sup> All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. <sup>38</sup> For I have come down from **heaven** not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me. <sup>39</sup> And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all that he has given me, but raise them up at the last day. <sup>40</sup> For my **Father's** will is that everyone who looks to the **Son** and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day."

# Does The Following Summary Reflect a Fully Biblical Understanding of Sonship?

Neither the incarnation, the baptism, the transfiguration, nor the resurrection marks the beginning of Christ's Sonship, or constitutes him Son of God. These are but recognitions or manifestations of a preexisting Sonship, inseparable from his Godhood.

A. H. Strong, *Systematic Theology* (1907), p. 340.