

Oct 18th 2009: Overwhelmed By The Goodness Of God : 2 Sam 7:18-29

Can you think back to a time.....when you were overwhelmed by the goodness of God to you?
I can think of onetime in partic.....it was just an everyday issue

*I knew that God loved me,,,cared for me....was watching out for me.....was alive in me
 And it was like an explosion within*

In the prayer that was read to us this morning.....We find king David....having the same exp
 David being overwhelmed by the goodness of God to him

The very last time I spoke.....On the topic of King at Last....when we looked together 2Sam 5
 ..and saw how all the tribes came together to crown David.....**just as** God had promised...
 ...when Samuel had first anointed

Well since then some amazing things have happened

David conquered the city of Jerusalem
 Then he had convincingly defeated the Philistines.....**Left their idols** behind.....burnt

After that David set about bringing the Ark of the Lord into the city of the Lord.....Jerusalem
The Ark of the covenant.....that represented God's presence with His people
 The Ark that had been lost.....and then returned

David knew that it needed to be in Jerusalem.....but **through** a lack of understanding of the
 reverence due to it.....the first attempt was a disaster—(**You can** read the story in 2 Sam 6:1-11)
Instead of great joy.....it filled David's heart with great fear →2 Sam 6: 9

***David was afraid of the LORD that day and said,
 "How can the ark of the LORD ever come to me?"***

- **The second attempt(v12-23) went a lot better**

It was filled with proper reference for God and a great degree of joy
 David danced his heart out before the Lord.....Obviously a spiritual high

Like most spiritual highs.....it wasn't without its downside.....Response of Michal

After that David became really established as king.....and built himself a wonderful palace
 And 2 Sam 7 tells us that David was in a position as king.....where God had given him peace
 ..and he was comfortable in his beautiful and extensive palace

- **It is now that that beauty of David's** character begins to shine through

He is not content just to sit back and enjoy the benefits of the blessings

To take for granted all that God has given him

Instead he thinks of all God has done for him.....and compares it with what he has done for God

1 Chron 15:1.....tells us that before David brought the ark into Jerusalem

He had already constructed buildings for himself and had prepared a place for the ark of God and pitched a tent for it

So now that the ark has arrived...he is in his palace.....things are going well...David calls Nathan ...says to him in 2 Sam 7:2

"Here I am, living in a palace of cedar, while the ark of God remains in a tent."

To the prophet it was obvious what David was getting at

David was aware of all that God had given him.....and he wanted to pay him back.....by building ..and Nathan....man of God.....did what I have done too often

He gave David the obvious answer→ Go for it David.....The Lord is with you
Without first seeking from the Lord.....what the Lord wanted him to say

I can really sympathise with Nathan.....for even Prophets and Pastors get it wrong
 And like Nathan I can recall sleepless nights.....when the Lord has made me aware....said the wrong
 And also mornings like Nathan had.....**When** I have had to go back.....admit that I got it wrong

What God wanted David to know....was that God had indeed taken him from a lowly shepherd boy
That He had made him a great ruler.....given him mighty victories....established his throne

But as far as building a house for God.....that was not what God wanted from Him
 Instead God would build an enduring house for David.....

Consider with me the words found in 2 Sam 7:11-16

" 'The LORD declares to you that the LORD himself will establish a house for you: When your days are over and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom. He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with the rod of men, with floggings inflicted by men. But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. ¹⁶ Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me ; your throne will be established forever.' "

- **We can imagine** that David may have been tempted to be really downcast at such words
He wanted to build.....He had planned it all in his mind.....Now he was being told NO

And it would have been so easy just to hear the negative....in what God said

But instead He focused on the immense positive fact....of the Lord's love for Him
The Lord's Hand upon His life.....and plans for his future.....and that of his line

And as he focused on that.....he was overwhelmed with the Goodness of Godwent into...

And prayed this most beautiful prayer....begins with these words:-

LORD All-Powerful, my family and I don't deserve what you have already done for us, and yet you have promised to do even more. Is this the way you usually treat people? I am your servant, and you know my thoughts, so there is nothing more that I need to say. You have done this wonderful thing, and you have let me know about it, because you wanted to keep your promise. LORD All-Powerful, you are greater than all others. No one is like you, and you alone are God.

Those words touch me deeply.....and the reason....is because....in David's story.....**illustration** ..of the spiritual journey of every follower of Jesus

For like David we were nothing when God found us.....**Because of sin**.....were not worthy to ...
Yet God almighty.....through the sacrifice of the cross.....transformed our standing before Him
And though we too sin and let Him down.....as David.....He has promised that no sin will

And God too has made our lives His dwelling....His house.....coming to dwell and live in us

And prepared for us a place where we will be established for ever....as His sons and daughters

Are you overwhelmed this morning by the Goodness of God to you.....I am

But it is not enough to be overwhelmed by the Goodness.....**We** need to live out the TRUST in Him
That God wants the world to see in us.....Revealed as a walking testimony to His goodness

Trust that begins with the letter T....that stands for TAKE

For trust begins with Taking that step of commitment to Jesus as your Lord and Saviour
 Receiving from Him.....

Then comes R for Rejoicing

Are you Rejoicing in Jesus....Giving thanks to God in every circumstances

Thanking Him for every blessing...and being glad every day because Almighty God is your Saviour

After R we come to U for Using the power of God that is in you

To live and walk by the power of the Spirit.....**To take His Word** and seek to live it
 To say and believe with Paul.....**That I can do** all things through Christ that strengthens me

Then we come to S which stands for Sharing

We have this story to share....this good news to proclaim

Hope to declare....Comfort to give.....Love to lavish.....**Simply** because we belong to Jesus

And that final T is for TRUST itself

Whatever God is taking you through.....Whatever God is saying to you....Wherever He is directing
 He calls you to Trust Him

David trusted Him.....and because He trusted Him He was so willing to praise Him
Are you trusting the Lord this morning.....**Because** whatever worries or concerns you...
 He will handle it.....when you trust Him to do so

God is so worthy of your trust

(Illustration of God holding you and never letting go)

