



Two Kings and a Covenant



King David - ruled over Judah 7 years and all Israel 33 years from **(1010-970 BC)**



King Abijah – great-grandson of David, ruled over Judah 3 years



Covenant – a promise, agreement, treaty

King David (1010-970 BC)

God chose David to replace King Saul
–David was a man after God’s own
heart



1 Samuel 13:13-14

13“You have done a foolish thing,” Samuel said.

“You have not kept the command the LORD your God gave you; if you had, he would have

established your kingdom over Israel for all

time. **14**But now your kingdom will not endure;

the LORD has sought out **a man after his own**

heart and appointed him ruler of his people,

because you have not kept the LORD’s command.”

King David

A man after God's own heart



1 Kings 15:5

For David had **done what was right in the eyes of the LORD** and had not failed to keep any of the LORD's commands all the days of his life—**except in the case of Uriah the Hittite.**

Uriah was one of David's loyal, mighty warriors (1 Chronicles 11:41)

King David

A man after God's own heart



2 Samuel 12:13

Then David said to Nathan, **“I have sinned against the LORD.”**

Nathan replied, **“The LORD has taken away your sin. You are not going to die.”**

Psalm 51

1 Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion
blot out my transgressions.



2 Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from
my sin.

3 For I know my transgressions, and my sin is
always before me.

4 Against you, you only, have I sinned and done
what is evil in your sight;
so you are right in your verdict and justified when
you judge.

Psalm 51



5 Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

6 Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb; you taught me wisdom in that secret place.

7 Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

8 **Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice.**

9 Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.

Psalm 51

10 Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

11 Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.

12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

13 Then I will teach transgressors your ways, so that sinners will turn back to you.

14 Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, you who are God my Saviour, and **my tongue will sing of your righteousness.**



Psalm 51

15 Open my lips, Lord, and my mouth will declare your praise.

16 You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.

17 My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.

18 May it please you to prosper Zion, to build up the walls of Jerusalem.

19 Then you will delight in the sacrifices of the righteous, in burnt offerings offered whole; then bulls will be offered on your altar.



Psalm 51

1 Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your **unfailing love**;
according to your **great compassion**
blot out my transgressions.



8 Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.

12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a
willing spirit, to sustain me.

18 May it please you to prosper Zion, to build up the
walls of Jerusalem.

Rewind years earlier.....

David wanted to build a “House” for the Lord

2 Samuel 7

1After the king was settled in his palace and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, **2**he said to Nathan the prophet, **“Here I am, living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God remains in a tent.”**

But God had other ideas...

5“Go and tell my servant David, ‘This is what the LORD says: Are you the one to build me a house to dwell in? **7**Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, **did I ever say to any of their rulers whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”**”

God made a Covenant Promise to David

2 Samuel 7

“The LORD declares to you that **the LORD himself will establish a house for you: [12](#)**When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and **I will establish his kingdom. [13](#)**He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. **[14](#)**I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with a rod wielded by men, with floggings inflicted by human hands. **[15](#)**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.”

In response David praised the Lord:
God's Covenant Promise gave him COURAGE to ask for
eternal blessing

2 Samuel 7

27“Lord Almighty, God of Israel, you have revealed this to your servant, saying, ‘I will build a house for you.’ ***So your servant has found courage to pray this prayer to you.*** **28**Sovereign Lord, you are God! Your covenant is trustworthy, and you have promised these good things to your servant. **29****Now be pleased to bless the house of your servant, that it may continue forever in your sight; for you, Sovereign Lord, have spoken, and with your blessing the house of your servant will be blessed forever.”**



King Abijah

- ruled over Judah 3 years
- great-grandson of David
- Kingdom now divided into Israel and Judah

1 Kings 15

3 He committed all the sins his father had done before him; **his heart was not fully devoted to the LORD his God**, as the heart of David his forefather had been. 4 Nevertheless, for David's sake the LORD his God gave him a lamp in Jerusalem by raising up a son to succeed him and by making Jerusalem strong.



King Abijah

- His father was Rehoboam, son of Solomon

In Rehoboam's time, Judah...

1 Kings 14:23-24

23...set up for themselves high places, sacred stones and Asherah poles on every high hill and under every spreading tree. 24 There were even male shrine prostitutes in the land; the people engaged in all the detestable practices of the nations the LORD had driven out before the Israelites.

- Abijah did not stop the idolatry in Judah



King Jeroboam

- King of Israel after Rehoboam (Abijah's father)
- Previously an official of Solomon

1 Kings 11:38

If you do whatever I command you and walk in obedience to me and do what is right in my eyes by obeying my decrees and commands, as David my servant did, I will be with you. I will build you a dynasty as enduring as the one I built for David and will give Israel to you

- But Jeroboam set up idol worship in Israel-he made **two golden calves** and put one in Bethel and one in Dan

Abijah and Jeroboam at War



Abijah (Judah) has an army of 400,000 men



Jeroboam (Israel) has an army of 800,000 men

Though Abijah's heart was not fully devoted to the Lord, he knew he had a **COVENANT** relationship with the Lord as a descendant of David!



2 Chronicles 13:4-12

Abijah stood on Mount Zemaraim, in the hill country of Ephraim, and said:

“Jeroboam and all Israel, listen to me! **5** Don’t you know that the Lord, the God of Israel, **has**

given the kingship of Israel to David and his descendants forever by a COVENANT OF SALT?...

8 “And now you plan to resist the kingdom of the Lord, which is in the **hands of David’s descendants**. You are indeed a vast army and have with you the golden calves that Jeroboam made to be your gods.... **12** **God is with us; he is our leader. His priests with their trumpets will sound the battle cry against you. People of Israel, do not fight against the Lord, the God of your ancestors, for YOU WILL NOT SUCCEED.**”



2 Chronicles 13:13-20

13 Now Jeroboam had sent troops around to the rear, so that while he was in front of Judah the ambush was behind them. **14** Judah turned and saw that they were being attacked at both front and rear. **Then they cried out to the LORD. The priests blew their**

trumpets 15 and the men of Judah raised the battle cry. **At the sound of their battle cry, God routed Jeroboam and all Israel before Abijah and Judah. 16** The Israelites fled before Judah, and God delivered them into their hands. **17** Abijah and his troops inflicted heavy losses on them, so that there were five hundred thousand casualties among Israel's able men. **18** The Israelites were subdued on that occasion, and **the people of Judah were victorious because they RELIED ON THE LORD, the God of their ancestors.**

19 Abijah pursued Jeroboam and **took from him the towns of Bethel, Jeshanah and Ephron, with their surrounding villages. 20** Jeroboam did not regain power during the time of Abijah. And the LORD struck him down and he died.



Abijah called the Lord's covenant with David a **COVENANT OF SALT**

Leviticus 2:13

Season all your grain offerings with **salt**. Do not leave the **salt of the covenant of your God** out of your grain offerings; add **salt** to all your offerings.

Numbers 18:19

Whatever is set aside from the holy offerings the Israelites present to the Lord I give to you and your sons and daughters as your perpetual share. It is an **everlasting covenant of salt** before the Lord for both you and your offspring.”



COVENANT OF SALT

Salt is

- Very stable, enduring (everlasting)
- Preservative
- Purifies - anti-bacterial (rubbing salt in the wound)
- Flavour
- Expensive in biblical times, Roman soldiers paid with salt (hence salary)

Colossians 4:6

Let your conversation be always **full of grace, seasoned with salt**, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

Mark 9:50

“**Salt** is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again? Have **salt** among yourselves, and be at peace with each other.”

THE NEW COVENANT IS A COVENANT OF SALT



If we **BELIEVE** we **RECEIVE**:

- **forgiveness** for all our sins and the gift of eternal life (John 3:16)
- **healing** from every disease (1 Peter 2:24, Isaiah 53:5, Matthew 8:17)
- the **favour** of the Lord (Luke 4:19)
- **authority** to overcome all the power of the enemy (Luke 10:19)
- the right to become **children of our Heavenly Father** (Romans 8:14, Galatians 4:5)
- **an inheritance** with Christ (Romans 8:17)
- **union** with Christ- we are **one in spirit** with Him (1 Corinthians 6:17)
- the right to **come boldly before His throne of grace** (Hebrews 4:16, Ephesians 3:12)
- an **abundance of grace**, the **gift of righteousness** and the power **reign in life** (Romans 5:17)
- rich **provision** of everything we need for our enjoyment (1 Timothy 6:17)

THE NEW COVENANT IS A COVENANT OF SALT

In Jesus Name we say "Amen"!



2 Corinthians 1:20

For no matter how many **promises** God has made, **they are "Yes" in Christ.** And so through him **the "Amen" is spoken by us** to the glory of God.

The Healing of the Water at Jericho

2 Kings 2:19-22

19The people of the city (Jericho) said to Elisha, “Look, our lord, this town is well situated, as you can see, but the water is bad and the land is unproductive.”

20“Bring me a **new** bowl,” he said, “and put **salt** in it.” So they brought it to him.

21Then he went out to the spring and threw the salt into it, saying, “**This is what the LORD says: ‘I have healed this water. Never again will it cause death or make the land unproductive.’**” 22And the water has remained pure to this day, according to the word Elisha had spoken.



Joshua 6:26

At that time Joshua pronounced this solemn oath: "Cursed before the LORD is the one who undertakes to rebuild this city, Jericho: "At the cost of his firstborn son he will lay its foundations; at the cost of his youngest he will set up its gates."



1 Kings 16:34

In Ahab's time, Hiel of Bethel rebuilt Jericho. He laid its foundations at the cost of his firstborn son Abiram, and he set up its gates at the cost of his youngest son Segub, in accordance with the word of the LORD spoken by Joshua son of Nun.