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4-20-2020

NATHAN, THE PROPHET

“Jesus, thou son of David” was a cry often mentioned in the New Testament. It was an acknowledgement of god’s promise to King David that his throne would be established forever. Jesus was indeed that “Son of David” whose Kingdom is forever and forever.

How does the prophet Nathan fit into this narrative? A prophet’s office (his job) is a difficult one, often a lonely one. Prophets often have to give a “hard” word; people do not like to hear hard or disturbing words. Jeremiah was imprisoned for them. Jezebel sought to kill Elijah for them. Nathan was sent by God to King David to rebuke him over the adultery with Bathsheba and the killing of her husband. Did not Nathan take his life in his hands to rebuke such a powerful king?

Yet it was that very Nathan who gave the messianic prophecy to King David. In II Samuel 7:16 Nathan, by the vision God gave to him, declared to David, ***“thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee. Thy throne shall be established forever.”***

“Son of David” became the term acknowledging the promise of a messiah to establish the throne of David, who was a “man after God’s own heart,” in the coming kingdom. Nathan became David’s prophet until David’s death.

It is appropriate that one of David’s nineteen sons was named Nathan. It is furthermore appropriate that the very bloodline of Jesus from king David was through David’s son Nathan. (Luke 3:31.)

Yes, Jesus’ “legal” line of David’s kingdom came from Solomon, but not the bloodline. That was from Nathan, his son, a namesake of Nathan, the prophet, by whom the prophecy was given.

We do not always understand how God’s plan works. We often think we do. But god has a plan, and although we may not understand it, just be still and trust Him to work it out. “God’s got this.” Just trust Him.

Proverbs 3:5 ***“Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding.”***