

CITYWEST CHURCH

05.07.2026 1- AM

DEEP DIVE #5 - THE HEART OF THE KING

The Davidic Covenant and the DNA of Worship.

“Now go and say to my servant David, ‘This is what the LORD of Heaven’s Armies has declared: I took you from tending sheep in the pasture and selected you to be the leader of my people Israel. ⁹ I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have destroyed all your enemies before your eyes. Now I will make your name as famous as anyone who has ever lived on the earth! ¹⁰ And I will provide a homeland for my people Israel, planting them in a secure place where they will never be disturbed. Evil nations won’t oppress them as they’ve done in the past, ¹¹ starting from the time I appointed judges to rule my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies.

“Furthermore, the LORD declares that he will make a house for you—a dynasty of kings! ¹² For when you die and are buried with your ancestors, I will raise up one of your descendants, your own offspring, and I will make his kingdom strong. ¹³ He is the one who will build a house—a temple—for my name. And I will secure his royal throne forever. ¹⁴ I will be his father, and he will be my son. If he sins, I will correct and discipline him with the rod, like any father would do. ¹⁵ But my favor will not be taken from him as I took it from Saul, whom I removed from your sight. ¹⁶ ***Your house and your kingdom will continue before me^[b] for all time, and your throne will be secure forever.***”

2 Samuel 7:8-16 (NLT)

God did not make a covenant with David because David was a great musician.

He made a covenant with David because David's heart reflected God's own heart.

The Davidic Covenant is about much more than a royal dynasty. It reveals the kind of kingdom God desires—a kingdom marked by presence, worship, humility, and a King who would ultimately be Jesus.

Charismatic worship, at its best, flows from this covenant reality. It is not driven by emotion, performance, or preference. It is the joyful response of a people living under the reign of God's anointed King.

COVENANTS.

Every covenant in Scripture reveals something about the heart of God.

The covenant with Noah reveals God's mercy.

The covenant with Abraham reveals God's promise.

The covenant with Moses reveals God's holiness.

But the covenant with David reveals God's desire to dwell with His people under the reign of His King.

This covenant ultimately points beyond David to Jesus, the true Son of David.

And if we want to understand worship, we need to understand the heart of the King.

1. GOD DWELLS WITH HIS PEOPLE.

When King David was settled in his palace and the LORD had given him rest from all the surrounding enemies, ² the king summoned Nathan the prophet. “Look,” David said, “I am living in a beautiful cedar palace,^[a] but the Ark of God is out there in a tent!”

³ Nathan replied to the king, “Go ahead and do whatever you have in mind, for the LORD is with you.”

⁴ But that same night the LORD said to Nathan,

⁵ “Go and tell my servant David, ‘This is what the LORD has declared: Are you the one to build a house for me to live in? ⁶ I have never lived in a house, from the day I brought the Israelites out of Egypt until this very day. I have always moved from one place to another with a tent and a Tabernacle as my dwelling. ⁷ Yet no matter where I have gone with the Israelites, I have never once complained to Israel’s tribal leaders, the shepherds of my people Israel. I have never asked them, “Why haven’t you built me a beautiful cedar house?’”

2 Samuel 7:1-7 (NLT)

David wants to build a magnificent house for God. It seems like a wonderful idea.

But God's response is surprising.

He essentially asks, "David, did I ask for a house?"

God reminds David that He has always been the God who moved with His people.

The issue was never architecture. The issue was relationship. Before there was a Temple, there was a Tent.

Before there was splendor, there was Presence.

This becomes one of the great themes of Scripture. God has always desired to dwell among His people.

Then have them make a sanctuary for me, and I will dwell among them.

Exodus 25:8 (NLT)

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14 (NLT)

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.

Revelation 21:3 (NLT)

The whole Bible moves toward one reality: Emmanuel: God with us.

2. THE DAVIDIC COVENANT USHERS IN A NEW KIND OF WORSHIP.

God promises David an everlasting kingdom.

But long before this covenant was formally spoken, David had already begun acting like someone living under a different order.

*One of the most remarkable examples is found in **1 Samuel 21**.*

David is fleeing from Saul. Hungry, exhausted, and in need, he arrives at Nob and asks the priest Ahimelech for bread.

*The priest replies that the only bread available is the **Bread of the Presence**—the consecrated bread that, according to the Law of Moses, was reserved exclusively for the priests.*

Now, what is there to eat? Give me five loaves of bread or anything else you have.”

⁴“We don’t have any regular bread,” the priest replied. “But there is the holy bread, which you can have if your young men have not slept with any women recently.”

⁵“Don’t worry,” David replied. “I never allow my men to be with women when we are on a campaign. And since they stay clean even on ordinary trips, how much more on this one!”

⁶Since there was no other food available, the priest gave him the holy bread—the Bread of the Presence that was placed before the LORD in the Tabernacle. It had just been replaced that day with fresh bread.

1 Samuel 21:4–6 (NLT)

*According to **Leviticus 24:5–9**, only Aaron and his sons were permitted to eat this bread.*

David was not a priest. Yet he receives it. Not because the Law was unimportant.

But because David's life points beyond the Law toward something greater that God was preparing.

Later, Jesus deliberately refers to this very story.

He answered, “Haven’t you read what David did when he and his companions were hungry? ⁴ He entered the house of God, and he and his companions ate the consecrated bread—which was not lawful for them to do, but only for the priests. ⁵ Or haven’t you read in the Law that the priests on Sabbath duty in the temple desecrate the Sabbath and yet are innocent? ⁶ I tell you that something greater than the temple is here. ⁷ If you had known what these words mean, ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice,’^[a] you would not have condemned the innocent. ⁸ For the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.”

Matthew 12:3–8 (NLT)

Notice, Jesus doesn't rebuke David.

*He uses David as evidence that **the Kingdom has arrived**.*

David becomes a prophetic picture of the greater Son of David.

The covenant is beginning to move from ritual toward relationship.

From restricted access toward gracious access. From shadows toward fulfillment.

David Was Already Living Toward the New Covenant

Throughout David's life we see glimpses of this coming reality.

He wears a linen ephod (2 Samuel 6:14), a priestly garment.

He offers sacrifices (2 Samuel 6:17–18).

He blesses the people in the name of the Lord (2 Samuel 6:18).

He eats the priestly bread (1 Samuel 21).

He establishes continual worship before the Ark (1 Chronicles 16).

David is not replacing the priesthood.

*He is prophetically anticipating the day when God's people themselves will become a **royal priesthood**.*

This is exactly what Peter later declares.

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

1 Peter 2:9 (NLT)

The restrictions that marked the old covenant pointed forward to the greater access secured by Christ.

The New Testament does not abolish worship.

It expands it. It doesn't remove holiness. It brings us boldly into God's holy presence through Jesus.

This Is Why Charismatic Worship Matters

When we lift our hands. When we come boldly before God. When ordinary believers minister before the Lord. When the whole church worships rather than simply watches.

We are not inventing something new.

We are living in the fulfilment of what David prophetically anticipated.

Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.

Hebrews 10:19–22 (NLT)

David tasted what we now enjoy fully. He saw glimpses. We stand in fulfillment.

"Jesus believed that Israel's story had reached its climax in himself. The symbols, institutions and hopes of Israel found their fulfilment in him."

N.T Wright

The Davidic Covenant, then, is not simply about an everlasting throne.

It is about an everlasting King who opens everlasting access.

The throne promised to David becomes the throne occupied by Jesus.

The bread David received points to the Bread of Life.

The priesthood that David anticipated becomes the priesthood of every believer.

And worship becomes the joyful privilege of a people who no longer stand outside the curtain, but who have been welcomed into the presence of God through Christ.

Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name.

Hebrews 13:15 (NLT)

3. THE DAVIDIC COVENANT FINDS FULFILLMENT IN JESUS

Everything in 2 Samuel 7 points beyond David.

A throne forever. A kingdom without end. A Son who reigns eternally.

That is Jesus. Luke deliberately connects Jesus to David.

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, ³³and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

Luke 1:32–33 (NLT)

Jesus becomes the true worshipping King.

Through His death and resurrection, the presence once confined to the Ark, then the Temple, now dwells in His people through the Holy Spirit.

And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

Ephesians 2:22 (NLT)

This changes everything. We no longer come to a place to meet God.

We become His dwelling place. Which means worship is no longer simply where we go. It becomes who we are.

Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.

Hebrews 10:19–22 (NLT)

We now enter God's presence confidently because of Jesus.

And so, dear brothers and sisters, ^[a] I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable

Romans 12:1(NLT)

Our whole lives become worship.

Then I looked again, and I heard the voices of thousands and millions of angels around the throne and of the living beings and the elders.

Revelation 5:11 (NLT)

The worship around David's throne becomes worship around the throne of the Lamb.

Gordon Fee writes:

"The Spirit is God's empowering presence, bringing believers into participation with the life of the risen Christ."

Charismatic worship is ultimately about participating in that reality.

The Davidic Covenant was never ultimately about David.

It was always about Jesus. The greater Son of David. The eternal King.

The One who brings us into God's presence forever. Which means our worship today is not an attempt to earn God's presence. It is our response to the King who has already brought us near.

At Citywest, we don't gather because worship fills time before the sermon.

We gather because the King is worthy. We gather because His Spirit dwells among His people. We gather because the covenant has been fulfilled in Christ. And when Christ is at the centre, worship becomes more than music.

It becomes the joyful, wholehearted response of a people who have found their true King.

Application

In a world that always encourages you to build your own platform (hello social media platforms), build your life in his presence.

Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up in honor.

James 4:10 (NLT)

Don't see worship as a time slot; see it as a posture that flows through every part of your life.

Don't wait till Sunday, turn your ordinary moments into worship.

Come ready to worship on Sundays. Come ready to worship with the church body on Sunday.

Be one time. Do away with preference.

Worship God for all he has done and is doing. Enter worship, don't endure it.