

1 Chronicles 17:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it shall come to pass, when thy days be expired that thou must go to be with thy fathers, that I will raise up thy seed after thee, which shall be of thy sons; and I will establish his kingdom.

Analysis

God's promise 'when thy days be expired that thou must go to be with thy fathers, that I will raise up thy seed after thee' initiates the Davidic Covenant, the theological center of Chronicles. This covenant promise has both immediate fulfillment (Solomon) and ultimate fulfillment (Christ). The phrase about David's 'seed' (zera) uses singular terminology allowing for corporate (dynasty) and individual (Messiah) interpretation. God's sovereign initiative ('I will raise up') emphasizes divine grace - the covenant isn't earned but given. This unconditional promise becomes the basis for messianic hope, fulfilled in Christ who rises from death to establish an eternal kingdom.

Historical Context

Given c. 995 BCE after David's victories secured the kingdom, this covenant promise transformed Israel's theological understanding. Where Mosaic covenant emphasized conditional obedience, Davidic covenant stressed God's unconditional commitment to maintain David's line, providing hope even through exile and failure.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does God's unconditional commitment to David's line provide assurance about His promises to believers in Christ?
2. What does it mean that Christ fulfills this promise as the eternal 'seed' who establishes an everlasting kingdom?

Interlinear Text

וְהָיָה	כִּי	מֶלֶךְ אֱלֹהִים	וְהָיָה	לְךָ	עַם
H1961	H3588	be expired	And it shall come to pass when thy days	H1980	H5973
		H4390	H3117		
אֲבֹתָיִךָ	וְהִקְיִמוֹתִי	אֶת	זֶרְעֲךָ	אַחֲרָיִךְ	אֲשֶׁר
to be with thy fathers	that I will raise up	H853	thy seed	after	H834
H1	H6965		H2233	H310	
וְהָיָה	מִבְּנֵי	וְהִקְיִנוֹתִי	אֶת	מַלְכוּתוֹ	
H1961	thee which shall be of thy sons	and I will establish	H853	his kingdom	
	H1121	H3559		H4438	

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 132:11 (Parallel theme): The LORD hath sworn in truth unto David; he will not turn from it; Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne.

