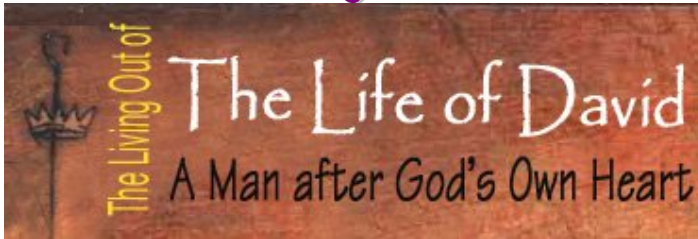




2 Samuel 23:1-7

David's Swan Song Sun, Apr 15th 2007



Swan Song? - An expression referring to a final or farewell performance or appearance or final work or accomplishment

This morning – we get to read David's Swan song – v.1

- Doesn't mean these are his dying words
 - Have several more chapters of his life
- No...these words - are his final song, final psalm

David called by God in many ways –king, warrior, Ark

- One of his roles, places of usefulness—inspired psalmist
- Almost half of Psalms in Bible are written by David for sure (73 of 150), perhaps more
- This is his last Psalm (if preacher, be last sermon)

In v.1 – Prelude - David reminds us, himself

- Was not born into this status or role – nobody
- But God raised him, God empowered him
- Thus – became sweet psalmist of Israel

In v.2 – describes God enabling him to write thus

- How God inspired, put the words on his mouth
- Seems he often knew it was God writing thru him

I. Bible Basics

1. **This book – is an inspired book** 1 Pet; 2 Tim 3:16 📖
 - a. **Take a moment today, go over some basics**
 - i) Helps for understanding, interpreting Bible
 - ii) Hang with me...thinking caps on 😊
2. **This book – every word inspired ...in original languages**
 - a. **Wasn't written in English...not even KJ English** 😊
 - i) Old Testament – written in Hebrew
 - ii) New Testament – written in Greek
 - b. **Thus what you have in your hand – a translation**
 - i) Translations are difficult – culture, idioms, etc
 - ii) Part of reason have different translations
3. **Quick primer on translations – 3 main types**
 - a. **Literal – word for word translations**
 - i) Seek to take Heb or Greek word – give English
 - b. **Dynamic equivalent**
 - i) Seek to translate thought, not words
 - c. **Paraphrase Bibles**
 - i) Seek to translate into current vernacular
 - d. **Literal – KJV, NKJV, NASB**
 - e. **Dynamic Equivalent – NIV, NLT**
 - f. **Paraphrase – LB, Message**
 - g. **Which is the right translation?**
 - i) Cant' answer for you – each have strengths
 - ii) But do encourage a more literal translation
 - iii) Paraphrase interesting...more a commentary
 - iv) Dynamic equivalent – more open to bias
 - v) Yet, every translation interprets (as will see...)

h. Key – in a literal translation – identify added words

- i) Lit translation comes over clunky, hard to follow
- ii) Thus – add words for our sentence structure
- iii) Yet, will show you which ones – in italics
- iv) Look at v.1 for an example

4. One more quick lesson – Hebrew poetry

- a. In OT– in Hebrew – often written in Hebrew poetry
- b. Translators help identify – indented words
 - i) Notice difference between poetry & normal text
- c. Hebrew poetry – not a rhyming of songs, but instead – rhyming thoughts
 - i) Either building, restating or contrasting.
- d. Look at v.2 for an example

II. Principle

1. He who rules

- a. Speaking of David – God’s instructions for him
- b. Yet...in a sense – we all rule – creation, more
- c. Could take it to talk about role God has for us

2. Just?

a. Interpretation problem – words. Note italics

- i) If miss...changes whole focus.
 - ii) For me – first reading focuses on italics
- b. Taken out – better translated – he who rules justly, ruling in the fear of God
- i) Again – Hebrew poetry – not two principles-one
 - ii) Justly and fear of God define what calling for
 - iii) Doing what is right – in sight, fear of God
 - iv) Important – not what is right in men’s eyes

3. Blessing v.4

- a. Again – note this is Hebrew poetry – building

b. What is it describing?

i) Could be comparing such a one to sun

- A. Yet never used anywhere else of a man
- B. Some thing whole section is about Messiah
- C. Possible....definite applications
- D. Jesus is spoken of as the sun

ii) Jim’s thought – speaking of him as grass in sun

- A. Heb poetry – grass vs weeds, thrones v.6
- B. Timing – end – coming of Christ
- C. Picturing two different ends of life....

III. Problem

1. What is v.5 saying – lots of opinions

- a. Translations handle different. God to read in all

2. How do we get at what it is saying

- a. First – get back to words – even original
- b. E-sword lesson
- c. Put all words in a line...what saying
- d. Compare translations
- e. Either a question or a statement
 - i) Text doesn't have question marks – context
- f. Thus all translations interpret somewhat

3. Some trans – see as a question

- a. Is that not what my house is
- b. David could be saying that is how he is...
- c. Perhaps again – referring to Messiah

4. Jim's thought – with NKJV and KJV

- a. It is a contrast – my house not so
- b. David's knows he is not just, perfect...fallen short
- c. Like this – true – we know David
- d. David declares God's standard – right, just
 - i) Problem – as David looks at it...he is not
- e. Like this – good last song for David to deal with
 - i) To me—one of perfect worship songs for him

5. Like this – because it is true of everyone here

- a. You are “not so” perfect...fall short
- b. Every one of you could say...yet....

6. What do you do with this “difference”

- a. His righteousness...our lack

IV. Provision

1. **Simple – God saved him in spite of himself**
 - a. Wonderful message of hope
2. **Note 7 things quickly**
 - a. He – God did this...not David
 - b. made – God did the work, made the way
 - c. with me – personal – it must be
 - d. everlasting – forever
 - e. covenant – promise, unbreakable
 - f. Ordered
 - g. Secure
3. This is a good description of God's saving work
 - a. Wonder if you have such today – with you

V. Praise

1. David rejoices in this everlasting covenant
2. All his salvation – not all!
3. All his desire – seeking it, loving it
4. He will make it increase

VI. Postlude - Judgment

1. Follow flow of thought so far
 - a. God's standard – inspired
 - b. David – our problem
 - c. How handle? Don't lower the standard, can't
 - d. God rescued – made an everlasting covenant
2. Yet...not will all. V.6-7 contrast
 - a. Songs of belial – satan
 - i) Jn 8:44, 1Jn 3:10, 5:19 – term for unsaved
 - ii) Is true of all in the world, outside of God
 - b. In contrast – Christians have become His kids
 - i) John 1:14 – now are
 - c. God's salvation doesn't save all
 - d. These will be destroyed
 - i) These pictured as thorns to be destroyed
3. So put together the entire Hebrew poem
 - a. David – picked by God...raise, anointed
 - b. God spoke - clearly
 - c. Just in fear of God – like grass in Son's coming
 - d. Yet I am not....
 - e. Yet – God rescued me – everlasting covenant
 - f. Yet – not all are so...unsaved burned up in end
 - g. Focus is the end
 - h. Two types of people – grass and thorns
 - i. Two dealings from Son – shining & burning

Conclusion

David's swan song....about God saving him

Take Communion – celebrating everlasting covenant