

Billy McDermott - A State of Grace

December 21, 2011

Words: 935

Objective: Fourth Sunday of Advent – Year B

Opening Prayer: [Prayer for Protection and Healing](#)

Theme: Not as human do, but as God does . . . / **Full Mass Readings (12/18/11):** [2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16](#) / [Psalm 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29](#) / [Romans 16:25-27](#) / [Luke 1:26-37](#)

Passage: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

(NAB) (1) When King David was settled in his palace, and **the LORD had given him rest** from his enemies on every side, (2) he said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God dwells in a tent!" (3) Nathan answered the king, "Go, do whatever you have in mind, for **the LORD is with you.**" (4) But that night the LORD spoke to Nathan and said: (5) "Go, tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: Should you build me a house to dwell in?' (8b) **"It was I who took you from the pasture and from the care of the flock to be commander of my people Israel.** (9) I have been with you wherever you went, and **I have destroyed all your enemies before you.** And I will make you famous like the great ones of the earth. (10) **I will fix a place for my people Israel; I will plant them so that they may dwell in their place without further disturbance.** Neither shall the wicked continue to afflict them as they did of old, (11) since the time I first appointed judges over my people Israel. **I will give you rest from all your enemies.** The LORD also reveals to you that **he will establish a house for you.** (12) And when your time comes and you rest with your ancestors, **I will raise up your heir after you, sprung from your loins, and I will make his kingdom firm.** (14a) **I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me.** (16) **Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever** before me; your throne shall stand firm forever."

Passage: Luke 1:26 – 37

(NAB) (26) In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, (27) to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of **the house of David**, and the virgin's name was Mary. (28) And coming to her, he said, "Hail, favored one! **The Lord is with you.**" (29) But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. (30) Then the angel said to her, **"Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.** (31) Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and **you shall name him Jesus.** (32) **He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, (33) and he will rule over** the house of Jacob forever, and of **his kingdom there will be no end.**" (34) But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" (35) And the angel said to her in reply, **"The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.** Therefore **the child**

to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. (36) And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; (37) for nothing will be impossible for God." (38) Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Questions:

1. "The Lord is with you" is mentioned twice (once each) in the above passages. There are four other times. Where?
2. How did Mary know that an angel might indeed visit her?
3. How was David chosen? A little background . . .
4. How could the Israelites get this so wrong? What did they think? Why?

Personal Responses:

1. Genesis 26:28-29 (p 29); Judges 6:12 (p 242); 2 Samuel 7:3; 2 Chronicles 15:2 (p 422); 2 Chronicles 20:17 (p426); Luke 1:28
2. The virgin shall be with child, and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel (God is with us) – (Isaiah 7:14) (p 832)
3. Can be found in Books of Samuel; 1 & 2 Kings; 1 & 2 Chronicles; His reign was about 1000 BC; The root of Jesse: (Isaiah 11:1-3) (p 836); Genealogy: (Matthew 1:6) (p 11); David is found: (1 Samuel 16:1-13) (P 280); Goliath: (1 Samuel 17:1-12) (p 281); Delivery: (1 Samuel 17:13-21); David v Goliath (1 Samuel 17:22-51) (p 281); David becomes the second King: (2 Samuel 2:1-7); Bathsheeba: (2 Samuel 11:1-27) (p 304); Repentance & Solomon: (2 Samuel 12:13-25) (p306); (Matthew 1:6) (p 11); Psalm 51 (p 635).
4. David's son Solomon. He constructed a temple. – (1 Kings 6:1, 37) (p 329, 330)

Points:

- God wanted something that would never pass away.
- 1,000 years is like a day. – (2 Peter 3:8)
- Israel was never larger or more prosperous during David's time.
- (Mark 1:11) (p 70)
- David wrote two-thirds of the Psalms

Imagine:

- Mary with the Archangel Gabriel.
- "Will you be the Mother of My Son?"
- "Will you allow My Son into your heart?"
- It is not to be our plans. They are God's plans. It is His will.