

A Fresh Start

The civil war...

Defections

Betrayals

Assassinations

...is won!

Time to start over. But how?



A Fresh Start

Chapter 5 (today)

A covenant

A capital

A threat defeated

Chapter 6: The religious settlement

Chapter 7: A palace and a promise



The covenant

Options reviewed (vv1,2)

A covenant is needed, but what *is* a covenant?

A contract is useful

E.g. building an extension to your house

But a covenant is much more profound!



The covenant

An incorporation:

A new thing is created and a new identity is established (here a renewed nation)

Hopes and goals are brought together:
individual and group interests aligned

Unacceptable to the postmodern west:
marriages fail, nations become divided



The military stuff

First references to Zion and

The water supply (Revelation 22:1)

Contrasts

Instigator: David (v6), Philistines (v17)

Terrain: Mountain (v6), Valley (vv18,22)

Enemy morale: Confident (v6), Alarm (v17)

But most striking...



The military stuff

But most striking...

At Jerusalem it is all about David

At Rephaim the Holy Spirit leads

Let's think about this!



The military stuff

It is all about David

God uses *real* people

It is not spiritual to be stupid

Trust in God and keep your powder dry

David's talent was to find a way to win!



The military stuff

The Holy Spirit leads

Wisdom comes from God (vv19,23)

David still leads the charge (v25)



Reflections

David reboots the nation of Israel,
Jesus reboots the Kingdom of God

A new covenant in blood

(Luke 22:20, Lev.17:11)

A shared identity, a new community,
a new way to live, a new king

Jesus found a way to win!



Reflections

Do not forsake wisdom (Proverbs 4:6)

Avoid the obvious: it is probably wrong
(Matt.5:5,6:7-8)

Engage brain before operating mouth
(V6; Matthew 8:9,10; Mark 7:27-29)

Find the way to win! (1 John 5:4,5)

