

An Enduring Throne

Description

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Psalm 89:19-37

Kings are often concerned that their descendants will remain on the throne as long as possible. The Imperial House of Japan, the Yamato Dynasty, is believed to be the oldest royal line in the world. They claim as their founder the Emperor Jimmu (ca. 660 B.C.) through 125 descendants to the current Emperor Akihito.

God revealed to King David, "Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever" (2 Samuel 7:14). However, shortly following the death of David's son Solomon the kingdom was divided. In less than 500 years the direct descent of David's line was interrupted by the destruction of Jerusalem and the deportation of the Jews under the Babylonians. By the time of Jesus Herod's Hasmonean dynasty ruled in Jerusalem as puppet kings to the Roman emperor. Had God's promise failed? No.

The angel Gabriel told Mary she would bear a son to be named Jesus, "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, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever" (Luke 1:32-33).

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