

Davidic Covenant
The Throne Belongs to God
Sunday, July 12th, 2026

1 Kings 1:5-10 NIV

⁵Now Adonijah, whose mother was Haggith, put himself forward and said, “I will be king.” So he got chariots and horses ready, with fifty men to run ahead of him. ⁶(His father had never rebuked him by asking, “Why do you behave as you do?” He was also very handsome and was born next after Absalom.)

⁷Adonijah conferred with Joab son of Zeruiah and with Abiathar the priest, and they gave him their support. ⁸But Zadok the priest, Benaiah son of Jehoiada, Nathan the prophet, Shimei and Rei and David’s special guard did not join Adonijah.

⁹Adonijah then sacrificed sheep, cattle and fattened calves at the Stone of Zoheleth near En Rogel. He invited all his brothers, the king’s sons, and all the royal officials of Judah, ¹⁰but he did not invite Nathan the prophet or Benaiah or the special guard or his brother Solomon.

1. The Heart That Exalts Itself.

2. The Plans That Ignore God.

3. The King That God Establishes.

Conclusion: Our responsibility is not to exalt ourselves, but to humble ourselves before Him, trusting that He is faithful to accomplish His purposes in His way and in His time. The God who raises up and brings low is still on the throne, and those who trust Him will never find His plans lacking.

LIFE GROUP LESSON
The Throne Belongs to God
Week of July 12th, 2026- July 18th, 2026

Ice Breaker: Have you had a time when a door you desperately wanted God to open stayed closed, only to realize later His plan was better than yours?

Read 1 Kings 1:5-10.

1. What did Adonijah profess? Where was Adonijah’s heart? (v.5)
2. Given the culture, he was next in line, but was he presumptuous?
3. What do we read about David’s role in his son’s behavior?
4. Who did Adonijah confer with to make himself king? (v.7) Why would these two leaders support this move?
5. Who did not join in? Why? (v.8) Who were they to King David?
6. What action did Adonijah take next? Why would he do this? (v.9)
7. Who did he invite? What was the purpose of their invite?
8. In that time a coronation required religious sacrifices to be seen as legitimate to the public. Was his worship sincere or strategic?
9. Who was not invited? What does this show you about Adonijah’s intent and knowledge of who was to be king after David?
10. Read 1 Chronicles 22:9-10 and 28:5. Who was to be the next king? By whose authority? Who would have known this?
11. If Adonijah knew, what was his attitude towards God?
12. Who was Adonijah seeking to promote?
13. Read Proverbs 19:21. Whose plans prevail?
14. Read Isaiah 14:12-15. Who else desired to promote self? What was the outcome? Who is Adonijah modeling?
15. Read Genesis 11:4-8. Where else did we see this same heart posture in earlier Israel? What did they want? What did God do?
16. Read Psalm 33:10-11 and Daniel 2:21. What do we learn?
17. Read 1 Chronicles 28:29-35. What did David promise? What action was taken? How quickly? Who became king?
18. Read Psalm 75:6-7. Do we exalt ourselves? What is the difference between Adonijah and Solomon’s behavior?
19. Can you think of times you sought to promote yourself and it fell flat and other times you didn’t, but you were in some way? What was different?
20. Read Philippians 2:8-9. What was Jesus’ heart posture. And how did God respond? What can we learn from this?

Point to ponder: We cannot force God's timing, manufacture His calling, or accomplish His will through self-promotion.