

4. 2 Samuel 7:12. How can God-Elohim raise up Seed for David if God is Spirit and David is flesh?

¹² When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will **raise up your Seed (zera) (offspring)** after you, who shall come **from your body**, and I will establish his kingdom.

2 Samuel 7:12

Answers: Before we answer “how” God-Elohim *raises up Seed* for David, we must ask the prior question—Why does God-Elohim promise to *raise up Seed* for David? And, to answer “why,” we need to apply the proper context.

Legal: Is God’s promise to David to “raise up Seed” merely a *legal solution* to a problem of succession? For, “to raise up seed” is well-established as a means by which an *endangered lineage and house* might be restored. The “duty” of yibbum calls brothers to perform their duty to join with the widow to raise up an Heir. This Son would be assigned to the “deceased.” However, the “right” of redemption applies to non-brothers, stipulating that a non-brother who raises up seed will raise up a Son of two fathers—the one raising up seed and the deceased. But, God is not merely concerned with legalities.

Family: Rather, to understand “why” God would promise to “raise up Seed” for David (2 Samuel 7:12), we must understand the pressing priority of the Lord God, which is not simply to act legally but to Redeem His Family. For, ever since the Lord God appointed Israel as His “Firstborn Son” of the families of the Earth (Exodus 4:22), the Lord God has been intent on *accomplishing Redemption* for all the families of the earth THROUGH Israel, whose alone possesses the *right to accomplish Redemption* through one of its Seed that all the families of the earth be “blessed” (Genesis 22:17-18).

Redemption: So, the Lord God promises to “raise up Seed” for David to accomplish redemption for both the House of David and all the Families of the Earth, with Israel and its Mashiach sacrificially exercising their “Right” of Redemption by letting the younger ones of the Household be Redeemed first.

- **House of David**: For David’s sake, the Lord God in his foresight promises to “raise up Seed” for David, knowing that David’s line of king’s would sink into irreversible wickedness, leading to God’s judgment and the nation’s exile to Babylon and the banishment of Jeconiah’s “Seed” from the throne (Jeremiah 22:30). Because generations (14) would pass between David’s death and the exile to Babylon, there would be no human way to accomplish *geullah*. For, all of Jeconiah’s Seed were banished, so no “close relatives” would remain, nor would the line, so corrupted, be restored. Think of Onan, whose wickedness prevented him from *raising up Seed* for Er. Only God could restore the House of David.
- **Families of the Earth**: But, for the sake of all the families of the Earth, only God could “raise up Seed” for David. For, the family of Adam was meant to inherit with the Son of God the “heavens and the earth” (Genesis 2:4). However, when we lost the Spirit-given life (Genesis 2:7) and died in sin (Genesis 2:17), we became earthbound in our *dead flesh*, destined to “die” after 120 years, having mortal flesh incompatible as an “eternal abode” of the Spirit of God (Genesis 6:3).

So, the line of Man must be restored to its Spiritual-Eternal Life—but how will such *spiritual seed* be re-introduced to our Line? By the process of “raising up Seed” by Geullah!

Therefore, to a people living in spiritual “darkness” and the “shadow of death” (Isaiah 9:2), the Lord God brings His Son enter our world as a “great light,” bearing this eternal life. His Son is “born” to us as a human child (9:6) given to us, yet this human child, a Son of David, is also the “Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace” (v.6).

For, only One “raised up as Seed” by God for David, is the Son of God and the Son of David. Only such a Son of two fathers, a Son of

heaven and earth, can Redeem Us— ransoming our iniquities and giving to us a heavenly life.

How a God of Spirit raises up Seed in the flesh: Knowing *why* Mashiach must be raised up by the “right” of Redemption to be both the Son of God and the Son of David, for the Redemption of his people, we can now consider “how” God did this.

- **From a Virtuous Woman:** the Lord God promises that a “virtuous woman”—an “almah” would be with child (Isaiah 7:14) (Note: many cynics quibble that almah is not betulah. In general, if an “almah” has illicit sex outside of marriage, at that moment, she ceases to be an almah, losing her virtue, and becomes a zonah.). This woman must be of the “House” of David. For this reason, God called Mary, betrothed to a son of David, Joseph, so part of the House of David, who was still an “almah” in the house. From this woman would come “Immanuel,” God born to us to dwell with us.
- **From David’s own Body:** It would be no good for God, being entirely of eternal “Spirit”—supply the male genetic material for a child to be conceived. As Jews rightly observe, such a child would not be fully human, only partially human, a demigod. Rather, God promises to use *material from David’s own body*—that is, what we would call “genetic material”—to raise up the promised “Seed” to be a direct son of David (2 Samuel 7:12). Now, where is it said that *any* of David’s remains were preserved? David himself testifies, “You have...put my tears in your bottle” (Psalm 56:8). And, science tells us that human “tears” contain genetic material! Is this why Mashiach is called a “man of sorrows”? (Isaiah 53:3).
- **Begotten of God:** Mashiach himself testifies that God has said to him, “Today I have begotten you”! (Psalm 2:7). There was a day in human history when the Lord God “begot” the Son of God using David’s genetic material to conceive of this promised Seed in the womb of Mary, a virtuous woman of David’s House! How did God do this? He sent the “Spirit of God” to “raise up Seed” for David with David’s own genetic material in Mary’s womb (Matthew

1:18). Jesus is the Seed of David “raised up” to be both the Son of God (born spiritually of the Spirit) and the Son of David (from David’s own body).

The Lord God raised up Seed for David so that you can be Redeemed, O Israel! For, in the same way that the Holy Spirit “raised up” spiritual life in the womb of Mary, all Israel will in the Last Days be REBORN by the Holy Spirit:

⁹ Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.” ¹⁰ So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army. Ezekiel 37:9-10

For, this will happen when Israel looks upon the face of its Redeemer, Jesus Mashiach, its Firstborn Son, and returns to His salvation:

¹⁰ “And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn. ¹¹ On that day the mourning in Jerusalem will be as great as the mourning for Hadad-rimmon in the plain of Megiddo. ¹² The land shall mourn, each family^[a] by itself: the family of the house of David by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the house of Nathan by itself, and their wives by themselves; Zechariah 12:10-12.

Comment: This promise of God to David is widely recognized as the basis of our understanding of Mashiach as “the Son of David.” To start, let’s start with a common point. The *reason* why God promises to “raise up Seed” for David is the same reason Judah commanded “seed” to be raised up (Genesis 38:8) and Boaz succeeded in doing for Mahlon with Ruth (Ruth 4:10).. God’s chosen line of Redemption starting with Judah was threatened with extinction due to the line’s *fall* into wickedness, resulting of God’s cursing of Jeconiah and the disbarring of his “seed” from the throne (Jeremiah 22:30). Let’s start with a few observations:

- ***Raising Up Seed*** by either the law of duty (yibbum) or redemptive right (geullah) is the Torah-prescribed way to restore an extinguished line or sanctify a corrupted line, rather than *bypass* the line.
- ***Provides a Redeemer*** to restore or rebuild a doomed House. When a House faces its downfall due to debt or destitution, the Redeemer *raised up* restores hope to the family that he will continue the line and rebuild what had fallen.
- ***Replacement or Dual Paternity:*** If a man dies and has no heirs, then to “raise up Seed” continues his lineage in one of two ways. If the “Redeemer” to raise up Seed is a *brother* (e.g. Onan) fulfills his “duty” (yibbum) to raise up Seed, the child born would exclusively be the Child of the deceased (ie. Er). However, if the “Redeemer” to raise up Seed is a *close relative* (e.g. Boaz) who claims his “right” of Redemption, then the Seed raised up is the son of two fathers (Mahlon and Boaz), for the Redeemer would have “raised up the name” of the deceased by this act of redemption (Ruth 4:10).

In light of these considerations:

1) God’s promise could not simply mean *letting another branch of the Davidic line* produce a “Zera.” This would not be “raising up Seed” by starting a new line of “kings.” Doing so would not solve the problem that the entire nation was exiled and had fallen into wickedness.

2) Nor does God's promise mean that he would use a "proxy"—another one of David's sons to "raise up seed." In this case, the Son raised up would simply be the Son of David but also the Son of his descendant. However, the succession from ruler to the next depends on

Passages to Consider:

- Isaiah 7:10
- Isaiah 9:2-7
- Zechariah 12:10
- Ruth 4
- Genesis 38
- Daniel 9:24

Tip: God raises up Jesus Mashiach for your Redemption! For, only the Son of God and the Son of David can redeem you from the Serpent's enslaving sin and death into the House of God in everlasting Righteousness!

Consider how you can be reborn spiritually!

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁹ The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. John 1:1-4, 9-13