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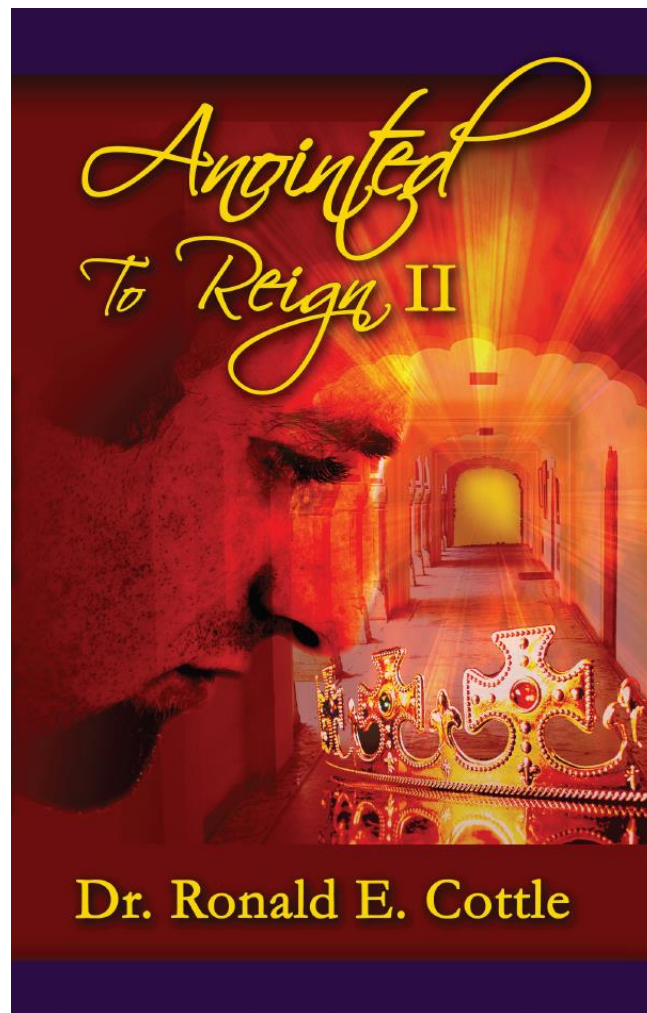
ANOINTED TO REIGN II

COURSE: TRAINING FOR REIGNING II (OT201)

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ANOINTED TO REIGN II

David: A Man After God's Own Heart



A Bible study for laymen, ministers and teachers based on principles of character and behavior from the life of King David necessary to lead successfully in the twenty-first century.



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CHAPTER ONE

When You Offer Your Best And God Says “No”

And it came to pass, when the king sat in his house, and the LORD had given him rest round about from all his enemies that the king said unto Nathan the prophet, See now, I dwell in an house of cedar, but the ark of God dwelleth within curtains. And Nathan said to the king, Go, do all that is in thine heart; for the LORD is with thee. And it came to pass that night, that the word of the LORD came unto Nathan, saying, Go and tell my servant David, Thus saith the LORD, Shalt thou build me an house for me to dwell in? - (2 Samuel 7:1-5)

It was a great idea, something that had never been done before. The aches and pains of the most recent campaign had healed long ago, and this season the warrior king finally had time to enjoy the calming cedar fragrance of his new royal residence. He suddenly felt uncomfortable again, and then the idea exploded in his mind.

Here I sit in my brand new home, resting and feasting in the goodness of God...yet He still visits with us under an embarrassing tent as if He is less than a mere

vagabond wanderer of the desert. Someone has to do something about it—surely He has blessed me for just this purpose!

It was a shocking proposal. No one had ever dared to attempt such a thing! The idea was so original and the purpose so grand that King David (representing the apostolic anointing of the church era) felt led to share it and verify it with the trusted prophet and seer, Nathan. This was a very wise move by David.

The idea seemed utterly selfless on the surface. It would glorify the God of Israel, and it might even draw most of the people in the freshly unified kingdom of Israel and Judah into more intimate and personal knowledge of their invisible God. It made sense. It felt good.

But evidently, it wasn't good enough.

After decades of virtually non-stop war under its first two kings, Israel finally was enjoying some good times.

At what seemed to be the high point of the legendary King David's reign, the “sweet psalmist of Israel” experienced what you may be experiencing right now in your life.

David made what he believed to be “the ultimate commitment” to his Lord. He wanted to build God a “house” in which to dwell, but his dream burst in a single paragraph.

But God said unto me, ***Thou shalt not build an house for my name***, because thou hast been a man of war, and hast shed blood - ***(1 Chronicles 28:3, emphasis mine)***.

David received God's "no" within 12 hours, but it may have taken him years to discover and accept the reason his ultimate commitment was transformed into his son's lifetime achievement. Perhaps you, too, have offered God the best you have!

Did you offer to serve Him in places few others would dare to go?

Perhaps you said, "Lord, I'll go to India...China...Africa...?"

Were you one of the few to say to the Lord of the Harvest, "I'll minister to the homeless...to drug addicts...to HIV/AIDS victims and their families"?

You offered Him your best, your all. Yet, in spite of your sincerity, submission and sacrifice, does it seem as if God said "No"?

Understand this: God never wastes a wound, a failure, or a learning moment in your life. As He declared through the prophet Jeremiah:

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope - (Jeremiah 29:11, NKJV).

Everything in God's dealings with and through you proceed from the plans He made for you even before your birth. Understand that God *never* "does nothing." He is

always at work doing something in and through you—even when it feels or appears to be otherwise. For this reason and more, sometimes a no from God can do more than a divine yes.

God often uses His NO to:

- **Take you FARTHER**
- **Make you BETTER**
- **Use you in GREATER WAYS**

In other words, the God who “declares the end from the beginning” (see Isaiah 46:10) accomplishes just as much through His DENIALS in your life as He does through His PERMISSIONS!

How can this be? To understand this powerful principle of success, you must consider three things:

1. When God says No.
2. What to do when God says No.
3. What God is really saying when He says No.

WHEN GOD SAYS “NO”

When God said NO to David, Israel's shepherd-king was at a good place in his life according to at least five major circumstances or events recorded in God's Word.

First, David's kingdom was finally established and he realized it. In **Second Samuel 5:12**, we read, “And David perceived that the LORD had established him king over Israel, and that he had exalted his kingdom for his people Israel's sake.” The Hebrew word translated “established” in this verse means “to bring into incontrovertible existence.” David was planted incontrovertibly into divine purpose as king of Israel, and no one could do anything about it.

The New Covenant equivalent of being “established in purpose” appears in **Romans 8:28**, which says, “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.” The word “his” does not appear in the original Greek, so Paul is perfectly mirroring the Old Covenant understanding when he speaks of us being “called according to purpose.” There is only one true purpose in the earth, the original purpose of the Creator.

Second, David's enemies were subdued, and in a supernatural manner. Almost immediately after David was crowned king over a newly reunified Jewish nation, his most determined enemies showed up ready for revenge.

*Once more the Philistines came up and spread out in the Valley of Rephaim; so David inquired of the LORD, and he answered, "Do not go straight up, but circle around behind them and attack them in front of the balsam trees. As soon as you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam trees, move quickly, because that will mean the LORD has gone out in front of you to strike the Philistine army." So David did as the LORD commanded him, and he struck down the Philistines all the way from Gibeon to Gezer - - (**Samuel 5:22–25, NIV**).*

Third, as a first order of business, the Ark of God—long held in hostile Philistine hands—was finally returned and set in Zion under David’s rule. We read in Second Samuel 6:17, “And they brought in the ark of the LORD, and set it in his place, in the midst of the tabernacle that David had pitched for it: and David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the LORD.”

Fourth, David was living in his dream house, a royal palace far different from an outlaw’s cave or the rugged surroundings of a shepherd’s wilderness shelter. This house was a designer’s dream, a royal treasure custom-built on a grand scale.

*And Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, and cedar trees, and carpenters, and masons: and they built David a house - (**2 Samuel 5:11**).*

Fifth, David was finally “at peace” because “...the LORD had given him rest round about from all his enemies” (**2 Samuel 7:1**).

“GOD, I REALLY WANT TO....”

Just when everything seemed to be so right, David shared the missing piece, the greatest desire of his heart, with his friend and prophetic confidante, Nathan. I can almost hear King David as he leans close to the prophet and says:

“Nathan, do you know what I really want to do? I'm thankful for the victory over Goliath and the Philistines, and I'm really glad that we made it through the tough years with King Saul hunting for us. But what I really want to do is to build God a house. I know it sounds strange, but He has given me everything. It's time for me to give Him something He's never had before. What do you say?”

Apparently, this was the first time David publicly expressed his deepest passion, but from this point it remained a central focus of his life. He had already accomplished much, but he wanted to do something more.

Anyone who is truly saved, called and anointed will feel an inner urge to “do something more.” If this urge is pursued, they will develop a great resolve to count or amount to something for the Kingdom of God. Believers who really love God want to do something with their lives to glorify God.

On the other hand, we all know people who were saved, called and blessed. Some even achieved their “house of cedars,” but somehow along the way they forgot their early consecration.