Son of David

“Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”
—Mark 10:47, ESV

Blind Bartimaeus sat beside the road outside Jericho.

When he heard that Jesus of Nazareth was passing, he began to cry out. Many rebuked him, telling him to be silent.

He cried out all the more.

“Son of David, have mercy on me!”

Bartimaeus could not see the face of the One approaching. Yet his words recognized something about Jesus that many with sight had failed to understand.

He was calling upon the King.

“Son of David” carried the weight of an ancient promise. God had told David that his house and kingdom would be established forever.
2 Samuel 7:16

But centuries had passed.

Kings had risen and fallen. Jerusalem had been conquered. The people had gone into exile. David’s descendants remained, but his throne no longer stood visibly among the nations.

Had the promise failed?

The silence of a throne is not the failure of God.

In The Hidden Heir, we followed the royal promise through those years of apparent obscurity. Human eyes saw diminished circumstances. God was preserving the fulfillment of His word.

Then Gabriel came to Mary.

The child she would bear would receive “the throne of his father David,” and “of his kingdom there will be no end.”
Luke 1:32–33, ESV

Those words identified the promised King.

Jesus was not merely another descendant of David who might claim a crown. He was the Son appointed by God to fulfill the covenant—the only rightful heir in whom its promise of an everlasting kingdom could be accomplished.

Every other son of David would die.

This King would conquer death.

But when Bartimaeus called, Jesus wore no royal robes. No army cleared the road before Him. He was traveling toward Jerusalem, where He would be rejected, condemned, and crucified.

The King stopped for a beggar.

That should tell us something about His reign.

His majesty did not place human misery beneath His attention. Bartimaeus brought no influence, wealth, or standing. He brought his need and called for mercy.

And Jesus heard him.

Soon, another title would be displayed above Jesus: “The King of the Jews.”

It would hang upon a cross.

To those watching, His death might appear to settle the question of His kingdom. A crucified claimant could scarcely inherit an eternal throne.

But the cross did not cancel the promise.

The King was giving His life for His people.

God raised Him from the dead. Peter later proclaimed that David had foreseen and spoken about the resurrection of the Christ, connecting the risen Jesus with God’s oath concerning David’s throne.
Acts 2:30–36

The heir lives.

There will be no final illness, no funeral, no successor called to take His place.

His kingdom will never pass into weaker hands.

Revelation names Him “King of kings and Lord of lords.”
Revelation 19:16

Every ruler possesses limited authority. Every earthly government faces an ending.

Jesus does not.

That brings David’s ancient promise into our present fears.

We watch nations struggle, leaders fail, and institutions weaken. We wonder what will remain secure.

The answer is a Person.

The Son of David reigns, and His mercy has not diminished.

We may come with needs as plain as those of Bartimaeus. We need forgiveness, help, courage, and eyes to recognize the One before us.

We need a King whose life cannot end and whose promise cannot fail.

Beside the road, a blind man knew whom to ask.

Do we?

“Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”

Just a Thought.

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