

**THE NATHAN NARRATIVE  
(2 SAMUEL 7:1-17)  
A TRADITIO-HISTORICAL STUDY**

**A Thesis  
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**ABSTRACT**

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By the Traditio-Historical Method, explained and defended in Chapter II, the Thesis retraces the growth of the Nathan Narrative in 2 Samuel 7:1-17, from the tradition of a revelation received by David in the 10<sup>th</sup> century BCE to the basis of a messianic hope in the canonical prophetic writings of the Hebrew Bible. In that attempt it has also explored the development of the tradition in the oral stages of transmission in the period of the monarchy to its becoming a literary composition which was incorporated in the Josianic redaction of Deuteronomy-Kings.

In the further exploration beyond the Josianic redaction, it has identified a post-Josianic exilic redaction that was designed to explain the downfall of the Davidic monarchy, notwithstanding the sure guarantees of perpetual rule that were enshrined in the Nathan Narrative – a contradiction that had not yet been resolved in Old Testament study.

Keywords: *Traditum* and *Traditio*; Oral Tradition and 2 Samuel 7; Pre-Josianic Composition; Josianic and Exilic Redactions; Prophetic Canon.