

David's Secret Place

I Samuel 19

Introduction:

- This chapter begins a section where Saul openly hunts after David in order to kill him
- Several times Saul briefly repents of his murderous intent, but David's life is basically in jeopardy until Saul dies.
- During this period of exile, possibly 10 years, David lived like a nomad or vagrant. He lived in caves, the wilderness, he endured many hardships and sufferings- yet this was a training ground. David saw God deliver him from each trial! Psalm 34:17-19
- Ps. 37:25: I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.
- In chapter 19, David was starting to find out what it meant to be in the center of God's will
- V. 2 There is a secret place, that we all must find. While there, we are safe to do exactly what God has for us. This is not necessarily a geographical location, it is found in God and His word.
- II Peter 2:9- The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations..." This does not mean there will be no danger, trouble.
- "God's man in the center of God's will is immortal until God is finished with him."

I. Top Secret Staff Meeting

- a. V. 1- Saul plots the murder of David, attempting to enlist the help of Jonathan and his servants.
- b. Saul put Jonathan in a difficult place. Jonathan loved David, and God made a wonderful bond of friendship between them, sealed by a covenant (1 Samuel 18:1-4). At the same time, his father and king told him to kill David.
- c. Saul put his servants in a difficult place. They all loved David (1 Samuel 18:5) yet they are commanded by their king to kill David.

- d. In loyalty to David, Jonathan warns him about Saul's plan- v. 2-3
 - e. Jonathan didn't stay neutral, he tried to help his friend David
 - i. He tells Saul- David has actually helped you! He has been your followers, and is a wonderful citizen of your kingdom!
 - ii. His jealousy was a sin! "When David first killed Goliath, you rejoiced just like everyone. Now Satan has filled your mind with envy and jealousy. Go back to how you thought before."
 - f. Saul listened, and David was restored and able to dwell in Saul's presence again
 - g. But there was more war, more Davidic success, and more anger and jealousy from Saul- v. 8-10
 - i. Saul sought to pin David to the wall with a javelin, but he just barely missed him
 - ii. Notice the demonic activity behind this act!
 - iii. David escapes another attempt by Saul- v. 10
 - iv. He leaves the palace, never to return until he becomes king!
- II. David flees from Saul v. 11-17
- a. Home was no place of refuge for David either! V. 11-12
 - b. Michal, David's wife, told him: She saved the day. Michal was Saul's daughter, so this was a conflict of loyalties for Michal. Should she act in her father's interests or in her husband's interests? Here, she made the right choice and supported her husband David.
 - c. V. 13-17 Michal's plan of escape
 - d. Michal took an image and stuffed the bed sheets, deceiving Saul and his men: The image was a teraphim, a figurine used as a household idol or as a good luck charm. In ancient Israel teraphim were intended as helps in worshipping the true God. They didn't think of the teraphim as other gods, but as representing the God of Israel.
 - e. Clearly God's people had no business having or using an image like this. We can't imagine that this image, this household idol, belonged to David; so it shows that

Michal didn't have the kind of relationship with God she should have. This weak relationship with God will reveal itself in Michal as the story of David's life unfolds (2 Samuel 6:16-23).

III. David goes to Samuel- v. 18-24

- a. So far we have seen something very interesting- God has used Saul's own family to allow David to escape! Doesn't God have a sense of humor?
- b. God repeatedly shows that He will protect his servants!
- c. The safest place is in the center of God's will.
- d. Notice so far, being in God's will:
 - i. Does not mean life will be without risk or threats
 - ii. Does not mean you won't have to battle
 - iii. Does not mean you will be comfortable
 - iv. It DOES mean you will be walking with God! Psalm 23: Yea thou I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, thou art with me, thy rod and thy staff comfort me.
- e. Now God himself steps in to deliver David- v. 20-24
 - i. Saul sends messengers to capture David, but they are touched by the Holy Spirit and prophesy in the presence of Samuel and other prophets.
 - ii. The Hebrew word simply has the idea of speaking under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. They probably all gave spontaneous and inspired praise to God.
 - iii. This was an unusual work of the Holy Spirit – to come upon men who did not seek after God, who did not long to be filled with the Spirit. God did this to protect David, and this was His way of “disarming” those who came to capture David.
 - iv. Saul didn't get the message. So, he sent other messengers, but the same thing happened – they prophesied likewise. Saul still didn't get the message, so he sent messengers again the third time, and they

prophesied also. Three sets of messengers came back and God said the same thing each time through each of them.

- v. (1Sa 19:22-24) Saul pursues David himself, but he also prophesies in the presence of Samuel and the prophets.
- vi. There may have been an additional message to Saul in this: “Saul, you are prophesying now, speaking beautiful words of praise and wonder to Me. This is how I could work in you all the time if you were humble and willing.”
- vii. Is Saul also among the prophets? This phrase was first mentioned in 1 Samuel 10:10-12, and it expressed astonishment that someone became a religious enthusiast. Saul was an unspiritual man who became very spiritual at the moment the Spirit of the Lord came upon him.
- viii. This reminds us of Balaam and his donkey- God is God, and He can use anything to accomplish His will! If God uses the unwilling, how much more those who make themselves willing?

Conclusion:

- The will of God never will lead you where the grace of God cannot keep you.
- “I am Thy servant to do Thy will, and that will is sweeter to me than position or riches or fame, and I choose it above all things on Earth or in Heaven.” — A.W. Tozer
- Jer 29:11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.
- Philippians 1:6, Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:
- Let us seek to be right where God wants us, no matter the circumstances!