

Bibles???

The Word of God is the Absolute Truth and the Final Authority

This evening we are going to deal with the aftermath of David killing Goliath.

You see, David at this point is flying high – he must have been elated to what happened against the mighty Goliath.

However, the celebration for David was going to be short lived.

You see, God's plan for David went beyond slaying the giant.

And in the same way that God had prepared David for his battle against Goliath (bears and lion)

God is going to prepare David for something much greater.

And what we are going to start seeing this evening is God preparing David for the kingdom that He was going to entrust upon him.

And a big portion of the preparation was going to be done through his relationship with King Saul.

Let's pray...

[1Sa 18:1-30 NKJV] 1 Now when he had finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.

Chapter 17, ended with Saul having a conversation with

David –

Saul wanted to know – who is this kid who just took down Goliath.

Who is his father?

Where did he come from?

He couldn't even take a step with my armor – how did he do it.

And as David has this conversation with Saul, Jonathan is listening closely to what David is saying.

And as David goes into detail about his encounter with Goliath – about how he took the step of faith and how he knew that God would deliver him,

Jonathan realizes that both he and David – they both have the same heart.

They both have a real relationship with the LORD God.

A few weeks ago, when we studied chapter 14, we saw Jonathan taking on the Philistines with only his armor bearer by his side.

And what drove Jonathan in chapter 14 - was the same thing that drove David to his encounter with Goliath.

They walked by faith and trusted the Lord wholeheartedly.

I asked you to underline the word knit – because the Hebrew word that is used here means bound together or linked together as in a chain.

It is the same word that is used to describe the love that Jacob had toward Benjamin in Genesis 44 when Joseph tells his brothers to leave Benjamin – and they said we can't

because our father will die if we return without Benjamin because of the love that Jacob had toward his youngest son.

There is nothing impure about the love that Jonathan had for David.

They were not homosexuals – this was a bond built upon their love and obedience in the Lord.

2 Saul took him that day, and would not let him go home to his father's house anymore. 3 Then Jonathan and David made a covenant, because he loved him as his own soul. 4 And Jonathan took off the robe that [was] on him and gave it to David, with his armor, even to his sword and his bow and his belt.

If there was going to be one individual who had every reason to be jealous of David, it would have been Jonathan.

Jonathan was the crown prince of Israel.

He is the oldest son of Saul

He is the king in waiting

He has already proven his military leadership with victories.

But here Jonathan humbles himself before the shepherd boy.

He is submitting himself to David, perhaps already knowing that David would be king.

5 So David went out wherever Saul sent him, [and] behaved wisely. And Saul set him over the men of war, and he was accepted in the sight of all the people and also in the sight of Saul's servants.

David is made a general over the armies of Israel.

But I want you to notice David's loyalty to Saul.

Remember, David had just defeated Goliath – he outshone Saul.

He was a national hero.

David had already received the anointing to be the next king

He could have said – I am taking this opportunity to take my place as king.

But he didn't.

Because David realized that God had a perfect plan and that God was going to unfold His plan in His time.

And until that time, David was going to continue to wait upon the Lord.

6 Now it had happened as they were coming [home], when David was returning from the slaughter of the Philistine, that the women had come out of all the cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet King Saul, with tambourines, with joy, and with musical instruments. 7 So the women sang as they danced, and said: "Saul has slain his thousands, And David his ten thousands." 8 Then Saul was very angry, and the saying displeased him; and he said, "They have ascribed to David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed [only] thousands. Now [what] more can he have but the kingdom?" 9 So Saul eyed David from that day forward.

Why was Saul angry?

Two reasons:

1. These women were singing and dancing and admiring David's accomplishments more than his.

Saul was a proud insecure individual.

He couldn't simply allow someone else to receive admiration.

Notice that the people did admire him for slaying thousands – the problem is that it wasn't enough to slay thousands, when people were also saying that someone else had slayed ten thousand.

And because his heart was in the wrong place, he grew jealous of David and started to resent him.

Turn with me to 1 Corinthians 13 -

[1Co 13:4 NKJV] 4 Love suffers long [and] is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up;

Church, we should guard ourselves against jealousy and envy – especially when it comes to the Lord's blessings upon others.

Always remember that we will never be able to see the blessings poured upon our own cup when we are too busy looking at the cup of others.

2. Saul is angry because he is starting to feel a little guilty.

Remember that Samuel had told Saul already that God had chosen another to replace him.

His sin had already disqualified him from the throne.

And for years, Saul had been wondering when God was going to cast him off the throne. Could this young shepherd boy be the one that replaces me?

But notice that the guilt – never led to repentance.

And from that day on, Saul viewed David as a threat to his kingdom.

10 And it happened on the next day that the distressing spirit from God came upon Saul, and he prophesied inside the house. So David played [music] with his hand, as at other times; but [there was] a spear in Saul's hand.

11 And Saul cast the spear, for he said, "I will pin David to the wall!" But David escaped his presence twice.

I asked you to make a note that Saul prophesied inside the house when the distressing spirit came upon him.

It doesn't mean that God was speaking to him – the word actually means that Saul was ranting / that he was babbling like a man that was not in his right mind.

Not only does Saul miss him the first time, he misses him the second time – and that means that David actually came back after the first time to play and comfort Saul.

Notice that it doesn't say that David took the spear and threw it against Saul – again, David was going to wait upon God's timing to take the throne.

As we see David and Saul in this section, we get a glance into where they both stood spiritually based upon what the instrument that they held in their hands.

Saul held a spear – an instrument to cut people down.

David held a harp – an instrument to promote healing. An instrument used in worship.

And many times in our own spiritual lives, we have to glance at what instruments we have in our hands –

Are we lifting and encouraging people up?

Or do we find ourselves cutting down people with the word that we use? Bringing discouragement instead of encouragement.

How do we respond when people throw spears at us? Do we respond in the same way or do we respond like David did??

12 Now Saul was afraid of David, because the LORD was with him, but had departed from Saul.

By all outward appearance, Saul is in control.

Saul has the throne.

Saul has the army.

Saul has the spears.

Yet Saul was afraid of David because the LORD was with him.

13 Therefore Saul removed him from his presence, and made him his captain over a thousand; and he went out and came in before the people. **14 And David behaved wisely in all his ways, and the LORD [was] with him. 15 Therefore, when Saul saw that he behaved very wisely, he was afraid of him. 16 But all Israel and Judah loved David, because he went out and came in** before them.

The term, he went out and came in – is a Hebrew figure of speech. And it simply means that David conducted successful military operations.

He led the Israelites into victories over and over again – and because of this, the people loved David.

Saul attempts to get David as far away from him as possible and sends him into battle hoping that maybe he will die in battle.

And God uses it for good as David is victorious again and again.

17 Then Saul said to David, "Here is my older daughter Merab; I will give her to you as a wife. Only be valiant for me, and fight the LORD's battles." For Saul thought, "Let

my hand not be against him, but let the hand of the Philistines be against him."

Last week, as we read the events leading to David killing Goliath, the scriptures tell us that Saul had offered up a reward hoping to entice someone to face Goliath.

And one of the rewards was that he was going to give one of his daughters in marriage.

But, look at verse 17, Saul is adding conditions to the reward.

Only be valiant for me.

Wait a minute – the only condition was that they defeat Goliath.

Saul is going to add more conditions...

You see, now Saul is going to attempt to kill David again – and this time, he is going to use his own daughter to help kill him.

18 So David said to Saul, "Who [am] I, and what [is] my life [or] my father's family in Israel, that I should be son-in-law to the king?"

Even though David is being exalted by the people, and Saul is now intensely jealous of David, David doesn't see himself as being worthy of marrying a king's daughter.

David here is demonstrating humility.

19 But it happened at the time when Merab, Saul's daughter, should have been given to David, that she was given to Adriel the Meholathite as a wife.

So, Saul at the last minute - gives this daughter to someone else.

20 Now Michal, Saul's daughter, loved David. And they told Saul, and the thing pleased him. 21 So Saul said, "I will give her to him, that she may be a snare to him, and that the hand of the Philistines may be against him."

Therefore Saul said to David a second time, "You shall be my son-in-law today."

There are many parallels between what Saul is doing here and what David does later on to Uriah when he tried to cover up the pregnancy of Bathsheba.

22 And Saul commanded his servants, "Communicate with David secretly, and say, 'Look, the king has delight in you, and all his servants love you. Now therefore,

become the king's son-in-law.' " 23 So Saul's servants spoke those words in the hearing of David. And David said, "Does it seem to you [a] light [thing] to be a king's son-in-law, seeing I [am] a poor and lightly esteemed man?" 24 And the servants of Saul told him, saying, "In this manner David spoke."

Saul sees an opportunity to kill David.

He knows that David's family doesn't have money to pay the dowry – especially the dowry that would be required for marrying the daughter of a king.

So Saul comes up with a solution.

25 Then Saul said, "Thus you shall say to David: 'The king does not desire any dowry but one hundred foreskins of the Philistines, to take vengeance on the

king's enemies.' " But Saul thought to make David fall by the hand of the Philistines.

You don't have to pay a dowry David – I know you don't have the means to pay it - just bring me 100 foreskins of the Philistines – then you can marry my daughter.

Now, there are only two ways that this is going to happen – Either a Philistine would need to willingly be circumcised (which ain't gonna happen), or he would have to be killed.

And all along Saul is just hoping that the Philistines will succeed in killing David.

26 So when his servants told David these words, it pleased David well to become the king's son-in-law. Now the days had not expired; 27 therefore David arose and went, he and his men, and killed two hundred men of the

Philistines. And David brought their foreskins, and they gave them in full count to the king, that he might become the king's son-in-law. Then Saul gave him Michal his daughter as a wife.

David gets word that he doesn't have to pay a dowry – and immediately goes out and gets double the amount of foreskins.

He gets 200 – and the scripture states that he counts them in front of Saul.

He doesn't want to leave any room for Saul to back out this time.

So Michal becomes his wife.

28 Thus Saul saw and knew that the LORD [was] with David, and [that] Michal, Saul's daughter, loved him; 29 and Saul was still more afraid of David. So Saul became David's enemy continually. 30 Then the princes of the Philistines went out [to war]. And so it was, whenever they went out, [that] David behaved more wisely than all the servants of Saul, so that his name became highly esteemed.

The opposite of what Saul was hoping to accomplish actually happened.

David is not dead.

Not only does Jonathan love David – now one of his daughters loves David as well.

Saul is now more afraid of David than before.

And now, the name of David is becoming more esteemed.

One would think that Saul had learned his lesson –

Chapter 19 should be about how Saul apologizes to David and asks for forgiveness for attempting to kill him three times already.

Well, Saul doesn't learn his lesson.

[1Sa 19:1-24 NKJV] 1 Now Saul spoke to Jonathan his son and to all his servants, that they should kill David; but Jonathan, Saul's son, delighted greatly in David.

Saul is openly commanding people to put David to death.

That bitterness, the jealousy in his heart is just getting stronger and stronger.

2 So Jonathan told David, saying, "My father Saul seeks to kill you. Therefore please be on your guard until morning, and stay in a secret [place] and hide. 3 "And I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where you [are], and I will speak with my father about you. Then what I observe, I will tell you." 4 Thus Jonathan spoke well of David to Saul his father, and said to him, "Let not the king sin against his servant, against David, because he has not sinned against you, and because his works [have been] very good toward you. 5 "For he took his life in his hands and killed the Philistine, and the LORD brought about a great deliverance for all Israel. You saw [it] and rejoiced. Why then will you sin against innocent blood, to kill David without a cause?" 6 So Saul

heeded the voice of Jonathan, and Saul swore, "[As] the LORD lives, he shall not be killed." 7 Then Jonathan called David, and Jonathan told him all these things. So Jonathan brought David to Saul, and he was in his presence as in times past.

Here at the beginning of chapter 19, we have Jonathan going in front of his father as an advocate on behalf of David. And Jonathan pleads his case for David based upon the works that David has done – slaying Goliath.

Church, we must remember that this is very similar to what Jesus Christ does on our behalf.

Turn with me to 1 John 2

[1Jo 2:1 NKJV] 1 My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an **Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.**

The difference with Jesus as our advocate is that Jesus pleads our case to our Heavenly Father not on the basis of our works – but on the basis of His work for us.

For us Spanish speakers – we get our word abogado from the same latin root word where we get advocate.

So by Jonathan pleading on behalf of David – it thwarts Saul's fourth attempt to kill David.

8 And there was war again; and David went out and fought with the Philistines, and struck them with a mighty blow, and they fled from him. 9 Now the

distressing spirit from the LORD came upon Saul as he sat in his house with his spear in his hand. And David was playing [music] with [his] hand. 10 Then Saul sought to pin David to the wall with the spear, but he slipped away from Saul's presence; and he drove the spear into the wall. So David fled and escaped that night.

Once again, as David returned from victory Saul attempts to kill David once again – and once again he misses with his spear.

11 Saul also sent messengers to David's house to watch him and to kill him in the morning. And Michal, David's wife, told him, saying, "If you do not save your life tonight, tomorrow you will be killed." 12 So Michal let

David down through a window. And he went and fled and escaped. 13 And Michal took an image and laid [it] in the bed, put a cover of goats' [hair] for his head, and covered [it] with clothes. 14 So when Saul sent messengers to take David, she said, "He [is] sick." 15 Then Saul sent the messengers [back] to see David, saying, "Bring him up to me in the bed, that I may kill him." 16 And when the messengers had come in, there was the image in the bed, with a cover of goats' [hair] for his head. 17 Then Saul said to Michal, "Why have you deceived me like this, and sent my enemy away, so that he has escaped?" And Michal answered Saul, "He said to me, 'Let me go! Why should I kill you?' " 18 So David fled and escaped, and went to Samuel at Ramah, and

told him all that Saul had done to him. And he and Samuel went and stayed in Naioth.

So earlier in the chapter – Jonathan helps out David – this time, it is his new bride that helps him escape Saul's men.

Make a note on this section – Psalm 59. As the men are surrounding his house – David writes a Psalm. Psalm 59 where he asks God to deliver him from those that are there to kill him.

19 Now it was told Saul, saying, "Take note, David [is] at Naioth in Ramah!" 20 Then Saul sent messengers to take David. And when they saw the group of prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing [as] leader over them, the Spirit of God came upon the messengers of Saul, and they also prophesied. 21 And when Saul was

told, he sent other messengers, and they prophesied likewise. Then Saul sent messengers again the third time, and they prophesied also. 22 Then he also went to Ramah, and came to the great well that [is] at Sechu. So he asked, and said, "Where [are] Samuel and David?" And [someone] said, "Indeed [they are] at Naioth in Ramah." 23 So he went there to Naioth in Ramah. Then the Spirit of God was upon him also, and he went on and prophesied until he came to Naioth in Ramah. 24 And he also stripped off his clothes and prophesied before Samuel in like manner, and lay down naked all that day and all that night. Therefore they say, "[Is] Saul also among the prophets?"

So here at the end of chapter 19, we have Saul sending his men to go get David who was hiding out with Samuel.

And when his first group of messengers arrives, the Spirit of God descended upon them and they start to prophesy.

To prophesy doesn't mean that they were speaking of future events.

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.

God used this tactic to keep them from getting David.

Saul sends another group and the same thing happens

And he sends another group and the same thing happens.

He finally takes it upon himself and he goes and the same thing happens.

Not only does he prophesy – like he did before in chapter 10 when he was anointed king.

Here he also lies stripped of his clothes, humbled by the Holy Spirit as God reveals to him who is really in charge.

It was a way of God telling Saul – I am stripping you of your royal glory and giving you one more chance to taste of His Spirit and turn from your ways and walk with God once again.

In humbling Saul – God was showing him grace.

Church, may we respond to His amazing grace.

Amen

Let's pray...

