



I Samuel

Part #20 –

David – Wilderness Experiences

King exposed! Portion of his garment missing!

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Introduction

Key Scriptures

- And it came to pass, when Saul was returned from following the Philistines, that it was told him, saying, Behold, David *is* in the wilderness of Engedi. – 1 Samuel 24:1
- And the men of David said unto him, Behold the day of which the LORD said unto thee, Behold, I will deliver thine enemy into thine hand, that thou mayest do to him as it shall seem good unto thee. Then David arose, and cut off the skirt of Saul's robe privily. – 1 Samuel 24:4
- And it came to pass afterward, that David's heart smote him, because he had cut off Saul's skirt. – 1 Samuel 24:5



Introduction – Cont'd

Key Scriptures

- And he said unto his men, The LORD forbid that I should do this thing unto my master, the LORD'S anointed, to stretch forth mine hand against him, seeing he *is* the anointed of the LORD. – 1 Samuel 24:6
- David also arose afterward, and went out of the cave, and cried after Saul, saying, My lord the king. And when Saul looked behind him, David stooped with his face to the earth, and bowed himself. And David said to Saul, Wherefore hearest thou men's words, saying, Behold, David seeketh thy hurt?– 1 Samuel 24:8,9
- The LORD judge between me and thee, and the LORD avenge me of thee: but mine hand shall not be upon thee. – 1 Samuel 24:12



Introduction – Cont'd

Key Scriptures

- And it came to pass, when David had made an end of speaking these words unto Saul, that Saul said, *Is this thy voice, my son David?* And Saul lifted up his voice, and wept. – 1 Samuel 24:16
- And he said to David, Thou *art* more righteous than I: for thou hast rewarded me good, whereas I have rewarded thee evil. – 1 Samuel 24:17
- And now, behold, I know well that thou shalt surely be king, and that the kingdom of Israel shall be established in thine hand. – 1 Samuel 24:22



Introduction – Cont'd

Key Scriptures

- The righteousness of the upright shall deliver them: but transgressors shall be taken in *their own* naughtiness. – Proverbs 11:6
- A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger. – Proverbs 15:1
- By long forbearing is a prince persuaded, and a soft tongue breaketh the bone. – Proverbs 25:15



Keys

King exposed! Portion of his garment missing!

- The wilderness of Engedi
- Saul seeks hard after David
- Insidious temptations
- Playing into the hand of the adversary
- Dissuading the actions governed by wrong counsel
- A soft answer
- Righteousness delivers



In this lesson

King exposed! Portion of his garment missing!

- Sanity Check – Incensed destroying David
- Seriously! – An insidious counsel
- Self-restraint
- Saul's Sin
- Saul's assurance of David's kingship



Sanity Check

And it came to pass, when Saul was returned from following the Philistines, that it was told him, saying, Behold, David is in the wilderness of Engedi. Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel, and went to seek David and his men upon the rocks of the wild goats. – 1 Samuel 24:1,2

Something went awfully wrong on TV the other day!

- Engedi – Situated on the western shore of the Dead Sea.
- The ibex or small mountain goat (their calving is a mystery to people) – Job 39:1
- Enraged by David – Why?
- Incensed destroying David
- Setting a trap for no one else – Proverbs 26:27; Proverbs 28:10



Seriously! – An insidious counsel

And the men of David said unto him, Behold the day of which the LORD said unto thee, Behold, I will deliver thine enemy into thine hand, that thou mayest do to him as it shall seem good unto thee. Then David arose, and cut off the skirt of Saul's robe privily. – 1 Samuel 24:4

Hey, we will justify your actions with Scripture – Go ahead!

- Very insidious temptation presented to David
- Why not rid the kingdom of this cruel and oppressive king?
- Isn't there a public benefit to doing so?
- After all, have you not been anointed king!
- Let the men who are not so squeamish do the dirty work!
- Yield not to temptations – wait on the LORD's time



Self-restraint

And it came to pass afterward, that David's heart smote him, because he had cut off Saul's skirt. And he said unto his men, The LORD forbid that I should do this thing unto my master, the LORD'S anointed, to stretch forth mine hand against him, seeing he is the anointed of the LORD. – 1 Samuel 24:5,6

Returning Good for Evil

- Verify every opportunity for integrity - 1 Samuel 24:8-16
- Not every opportunity is justified – 1 Corinthians 6:12; 10:23
- An opportunity does not make a wrong a right
- A soft answer; A soft tongue

Our actions must not be determined by the opening of the door or circumstance, but by conscience, faith, obedience, and the high sense of Christian honor. – Rick Meyers



Saul's Sin

And it came to pass, when David had made an end of speaking these words unto Saul, that Saul said, Is this thy voice, my son David? And Saul lifted up his voice, and wept. – 1 Samuel 24:16

Senses aroused – a better but temporal side of Saul

- Saul remembers days long ago, when the sight of David was a pleasure
- Before their friendship had become clouded by jealousy and hatred
- David's appeals called forth a confession of sins from Saul – Proverbs 25:15
- He went as far asking David to spare his house
- He said David would assuredly be King
- His request came as a change of mood not of will, for the better spirit was but temporary



Saul's Sin – Cont'd

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Senses aroused – a better but temporal side of Saul

- His words would have deceived the unsuspecting, but David knew better to stay in the hold!
- Emotions are running high and deep
- David behaved himself wisely, He did not return to the city.
- See Psalms 142:1-7



Saul's assurance of David's kingship

And now, behold, I know well that thou shalt surely be king, and that the kingdom of Israel shall be established in thine hand. – 1 Samuel 24:21

Are the words of King Saul sufficient to secure David?

- The reason behind Saul's incensed hatred revealed
- King Saul pleads with David and asks for a covenant with him
- King Saul has 3000 men with him and David on his face before him. But King Saul is disarmed and is imploring David by asking him for clemency



Summary

Samuel Dies while David is in exile



Next Week

Bootcamp Continues! – David in preparation in the classroom of the wilderness continues