

# AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART: THE DAVID CHRONICLES

## *“In the Presence of True Greatness”*

(I Samuel 18:5-16)

*“And David went out and was successful wherever Saul sent him, so that Saul set him over the men of war. And this was good in the sight of all the people and also in the sight of Saul’s servants. 6 As they were coming home, when David returned from striking down the Philistine, the women came out of all the cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet King Saul, with tambourines, with songs of joy, and with musical instruments. 7 And the women sang to one another as they celebrated, ‘Saul has struck down his thousands, and David his ten thousands.’ 8 And Saul was very angry, and this saying displeased him. He said, ‘They have ascribed to David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed thousands, and what more can he have but the kingdom?’ 9 And Saul eyed David from that day on. 10 The next day a harmful spirit from God rushed upon Saul, and he raved within his house while David was playing the lyre, as he did day by day. Saul had his spear in his hand. 11 And Saul hurled the spear, for he thought, ‘I will pin David to the wall.’ But David evaded him twice. 12 Saul was afraid of David because the Lord was with him but had departed from Saul. 13 So Saul removed him from his presence and made him a commander of a thousand. And he went out and came in before the people. 14 And David had success in all his undertakings, for the Lord was with him. 15 And when Saul saw that he had great success, he stood in fearful awe of him. 16 But all Israel and Judah loved David, for he went out and came in before them. 17 Then Saul said to David, ‘Here is my elder daughter Merab. I will give her to you for a wife. Only be valiant for me and fight the Lord’s battles.’ For Saul thought, ‘Let not my hand be against him, but let the hand of the Philistines be against him.’ 18 And David said to Saul, ‘Who am I, and who are my relatives, my father’s clan in Israel, that I should be son-in-law to the king?’”*

*“And the LORD said to Satan, ‘Have you considered my servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil?’” (Job 1:8)*

## ❖ **The Presentation of David's Life** (vs. 5, 14, 30)

Three times in this chapter we are told that, *"David behaved himself wisely."*

- He Behaved Himself Well In Spite Of Life's Promotions (vs. 5)
- He Behaved Himself Well In Spite Of Life's Problems (vs. 14)
- He Behaved Himself Well In Spite Of Life's Possibilities (vs. 30)

*"Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful;" (I Corinthians 13:4-5)*

## ❖ **The Priorities of David's Life** (vs. 10-13)

Another example of the greatness of David's young life is the priorities he exhibited.

- David Was Surrendered (vs. 10)
- David Was Steadfast (vs. 11)
- David Was Submissive (vs. 13)

## ❖ **The Perception of David's Life** (vs. 17-23)

- The Private Perception Of David's Life (vs. 7-9; 15; 29) - *How Saul perceived David*
- The Public Perception Of David's Life – *How the people perceived David*

- Saul's Servants (vs. 5)
  - Saul's Subjects (vs. 5, 16, 30)
  - Saul's Son and Daughter (vs. 1-4, 20, 28)
- The Personal Perception Of David's Life – *How David perceived himself*

*"I have been a fool! You forced me to it, for I ought to have been commended by you. For I was not at all inferior to these super-apostles, even though I am nothing." (II Corinthians 12:11)*

The Bible has something to say about this matter of self-perception:

*"Let another praise you, and not your own mouth; a stranger, and not your own lips."  
(Proverbs 27:2)*

*"Do you see a man who is wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him."  
(Proverbs 26:12)*

*"Not that we dare to classify or compare ourselves with some of those who are commending themselves. But when they measure themselves by one another and compare themselves with one another, they are without understanding." (II Corinthians 10:12)*

*"For it is not the one who commends himself who is approved, but the one whom the Lord commends." (II Corinthians 10:18)*

## ❖ **The Power of David's Life** (vs. 12, 14)

- David's Relationship With The Lord\_

*"The LORD is my Shepherd; I shall not want." (Psalms 23:1)*

- David's Resources In The Lord