

**Series:** 1 Samuel: Harp and Spear VII

**Text:** 1 Samuel 19:1-24

**HI:** **The Lord is a fortress who leaves his enemies powerless.**

**Title:** *The Madness of Kings*

**Hook:** Losing the plot

**Date:** 2.18.24

**Purpose:** To call the listener to submit to King Jesus in recognition of his Lordship over all things.

**FCF:** Like David, we face a hostile world, but the Lord's grace provides a fortress for us in Jesus.

**COR:** We witness the madness of kings all around us, as people use power to oppress and inflict pain. There is comfort and assurance in this narrative, as we see a just and powerful God neutralize a wicked and jealous king.

**Witness of Christ [WC\*]:** David escape // Israel and Jesus escaping wicked kings. Theme of wicked kings contending with God into Psalm 2 and straight to Christ.

**Apologetic:** Psalm 2 at the end: submit to Jesus and live. All will stand before him.

**Text Tone:** Warning

**Preaching Voice:** Prophetic

**Form:** Inductive

**Call to Worship:** Psalm 59:16-17

**Benediction:** Psalm 59:9-10

**Outline:**

**I. Days of wickedness require the courage of faithfulness. (1-7)**

A. Jonathan intercedes. (1-5)

B. Saul concedes. (6-7)

**II. Opposing the Lord is an invitation for frustration. (8-17)**

A. David's success fuels Saul's madness. (8-10)

B. Saul's plot is spoiled by Michal's ploy. (11-17)

**III. The Lord's plan is realized as every threat is neutralized. (18-24)**

A. God's Spirit plays his enemies like a fiddle. (18-24)

**Main Idea:**

Subject: What happens to Saul's plan to kill David?

Complement: It is frustrated by the Lord's deliverance of David.

Exegetical Idea: The Lord frustrates Saul's plan as he delivers David from his hand.

Theological Idea: The Lord frustrates the plan of his enemies as he protects his people.

**Homiletical Idea: The Lord is a fortress who leaves his enemies powerless.**

**Introduction:**

READ 1 Samuel 19:1-7.

**19** And Saul spoke to Jonathan his son and to all his servants, that they should kill David. But Jonathan, Saul's son, delighted much in David. **2** And Jonathan told David, "Saul my father seeks to kill you. Therefore be on your guard in the morning. Stay in a secret place and hide yourself. **3** And I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where you are, and I will speak to my father about you. And if I learn anything I will tell you." **4** And Jonathan spoke well of David to Saul his father and said to him, "Let not the king sin against his servant David, because he has not sinned against you, and because his deeds have brought good to you. **5** For he took his life in his hand and he struck down the Philistine, and the Lord worked a great salvation for all Israel. You saw it, and rejoiced. Why then will you sin against innocent blood by killing David without cause?" **6** And Saul listened to the voice of Jonathan. Saul swore, "As the Lord lives, he shall not be put to death." **7** And Jonathan called David, and Jonathan reported to him all these things. And Jonathan brought David to Saul, and he was in his presence as before.

**I. Days of wickedness require the courage of faithfulness. (1-7)**

Ephesians 5:15-17: Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, **16** making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. **17** Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

READ 1 Samuel 19:8-17

**8** And there was war again. And David went out and fought with the Philistines and struck them with a great blow, so that they fled before him. **9** Then a harmful spirit from the Lord came upon Saul, as he sat in his house with his spear in his hand. And David was playing the lyre. **10** And Saul sought to pin David to the wall with the spear, but he eluded Saul, so that he struck the spear into the wall. And David fled and escaped that night.

<sup>11</sup> Saul sent messengers to David's house to watch him, that he might kill him in the morning. But Michal, David's wife, told him, "If you do not escape with your life tonight, tomorrow you will be killed." <sup>12</sup> So Michal let David down through the window, and he fled away and escaped. <sup>13</sup> Michal took an image and laid it on the bed and put a pillow of goats' hair at its head and covered it with the clothes. <sup>14</sup> And when Saul sent messengers to take David, she said, "He is sick." <sup>15</sup> Then Saul sent the messengers to see David, saying, "Bring him up to me in the bed, that I may kill him." <sup>16</sup> And when the messengers came in, behold, the image was in the bed, with the pillow of goats' hair at its head. <sup>17</sup> Saul said to Michal, "Why have you deceived me thus and let my enemy go, so that he has escaped?" And Michal answered Saul, "He said to me, 'Let me go. Why should I kill you?' "

## **II. Opposing the Lord is an invitation for frustration. (8-17)**

READ 1 Samuel 19:18-24

<sup>18</sup> Now David fled and escaped, and he came to Samuel at Ramah and told him all that Saul had done to him. And he and Samuel went and lived at Naioth. <sup>19</sup> And it was told Saul, "Behold, David is at Naioth in Ramah." <sup>20</sup> Then Saul sent messengers to take David, and when they saw the company of the prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing as head over them, the Spirit of God came upon the messengers of Saul, and they also prophesied. <sup>21</sup> When it was told Saul, he sent other messengers, and they also prophesied. And Saul sent messengers again the third time, and they also prophesied. <sup>22</sup> Then he himself went to Ramah and came to the great well that is in Secu. And he asked, "Where are Samuel and David?" And one said, "Behold, they are at Naioth in Ramah." <sup>23</sup> And he went there to Naioth in Ramah. And the Spirit of God came upon him also, and as he went he prophesied until he came to Naioth in Ramah. <sup>24</sup> And he too stripped off his clothes, and he too prophesied before Samuel and lay naked all that day and all that night. Thus it is said, "Is Saul also among the prophets?"

## **III. The Lord's plan is realized as every threat is neutralized. (18-24)**

Psalm 59:

To the choirmaster: according to Do Not Destroy. A Miktam of David, when Saul sent men to watch his house in order to kill him.

<sup>1</sup> Deliver me from my enemies, O my God;  
 protect me from those who rise up against me;  
<sup>2</sup> deliver me from those who work evil,  
 and save me from bloodthirsty men.  
<sup>3</sup> For behold, they lie in wait for my life;  
 fierce men stir up strife against me.  
 For no transgression or sin of mine, O Lord,  
<sup>4</sup> for no fault of mine, they run and make ready.  
 Awake, come to meet me, and see!

“Sometimes the clearest evidence that God has not deserted you is not that you are successfully past your trial but that you are still on your feet in the middle of it.” Dale Ralph Davis

**HI: The Lord is a fortress who leaves his enemies powerless.**

Psalm 2:1-6

Why do the nations rage

and the peoples plot in vain?

<sup>2</sup> The kings of the earth set themselves,  
 and the rulers take counsel together,  
 against the LORD and against his Anointed, saying,  
<sup>3</sup> “Let us burst their bonds apart  
 and cast away their cords from us.”

<sup>4</sup> He who sits in the heavens laughs;  
 the Lord holds them in derision.

<sup>5</sup> Then he will speak to them in his wrath,  
 and terrify them in his fury, saying,

<sup>6</sup> “As for me, I have set my King  
 on Zion, my holy hill.”

**The Lord is a fortress who leaves his enemies powerless.**

Psalm 2:6: “As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.”

READ Psalm 2:10-12

<sup>10</sup> Now therefore, O kings, be wise;  
be warned, O rulers of the earth.

<sup>11</sup> Serve the LORD with fear,  
and rejoice with trembling.

<sup>12</sup> Kiss the Son,  
lest he be angry, and you perish in the way,  
for his wrath is quickly kindled.

Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

**HI: The Lord is a fortress who leaves his enemies powerless.**

Matthew 10:28-33

<sup>28</sup> And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. <sup>29</sup> Are not two sparrows sold for a penny?<sup>9</sup> And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. <sup>30</sup> But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. <sup>31</sup> Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. <sup>32</sup> So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, <sup>33</sup> but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.