

8/2/09

1Sam. 20-21

David had been presented to us in two way so far.

1. David was trained by God as a shepherd and anointed king. 1Sam. 16-17
2. David was trained as a soldier under the service of Saul, in preparation to be king. 1Sam. 18-19
3. Now David will be trained by God, while a fugitive to be crown as king. 1Sam. 20-31

Saul has made seven attempts on the life of David, some directly others indirectly.

All who associate with David from this point on are in danger of their lives also, he has become a fugitive and enemy of the kingdom, in the eyes and heart of Saul.

* This will become very evident as Saul will take vengeance on Ahimelech and the priests at Nob.

In chapter 20 we have the last meeting of David with Jonathan, prior to his permanent departure from Saul.

20:1-23 The flight of David from Saul to meet with Jonathan.

20:1-11 The purpose of David was to seek the help of Jonathan.

20:1-2 *The desperation of David communicated to Jonathan.*

- 1) The journey to meet Jonathan. vs. 1
 - a) David was fleeing from Saul, he fled from Naioth in Ramah. vs. 1a
 - b) David went and spoke to Jonathan. vs. 1b
 - c) David poured out his heart to Jonathan, asking certain things. vs. 1c-f
 - 1)) "What have I done?" vs. 1c
 - 2)) "What is my iniquity?" vs. 1d
 - 3)) "And what is my sin before your father, that he seeks my life?" vs. 1e-f
- 2) The response of Jonathan to David. vs. 2
 - a) He assured David's safety. vs. 2a-b
 - b) He assured David his father disclosed everything to him. vs. 2c-d
 - c) He assured David, he was mistaken. vs. 2e-f

20:3-11 *The plan of David to confirm Saul's intent to kill him shared with Jonathan.*

- 1) David assured Jonathan, he was wrong by taking an oath. vs. 3
 - a) Under oath he revealed the evil heart of Saul, hiding this from Jonathan. vs. 3a-f
 - b) Under oath he declared the certainty of his death. vs. 3g-i

- 2) Jonathan placed himself at David's disposal. vs. 4
 - a) To submit to his will. vs. 4a-b
 - b) To work on his behalf. vs. 4c
- 3) David proposed his plan to expose the evil of Saul. vs. 5-6
 - a) David would be absent during the New Moon feast to eat with the king, vs. 5
 - b) If Saul said something about his absence, Jonathan was tell him, he had gone home to a family sacrifice. vs. 6
 - c) The response of Saul would be the proof of his true intent towards David, vs. 7
- 4) David reminds Jonathan of their covenant. vs. 8-9
 - a) David pleads for Jonathan's loyalty to the covenant, he had initiated. vs. 8a-b
 - b) David pleaded his innocence, willing to allow him to kill him if he was guilty. vs. 8c-e
 - c) Jonathan emphatically pledged his loyalty to David. vs. 9
 - d) David asked Jonathan, how he would let him know. vs. 10
 - e) Jonathan told David to follow him to the field. vs. 11

20:12-23 The plan affirmed by Jonathan to warn David about Saul's intent to kill him.

20:12-17 *The covenant between Jonathan and David renewed.*

- 1) Jonathan gave David the two possible sanarios. vs. 12
 - a) The positive one is first. vs. 12-13a
 - b) The negative is second. vs. 13b-e
- 2) Jonathan renewed the covenant they had made. vs. 14-17
 - a) David was to protect Jonathan. vs. 14
 - b) David was to protect the family of Jonathan, when he became king. vs.15
 - c) Jonathan then confirmed this in covenant. vs. 16
 - d) Jonathan then had David affirm the covenant, because he loved him, there was no doubt. vs. 17

20:18-23 The plan of Jonathan to inform David of Saul's intent.

- 1) David was to be ready on the prescribed day. vs. 18-19
 - a) David would be absent on the first day. vs. 18
 - b) David was to be at the set location on the third day. vs. 19*
- 2) Jonathan would declare the sign for David to know if it was good or evil. vs. 20-23

- a) He would launch some arrows. vs. 20
- b) He expressed first the words of safety. vs. 21
- c) He expressed second the words of harm. vs. 22
- d) He expressed his faithful devotion to David. vs. 23

20:24-34 The return of Jonathan to carry out the plan of David.

21:24-29 The gathering of Saul and Jonathan at the feast.

- 1) The first day of the feast. vs. 24-25
- 2) The response of Saul at the absence of David the first day was silence, thinking he had become unclean. vs. 26
- 3) The response of Saul in the absence of David, on the second day was different. vs. 27
 - a) Saul took note of David's absence again. vs. 27a-c
 - b) Saul questioned Jonathan. vs. 27d-f
- 4) The response of Jonathan, vs. 28-29
 - a) He had allowed David to visit his family. vs. 28
 - b) He pretended to quote his very words. vs. 29

20:30-34 The evil intent of Saul towards David revealed at the feast.

- 1) Saul lashed out at Jonathan. vs. 30
 - a) Telling him he was being treacherous to his own family. vs. 30
 - b) Telling him that was doing himself harm. vs. 31a-c
 - c) Telling him to deliver David to him to be killed. vs. 31d-e
- 2) Jonathan defended David to his father. vs. 32
 - a) Jonathan asked the reason for wanting to kill David. vs. 32a-c
 - b) Jonathan asked the crime of David. vs. 32d
- 3) Saul manifested his cold murderous heart. vs. 33
 - a) He attempted to kill Jonathan. vs. 33a
 - b) He made clear to Jonathan his intent for David, to kill him. vs. 33b
- 4) Jonathan responded as a loyal friend. vs. 34
 - a) He was upset, "So Jonathan arose from the table in fierce anger, and ate no food the second day of the month," vs. 34a-b
 - b) He felt bad for David, "for he was grieved for David, because his father had treated him shamefully." vs. 34c-d

20:35-42 The warning of Jonathan for David to flee for his life.

20:35-40 The warning of Jonathan to David carried out.

- 1) Jonathan went out to the field with the boy. “And so it was, in the morning, that Jonathan went out into the field at the time appointed with David, and a little lad was with him.” vs. 35
- 2) Jonathan gave the commands to the boy. vs. 36
 - a) He shoot the arrows, “Then he said to his lad, “Now run, find the arrows which I shoot.” As the lad ran, he shot an arrow beyond him.” vs. 36
 - b) He spoke the words of danger to David, “When the lad had come to the place where the arrow was which Jonathan had shot, Jonathan cried out after the lad and said, “Is not the arrow beyond you?” vs. 37
 - c) He recalled the boy, “And Jonathan cried out after the lad, “Make haste, hurry, do not delay!” So Jonathan’s lad gathered up the arrows and came back to his master.” vs. 38
 - d) He kept the boy unaware of the plan, “But the lad did not know anything. Only Jonathan and David knew of the matter.” vs. 39
 - e) He dismissed the boy, “Then Jonathan gave his weapons to his lad, and said

to him, “Go, carry them to the city.” vs. 40

20:41-42 The heart-broken departure between David and Jonathan.

- 1) The meeting of David and Jonathan was a sad one. vs. 41
 - a) The posture of David was humbly thankful to Jonathan, bowing as to a superior, three times. vs. 41a-d
 - b) Both expressed their love for each other, affectionately. vs. 41e-f
- 2) The departure was in view of their covenant. vs. 42
 - a) Jonathan blessed David. vs. 42a-b
 - b) Jonathan expressed the basis for their commitment, the LORD. vs. 42c-e
 - c) Jonathan and David parted. vs. 42f-g

21:1-15 The flight of David to Nob.

21:1-9 The arrival of David to Nob.

- 1) The uneasiness of Ahimelech. vs. 1
 - a) David came to Nob, the worship center of the tabernacle at the present time, one mile or so northeast of Jerusalem, situated on Mount Scopus. vs. 1a
 - b) Ahimelech the high priest in the line of Eli, his great-grandson. vs. 1b
*1Sam. 14:3, 22:9

- c) Ahimelech was afraid when he met David, all alone. vs. 1c-e
 * Verse one is the last verse of chapter 20 in the Hebrew scriptures.
- 2) The response of David was that he was on a secret mission from Saul the king. vs. 2
- a) The statement was a lie.
 - b) Some people have a difficulty with the lies that are recorded in the Bible.
 - c) The common thread of lies like this one is that they are always in the context of the threat of life and to preserve life, like when the midwives lied to the Pharaoh about the why they did not kill the male babies. Ex . 1:15-21
 - d) God has preserved David through all the attempts by Saul to take his life, God is with David, is repeatedly stated.
 - e) God does not condone any lie apart from the preserving of life and safety.
 - g) David lied about Uriah and Bathsheba and God judged him.
 * The ninth commandment, prohibits lying, bearing false witness. Ex . 20:16
- 3) The petition of David was first for some food provisions. vs. 3-7

- a) David asked for 5 loafs of bread or more if he had it. vs. 3
- b) Ahimelech only had no regular break only the holy bread for the tabernacle that was replaced once a week and the priest were suppose to eat it. vs. 4a-c
 * Ex. 24:30, 35:13, Lev. 24:9
- c) The condition was if they had not been intimate with a woman. vs. 4d
 * Uncleaness. Lev. 15:16-18
- d) The response of David was two-fold. vs. 5
 - 1)) David said the men were clean and holy vessels, since their three day travel. vs. 5a-d
 - 2)) David said that the bread was in effect common, the set time for its used was seven days and then replaced. vs. 5e-f
- d) Ahimelech gave David the week old bread, replacing it with hot bread in its place. vs. 6
 - 1)) The word showbread “lechem”, literally means bread of the face.
 - 2)) Jesus made reference to David eating, teaching that human need rises about law or ceremony, regarding the Sabbath day. Matt. 12:3-8, Mk. 2:25-26
- e) The presence of one of Saul’s chief herdsmen is noted. vs. 7

- 1)) He was being detained before the LORD, no reason is given, perhaps a vow or some violation of the law, he was a proselyte.
- 2)) His name was Doeg. meaning fearing.
- 3)) He was an Edomite, a type of the flesh, a descendent of Esau.
- 4) The next request of David was for a weapon. vs. 8-9
 - a) David asked if there might be a spear or sword. vs. 8a-b
 - b) David explained his mission from the king came so sudden, that did not take his weapons. vs. 8c-e
 - * What is wrong with this picture?
 - c) Ahimelech told David the sword of Goliath, whom he killed was there. vs. 9*
 - 1)) It was wrapped in a cloth behind the ephod. vs. 9c
 - 2)) If he wanted it, he could take it. vs. 9d
 - 3)) The commentary was, “For there is no other except that one here”, to which David agreed. vs. 9e-g

21:10-14 The departure of David from Nob.

- 1) David fled to the land of the Philistines. vs. 10

- a) His flight was from Saul, his domestic enemy. vs. 10a
- b) His flight was to Achish the king of Gath, his foreign enemy. vs. 10b
- 2) David set himself up in the midst of the enemies camp. vs. 11
 - a) The servants of Achish said to him, “Is this not David the king of the land?” vs. 11a-b
 - b) “Did they not sing of him to one another in dances, saying: ‘Saul has slain his thousands, And David his ten thousands’?” vs. 11c-f
- 3) David became very creative to secure his safety. vs. 12-15
 - a) David pondering the words he was hearing become very afraid of Achish the king of Gath. vs. 12
 - b) David pretended to be a crazy man. vs. 13
 - 1)) He changed his behavior before them. vs. 13a
 - 2)) He began to scratched on the doors of the gate, and let his saliva fall down on his beard. vs. 13b-d
 - * One of the Psalms is attributed to this event. Ps. 34
 - c) Achish said to his servants, “Look, you see the man is insane. Why have you brought him to me?” vs. 14

- d) Achish responded repulsively to David, wanting nothing to do with him. vs. 15