

# 1 Samuel 24: Godly Repentance or Worldly Sorrow?

## Review: Chapter 23 Leadership and Deliverance

- David rescues Keilah from the Philistines
- God tells David Keilah will surrender him to Saul
- David goes to Ziph and the Ziphites tell Saul where David is
- Jonathan encourages David with the Word of God (last meeting w/David)
- Saul pursues David to the Rock of Escape, then is called away to fight the Philistines leaving David unharmed
- David is growing as a leader of men and a follower of God

Lead me to the rock that is higher than I. **For You have been a refuge for me, A tower of strength against the enemy**

- **This Week: Repentance: Turning away from sin; A complete and total change of mind**

## 1 Samuel 24

- Hide and seek

1Now when Saul returned from pursuing the Philistines, he was told, saying, "Behold, David is in the wilderness of Engedi." 2Then Saul took three **thousand chosen men** from all Israel and went to seek David and his men in **front of the Rocks of the Wild Goats**. 3He came to the sheepfolds on the way, where there was a cave; and Saul went in to **relieve himself**. Now David and his men were sitting in the inner recesses of the cave.

- 3000 against 600
- Front of Rocks of the Wild Goats: Trapped
- Relive himself...just that

**4The men of David said** to him, "**Behold, this is the day** of which the LORD said to you, 'Behold; I am about to give your enemy into your hand, **and you shall do to him as it seems good to you.**'"

Then David arose and cut off the edge of Saul's robe secretly. 5It came about afterward that **David's conscience** bothered him because he had cut off the edge of Saul's robe.

- **"Behold this is the day..."** :Never recorded as being said by David
- "Do what **seems good to you...**" You're a Kings Kid?
- Cutting off the robe was **just the beginning** of what was planned
- **1<sup>st</sup> Step** to Repentance: Still small voice of God

6So he said to his men, "Far be it from me **because of the LORD** that I should do this thing to my lord, the **LORD'S anointed**, to stretch out my hand against him, since he is the LORD'S anointed."

7David persuaded his men with these words and **did not allow them to rise up** against Saul.

- "...because the Lord
- **Step 2 in repentance:** Understanding who all sin offends

**Psalm 51:4** Against You, You only, I have sinned And done what is evil in Your sight, So that You are justified when You speak And blameless when You judge.

- God's Anointed: God or someone else must take Saul out
- David persuaded his men with his conviction from God, speaking with confidence

**Matthew 7: 28** When Jesus had finished these words, the crowds were amazed at His teaching; 29for He was teaching them as one having authority,

- **David was confident** God told him what to do
- He **"did not allow"** his men to kill Saul

And Saul arose, left the cave, and **went on his way**. 8Now afterward David arose and went out of the cave and called after Saul, saying, **"My lord the king!"** And when Saul looked behind him, David **bowed** with his face to the ground and **prostrated himself**.

- "My Lord the King...prostrated himself"

**Romans 13: 1 and 7** Every person is to be in subjection to the

governing authorities For there is no **authority except from God**, and those which exist are established by God. 7 Render to all what is due them: tax to whom tax is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor.

- God gave Saul authority, it would be God who takes it away

9David said to Saul, "**Why do you listen** to the words of men, saying, 'Behold, David seeks to harm you?' 10"Behold, this day **your eyes have seen** that the LORD had given you today into my hand in the cave, and **some said to kill you**, but my eye had pity on you; and I said, 'I will not stretch out my hand against my lord, for he is the LORD'S anointed.'

- "**Why do you listen to men?"** David teaches a lesson he just learned
- "**You eyes have seen..."** David begins to reason with Saul

11"Now, **my father**, see! Indeed, see the edge of your robe in my hand! For in that **I cut off the edge of your robe** and did not kill you, **know and perceive** that there is no evil or rebellion in my hands, and I have not sinned against you, though you are lying in wait for my life to take it. 12"May the LORD judge between you and me, and may the LORD avenge me on you; but my hand shall not be against you. 13"As the proverb of the ancients says, 'Out of the wicked comes forth wickedness'; but my hand shall not be against you. 14"After whom has the king of Israel come out? Whom are you pursuing? A dead dog, a single flea? 15"The LORD therefore be judge and decide between you and me; and may He see and plead my cause and deliver me from your hand."

- "**I cut off** the edge of your robe....(not arrogantly)
- Though David made a mistake...God will use it to show mercy
- God will use our mistakes for his divine purpose

**Romans 8: 28** And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

- **Know and perceive:** David continues to reason...as God does with us
- David pleads with Saul to **surrender to God**

**Isaiah 1:18** (Read) "Come now, and let us reason together," Says the

LORD, "Though your sins are as scarlet, They will be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They will be like wool. 19 "If you consent and obey, You will eat the best of the land; 20 "But if you refuse and rebel, You will be devoured by the sword "Truly, the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

- God gives us every opportunity to turn from sin
- His Word is a Sword to teach or devour

**Hebrews 4:12** (Read) For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the **thoughts and intentions of the heart.** 13 And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.

- The mirror allows us to repent or rebel
- We fall onto the Rock or the Rock falls on us

**Revelation 19: 11** (Read) And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war. 12 His eyes are a flame of fire, and on His head are many diadems; and He has a name written on Him which no one knows except Himself. 13 He is clothed with a **robe dipped in blood**, and His name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, were following Him on white horses. 15 **From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron;** and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty.

- God continues to reason with Saul (after God's own heart)

**Revelation 22: 16**" (Read) I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches I am the **root and the descendant of David**, the bright morning star." 17 The **Spirit and the bride say, "Come "** And let the one who hears say, "Come " And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who wishes take the water of life without cost.

- **Divine Wooing**
- God (Spirit) and the Church (us) say come

- **David:** Jesus great, great, grandson in the flesh says come...**to Saul**

16When David had finished speaking these words to Saul, Saul said, "Is this your voice, **my son David?**" Then Saul **lifted up his voice and wept.** 17He said to David, "**You are more righteous** than I; for you have dealt well with me, while **I have dealt wickedly with you.** 18"You have declared today that you have done good to me, that the LORD delivered me into your hand and yet you did not kill me. 19"For if a man finds his enemy, **will he let him go away safely?**

- Saul seems to get it!

May the LORD therefore reward you with good in return for what you have done to me this day. 20"Now, behold, **I know that you will surely** be king, and that the kingdom of Israel will be established in your hand. 21"So now swear to me by the LORD that you will **not cut off my descendants** after me and that you will not destroy my name from my father's household." **22David swore to Saul.** And Saul went to his home, **but David and his men went up to the stronghold.**

- David does **not trust** Saul
- **"Do not cut off..."** Already promised to his son Jonathan
- What **would happen** if Saul had repented? Blessed of God...**Yes!**
- Saul will not repent; turn away from his sin

**Isaiah 1:20** "But if you refuse and rebel, You will be **devoured by the sword** "Truly, the mouth of the **LORD has spoken.**

- **Saul will refuse and rebel and die** by the sword on the hill of his last heinous sin
- Saul visits a witch and later falls on his own sword killing himself on the same hill where he made that bad choice

## CONCLUSION:

- David listened to men, not God and made a foolish decision to cut off a piece of Saul's robe
- David listened "for" God the listened "to" God not to touch the Lords anointed. He repented
- David convinces his men with authority from God not to kill Saul
- Saul seems sad but **this is not repentance...**he was just

embarrassed he got caught!

**2 Corinthians 7:10** (Read) For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance **without regret**, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.

### **TRUE REPENTANCE (How do we know?)**

- True repentance is **without regret**: Go the right way without looking back...It's done!
- **Understand it is a gift**...ask for it

**2 Timothy 2:25**...with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may **grant them repentance** leading to the knowledge of the truth,

- It is an offense against God

**Psalms 51:4** Against You, You only, I have sinned And done what is evil in Your sight, So that You are justified when You speak And blameless when You judge.

- We take it seriously (not optional)

**Hebrews 12:15** See to it that no one **comes short of the grace of God**; that no root of bitterness springing up causes trouble, and by it many be defiled; 16that there be no immoral or godless person like Esau, who sold his own birthright for a single meal. 17For you know that even **afterwards, when he desired to inherit the blessing**, he was rejected, for he **found no place for repentance**, though he sought for it with tears.

- Saul's pride kept God's grace at a distance (opposes the proud)
- Saul became calloused as we can by going to church
- Saul died on his own sword, he knew the Word of God, and he heard the Word of God until it meant nothing to him!
- **Eternal consequences** for not repenting

**Galatians 5:19** (Read) Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: **immorality**, impurity, sensuality, 20idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions,

21envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that **those who practice** such things **will not inherit the kingdom of God.**

22But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. 24Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.