

1 Samuel Chapter 21: Sidetracked by Fear

1 Samuel Chapter 20 Review: Jonathan and David: A Picture of Loving One Another

1. **Tell the TRUTH:** Pray before giving advice to **serious questions** from others. Be truthful with people...always
2. **RESPECT One Another:** Treat others as more **important than yourself**. Humble yourself before everyone
3. **Expect the best:** I know **with God's help** you can have victory
4. **Speak well** people even when they are not there: Even if everyone is not...speak well!
5. **See the LORD in people,** for we are all created in God's image

1 Samuel 21

Jeremiah 29: 11 'For I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you **a future and a hope**.

- **Gods plan for us is good, but** he does **not** say we will not go through **trials**
- **Jesus:** "...In the world **you have tribulation**, but take courage; I have overcome the world." (John 16:33)
- Saul, King of Israel is **now pursuing David to murder him** and attempting to **usurp God's plan** for David to become King
- **Trials are ahead** for David as he moves out of being a picture of Christ (for a time) and is **overcome by fear**

1Then David came to Nob to **Ahimelech the priest**; and Ahimelech came trembling to meet David and said to him, "**Why are you alone and no one with you?**" 2David said to Ahimelech the priest, "The king has commissioned me with a matter and has said to me, 'Let no one know anything about the matter on which I am sending you and with which I have commissioned you; and I have directed the young men to a certain place.' 3"Now therefore, **what do you have on hand?** Give me five loaves of bread, or whatever can be found."

- **Nob:** Town northeast of Jerusalem where the priests were gathered to seek the Lord on behalf of believers

- Not David's first time there (inquired before battles)
- Ahimelech wonders why he is alone...**something's up**
- **"The king sent me..."** A lie to protect the priest from involvement if Saul should question him. It did not work (Chapter 22)
- Fear is setting in, causing a lack of wisdom and discernment
- He asks for food for him and his men

4The priest answered David and said, "There is no ordinary bread on hand, but there is **consecrated bread**; if only the young men have **kept themselves** from women." 5David answered the priest and said to him, "Surely women have been kept from us as previously when I set out and the vessels of the young men were holy, though it was an ordinary journey; how much more then today will their vessels be holy?"

- **Consecrated Bread or Showbread or Bread of Presence**
- **12 Loaves** for each tribe put out before the Lord, symbolic of the first fruits of their labor
- Acknowledge that it came from God in the first place

2 Timothy 4:8 in the future there is laid up for me the **crown of righteousness**, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.

- We will receive crowns for the righteous **things we do** and for enduring through the hardship of just plain living in a fallen world

Revelation 4:9 (Read) And when the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, to Him who lives forever and ever, 10the twenty-four elders will **fall down before Him** who sits on the throne, and will worship Him who lives forever and ever, and will **cast their crowns before the throne**, saying, 11"**Worthy are You**, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created."

- **24 Elders:** Picture of the **12 Old Testament Tribes** plus Twelve **New Testament Apostles (All of Gods people)**
- **All good is from God, and**
- **Consecrated bread** gives that picture...and **David asks for it!**

6So the priest gave him consecrated bread; for there was no bread there but the **bread of the Presence** which was removed from before the LORD, in order to put hot bread in its place when it was taken away.

- Priest gave him the **Holy** bread
- Jesus talks about this in Matthew 12

Matthew 12: 1 (Read) At that time Jesus went through the grainfields on the Sabbath, and His disciples became hungry and began to pick the heads of grain and eat. 2But when the Pharisees saw this, they said to Him, "Look, Your disciples do what is not lawful to do on a Sabbath." 3But He said to them, "Have you not read what David did when he became hungry, he and his companions, 4how he entered the house of God, and they ate the consecrated bread, **which was not lawful for him to eat nor for those with him**, but for the priests alone? 5"Or have you not read in the Law, that on the Sabbath the priests in the temple **break the Sabbath** and are innocent? 6"But I say to you that **something greater than the temple is here**. 7"But if you had known what this means, 'I DESIRE COMPASSION, AND NOT A SACRIFICE,' you would not have condemned the innocent.

- **Jesus teaches** the Pharisees that the **law of the Spirit** (summed up in love God and love your neighbor) overrides the written code (goes beyond).
- **References our text:** David was **caring** (loving) his men

Luke 10:25 (Read) And a lawyer stood up and put Him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" 26And He said to him, "What is written in the Law? How does it read to you?" 27And he answered, "**YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND; AND YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.**" 28And He said to him, "You have answered correctly; **DO THIS AND YOU WILL LIVE.**" 29But wishing to justify himself, he said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" 30Jesus replied and said, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among robbers, and they stripped him and beat him, and went away leaving him half dead. 31"And by chance a priest was going down on that road, and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. 32"Likewise a Levite also, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. 33"But a Samaritan, who was on a journey, came upon him; and when he saw him, he felt compassion, 34 and came to him and bandaged up his wounds,

pouring oil and wine on them; and he put him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn and took care of him. 35"On the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper and said, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I return I will repay you.' 36"Which of these three do you think proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell into the robbers' hands?" 37And he said, "The one who **showed mercy** toward him." Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do the same."

- The priest gave David the Bread, and act of mercy (**God's true heart towards us**)

7Now one of the **servants of Saul** was there that day, detained before the LORD; and his name was **Doeg the Edomite**, the chief of Saul's shepherds.

- **Doeg the Edomite:** Decendent of Esau and **a picture of our flesh**

Genesis 25:29 (Read) When Jacob had cooked stew, Esau came in from the field and he was famished; 30and Esau said to Jacob, "Please let me have a swallow of that red stuff there, for I am famished." Therefore his name was called Edom[red]. 31But Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." 32Esau said, "Behold, I am about to die; so of what use then is the birthright to me?" 33And Jacob said, "First swear to me"; so he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. 34Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew; and he ate and drank, and rose and went on his way. **Thus Esau despised his birthright.**

- **Spiritual Birthright:** Esau **Despised spiritual things** to feed his flesh

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.**

- **Root of bitterness springing up...**that's this guy! (next chapter)
- Flesh is always lurking...looking to rise up!
- David should have took him out...**and not on a date!**
- Fear was changing this mighty warrior as fear makes us think and act foolishly

8David said to Ahimelech, "Now is there not a spear or a sword on

hand? For I brought neither my sword nor my weapons with me, because the king's matter was urgent." 9Then the priest said, "The **sword of Goliath** the Philistine, whom you killed in the valley of Elah, behold, it is wrapped in a cloth behind the **ephod**; if you would take it for yourself, take it. For there is no other except it here." And David said, "**There is none like it; give it to me.**"

- **Ephod: Vest** priests wore to inquire of the Lord
- "**There is none like it...**" David may be relying on past victories...on himself instead of God
- Fear is the opposite of faith, so...
- When we fear we use **whatever is handy** to try to "**make things work**" (they will for a little while)
 1. Humor
 2. Anger
 3. Solitude
 4. Blaming others
- These are all **masks**
- God **will** bring us to the point of **total dependence** on Him

10Then David arose and fled that day from Saul, and went to **Achish king of Gath**.

- **Gath:** Philistine town of Goliath. Why go there?
 1. Was this the answer as he inquired of the Lord?
 2. "**My enemy's enemy is my friend**" (Saul is enemy of the Philistines and now enemy of David. Will the Philistines take David in?)
 3. Combination of both

11But the servants of Achish said to him, "Is this not David the **king of the land**? Did they not sing of this one as they danced, saying, 'Saul has slain his thousands, And **David his ten thousands**'?" 12David took these words to heart and **greatly feared Achish** king of Gath. 13So he disguised his sanity before them, and **acted insanely** in their hands, and scribbled on the doors of the gate, and let his saliva run down into his beard. 14Then Achish said to his servants, "Behold, you see the man behaving as a madman. Why do you bring him to me? 15"**Do I lack madmen**, that you have brought this one to act the madman in my presence? Shall this one come into my house?"

- **King:** David was famous all over the territory

- **Song:** Second time it has got David in trouble (**He killed** 10 thousand Philistines) 1st time made Saul jealous
- Now he's really scared "**greatly feared Achish**"
- Scribbled on doors (graffiti) and Saliva **running down his beard**

CONCLUSION:

Proverbs 9:10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

Proverbs 29:25 The fear of man **brings a snare**, But he who trusts in the LORD will be exalted.

- David went from **killing Goliath** to fearing Saul, who would not even fight Goliath
- **Bad decisions** were made as fear began (lying, not dealing with the enemy, trusting in past victories)
- As fear took over David he failed to act like the man of valor he was, to acting insane and foolish...with Saliva dripping down his beard
- Not long before this, it was precious anointing oil dripping down his beard!

1 Samuel 10:1 Then Samuel took the flask of oil, **poured it on his head**, kissed him and said, "Has not the LORD anointed you a ruler over His inheritance?"

- **Fragrant Anointing Oil:** A beautiful picture of Gods Spirit poured out
- A **pleasant** experience

Psalm 133:1 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is. For brothers to dwell together in unity! 2It is like the **precious oil** upon the head, Coming down upon the beard, Even Aaron's **beard**, Coming down upon the edge of his robes.

- Our hero will be back as the picture of Christ as he trusts in God

Psalm 23 of David (Read) 1 The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, 3 he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, **I will fear no evil, for you are with**

me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. 6 Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and **I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**