

# 1 Samuel 27

Jesus

After sin entered the world so did trials...

**John 16:33 ...In the world you will have tribulation...**

- Our enemy's mission is to persecute God's people w/trials
- **Persecute:** heb. *Pael* lit. Wear away. Wear out. Harass constantly

To render us as a partridge too tired get off the ground  
Satan desires to wear us down then take us out

Such continual and prolonged pressure far more effectively breaks the human spirit than the single moment of crisis that calls for a heroic decision. It is easier to die for the Lord than to live for him under constant harassment and strain. [Archer]

- Satan wants us to throw away our confidence

**Hebrews 10:35 ...do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. 36 For you have need of endurance...**

**1 Samuel 26:25 ...So David went on his way, and Saul returned to his place.**

Like the last Japanese soldier alone on an island...  
Nobody told David the battle is over

David is tired. Sick and Tired  
Rat fink Ziphites/Betraying Kenites/Relentless Saul

## I. David goes to Gath Nothing Better for Me

1 And David **said in his heart**, "Now **I shall perish** someday by the hand of Saul.

David said to in his heart...  
I'm gonna die **if I don't fix this** now

**Jeremiah 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked; Who can know it?**

**Proverbs 3:5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. 7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the Lord and depart from evil.**

**1b... There is nothing better for me than that I should speedily escape to the land of the Philistines; and Saul will despair of me, to seek me anymore in any part of Israel. So I shall escape out of his hand."**

David said to his heart I can't take anymore...What should I do?  
The best thing we can do is run away

- **Our Heart/Emotions lie:**

1. God is taking too long
2. God won't keep His promise
3. God wants you to be happy?

David doesn't hear from God because David didn't go to God

- Nothing better **for me?**

1. Quickly escape. [Before changing my mind]
2. Go back to the world
3. Live among those who hate God?

David already had an excuse ready to go...

**1 Samuel 26:19b** [Those that say they are God's people] ...have **driven me out** this day from sharing in the inheritance of the Lord, saying, '**Go, serve other gods.**'

Ziphites/Kenites/Saul commonality?

All called themselves believers...Actually make-believers

**1 Kings 19:10** [David has a case of Elijah syndrome] Elijah said to God, "I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; [but] the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. **I alone am left**; and they seek to take my life." God says He has 6000 others still faithful

- Easy to see why David's heart would tell him to split...

Better the devil you know than the devil you don't know?

David expects the enemy to act like the enemy...but not God's people

**2 Then David arose and went over with the six hundred men who were with him to Achish the son of Maach, king of Gath.**

David goes to Gath: Lit. Winepress

David arose once before and went to Gath

**1 Samuel 21:10** Then David arose and fled that day from before Saul, and went to Achish the king of Gath ...**13** So he changed his behavior before them, pretended madness in their hands, scratched on the doors of the gate, and let his saliva fall down on his beard. **14** Then Achish said to his servants, "Look, **you see the man is insane**. Why have you brought him to me? **15 Have I need of madmen...**

**Insanity:** Repeatedly engaging in destructive behavior while hoping for a different outcome

**Proverbs 26:11** As a dog returns to his own vomit, So a fool repeats his folly.

- **Merry-Go-Round Mentality**

1. That guy at work who keeps coming in w/a hangover. AA I am \_ and an alcoholic

2. The family member w/the cycle of being clean/relapsing
3. The person you disciplined growing/backsliding...hurts to watch

We have been programmed to believe we can never *permanently* change  
If the Son sets you free you are free indeed...Lit. Truly Free Forever

David arose and went to Gath again...

This time taking everyone he loves/responsible for down with him

- **James:** Don't say I will go here or there but if the Lord wills...David just arose and went

## II. David at Home with the Philistines

3 So **David dwelt** with Achish at Gath, he and his men, each man with his household, and David with his two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and **Abigail** the Carmelitess, Nabal's widow.

David/Wives including Abigail  
600 Guys/Wives/Kids all follow David down...

4 And it was told Saul that David had fled to Gath so he **sought him no more.**

Saul no longer searched for David  
Hey, look at that...It worked!

**Numbers 32:23 ...be sure your sin will find you out.**

**Galatians 6:7** Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for **whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.**

- Satan will let us win/give us comfort till he's done w/us...

Achish is convinced David is now his friend/Enemy of Israel  
What did David have to do/say to convince him?

- Deny his people Israel?
- Deny God of Israel [at least in word]?
- Act like a Philistine?
- Talk like a Philistine...while those he loved/responsible for looked on?

5 Then David said to Achish, "If I have now found favor in your eyes, let them **give me a place in some town in the country, that I may dwell there.** For why should your servant dwell in the royal city with you?"

Compromise: A move to the country will be enough of a separation  
David is still dwelling in enemy territory apart from God's perfect will

For now things are going swimmingly  
David and his new buddy Achish playing golf/shooting breeze

6 So **Achish gave David Ziklag** that day. Therefore Ziklag has belonged to the kings of Judah to this day. 7 Now the time that David dwelt in the country of the Philistines was **one full year and four months.**

Achish gave David Ziklag?  
Satan does not give us anything for free

**Proverbs 23:7** For [as the greedy man] thinks in his heart, so is he. "Eat and drink!" he says to you, But his heart is not with you. 8 **The morsel you have eaten, you will vomit up, And waste your pleasant words.**

**Romans 6:16** Do you not know that **to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey**, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?

The moment we stop fearing God we begin fearing man  
We become people pleasers/compromisers/Milk toast nothing people  
Forsake truth and you forsake everything...

**Galatians 1:10** [Paul was **immovable** because he feared God] ...do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ.

- And you wouldn't be trying to kill me. But truth is worth it. Jesus is worth standing for.

Fearing God is the opposite of listening to our hearts; i.e. seeking out logical reasons to disobey God. We fear man rather than God thinking our compromise will keep us safe but it is the exact opposite! [NJC]

**Proverbs 29:25** The fear of man brings a snare But whoever trusts in the Lord **shall be safe.**

God's work in us is not for our personal comfort  
Gods work in us is about His glory/Our growth/Growth of those around us

David makes himself at home w/the enemies of God for over a year  
His wife Abigail is watching, listening...weeping

**1 Samuel 25:3b [Abigail meets David]**...And she was a woman of good understanding and beautiful appearance... 23 Now when Abigail saw David, she dismounted quickly from the donkey, fell on her face before David, and bowed down to the ground ...**32** Then David said to Abigail: "Blessed is the Lord God of Israel, who sent you this day to meet me! [Later...] 42 Abigail rose in haste and rode on a donkey, attended by five of her maidens; and she followed the messengers of David, and **became David's wife.**

People watch our response to trials. Consistency? Yielding to God?  
They expect more because we said we have more...When we fail we betray

### III. David Servant of Achish

8 And **David and his men went up and raided** the Geshurites, the Girzites, and the Amalekites. For those nations were the inhabitants of the land from of old, as you go to Shur, even as far as the land of Egypt. 9 Whenever David

attacked the land, he left neither man nor woman alive, but took away the sheep, the oxen, the donkeys, the camels, and the apparel, and **returned and came to Achish.**

David is killing the enemies of Israel...Telling Achish he's killing Israelites

10 Then Achish would say, "Where have you made a raid today?" And David would say, "Against the southern area of **Judah**, or against the southern area of the Jerah-me-elites, or against the southern area of the Kenites." 11 David would save neither man nor woman alive, to bring news to Gath, saying, "Lest they should inform on us, saying, 'Thus David did.' " And thus was his behavior all the time he dwelt in the country of the Philistines.

David is now living a perpetual lie. Compromising yet believing he is serving God  
David must kill everyone who sees him. Anyone who can identify him to Achish

Sin is affecting innocent people all around David

**Psalm 15:1** A Psalm of David. 15 Lord, who may abide in Your tabernacle? Who may dwell in Your holy hill? 2 He who walks uprightly, And works righteousness, And **speaks the truth in his heart**; 3 He who does not backbite with his tongue, Nor does evil to his neighbor, Nor does he take up a reproach against his friend; 4 In whose eyes a vile person is despised, But he honors those who fear the Lord; **He who swears to his own hurt and does not change**; 5 He who does not put out his money at usury, Nor does he take a bribe against the innocent. He who does these things shall never be moved.

God takes David's life a whole not in parts: Man after God's own heart  
Thank God he takes our life as a whole not in parts. Mercies new every morning [NJC]

12 So Achish believed David, saying, "He has made his people Israel utterly abhor him; therefore he will be my **servant forever.**"

Achish/Satan celebrate victory: You gott'a' serve somebody  
**David will be my Servant forever**

Physically, Emotionally, Spiritually, Mentally spent...David reacted to Emotions  
He listened to his heart vs the Word of God

- Abandoned God's provision: Ask/Knock/Find
- Sought a comfortable place away from God's people/protection
- Made poor decisions taking those he loved down w/him
- Became a people pleaser to continue a miserable "comfortable" life
- Abandoned integrity/truth... lying to those he was once an example to

It began with a thought. David talked to his heart...Comfort yourself Dave  
David almost loses everything including Abigail in Ch.30

**Psalm 119:67** [David will learn from the hurt that's coming] Before I was afflicted I went astray, **But now I keep Your word.**

There is purpose in the pain/When we run we short circuit God's intent

**2 Corinthians 1:6** Now if we are afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effective for enduring the same sufferings which we also suffer. Or if we are comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation. 7 And our hope for you is steadfast, because we know that as you are partakers of the sufferings, so also you will partake of the consolation. 8 For we do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, of our trouble which came to us in Asia: that we were burdened beyond measure, above strength, so that we **despaired even of life**. 9 Yes, we had the sentence of death in ourselves, [Why would God allow it?] **that we should not trust in ourselves but in God** who raises the dead, 10 who **delivered** us from so great a death, and **does deliver us**; in whom we trust that He **will still deliver us...**

Purpose of Pain? To learn not to trust in ourselves but in God/Teach others  
God **delivered** us/**is delivering** us/and **will still deliver us**

Achish/Satan felt they in a good place. David was trapped in a web, and Achish was the spider. Achish believed that David had burned all his bridges with the people of God. It all looks pretty dark; but David had not - and could not - burn his bridge with God. [Guzik]

**Romans 8:31** What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? 33 Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is he who condemns? *Jesus died and is risen* and is even at the right hand of God *making* intercession for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? **Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?** [Life is hard...] 36 As it is written: "For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter." 37 Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. 38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, 39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- Since nothing can separate us from the love of Jesus...
  1. We will be moved by His Spirit rather our Emotions
  2. We will continue to walk by faith even as we were saved by faith

Our hope will be firmly grounded in the faithfulness of God  
IOWs Living like we know He will come through without me trying to fix this