

1 Samuel 18

Love God/ Love People

- **David's trust in God/Love for People**
 1. Dropped his baggage
 2. Ran toward the battle
 3. Excited about what the Lord would do

I. Jonathan and David

1Now it came about when [David] had finished speaking to Saul, that the **soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David**, and Jonathan loved him as himself.

- Jonathan; Saul's son: Heard David's heart as David spoke to Saul

"No doubt but David spoke much more than is here expressed, abasing himself, and exalting God, as sole Author of the victory over Goliath." (Trapp)

- Soul of Jonathan knit with soul David:

Colossians 2:1 [Paul's hope for Colossians] that they would be **knit together in love...**

Matthew 22:36 [Lawyer to Jesus] "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" 37And [Jesus] said to him, "'YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.' 38" This is the great and foremost commandment. 39" The second is like it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' 40" **On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets."**

Luke 10:28 [Jesus continues] "You have answered correctly; do this and you will live."

- Love God and others as much as yourself ... and **you will live!**

How would I like to be treated? What would it look like, what actions would need to be taken, what words would need to be spoken for me to know I am loved...do that for others [Costa]

John 15:13 Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.

- Die...and you will live [Great paradox]

Matthew 10:39 He who has found his life will lose it, and he who has lost his life for My sake will find it.

Matthew 16:25 ...whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. [losing our lives by dying for others...do this and you will live!]

- **Jonathan and David: Friends**

1. Approx. same age
2. Both with vital relationship with God

2 Saul took [David] that day and did not let him return to his father's house.
3 Then Jonathan made a covenant with David because **he loved him as himself.**

- Saul "took" David not allowing him to return home to parents/brothers
- Jonathan made a covenant of friendship with David:

... that would prove stronger than jealousy, stronger than envy, stronger than ambition.
[Guzic]

- **Covenant:** Animal pieces?

4 Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was on him and gave it to David, with his armor, including his sword and his bow and his belt.

- **Jonathan:** Crown Prince w/ most to fear! David a Shepherd!
- **Voluntarily Stripped himself:** Robe, Armor, sword, bow and belt
- Acknowledges David's kingship. **Jonathon:** Picture of Jesus humility:

Philippians 2:3 Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; 4 do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.

- Courage to consider others more important than ourselves:

(CNN) 1/21/14 -- An 8-year-old boy was killed in a mobile-home fire in upstate New York early Monday while attempting to rescue a disabled relative inside, according to authorities. Tyler J. Doohan, of East Rochester, was staying at the home of relatives in the nearby town of Penfield on Sunday night when he noticed a fire in the single-wide trailer, said Penfield Fire Chief Chris Ebmeyer. As firefighters and sheriff's deputies responded to an emergency call around 4:45 a.m., Tyler was able to wake six other people in the small trailer, including two more children, ages 4 and 6, Ebmeyer said. Then Tyler went back into the blaze to help his grandfather, who was disabled and would have been unable to get out of the home on his own, Ebmeyer said. "By that time, the fire had traveled to the back of the trailer," Ebmeyer said. "Unfortunately they both succumbed to heat and smoke." Their bodies were found together in a back bedroom. "It makes me really proud, it really does, but I just want him back," Tyler's mother told CNN. The boy broke away from his aunt outside the burning trailer and ran back inside to try to save his grandfather, she said...The pair were found together on a bed in the back room. It appeared that the boy was trying to lift his grandfather from the bed when he was overcome by the smoke and fire, the fire chief said. Tyler and his grandfather were like best friends his mother said "I'm just so grateful that he went with people that he loved," she said. "He didn't go alone." Meanwhile, Richard Stutzman Jr., interim superintendent of the East Rochester School District, where Tyler

attended fourth grade, issued a statement: "In bravely and selflessly giving his own life, he was able to save the lives of six others -- and he truly is a hero."

5 So David went out wherever Saul sent him, *and prospered*; and Saul set him over the men of war. And it was pleasing in the sight of all the people and also in the sight of Saul's servants.

- Whatever Saul asked, David did... and prospered

Ephesians 6:5 Slaves [Employees], be obedient to those who are your masters [Supervisors] according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in the sincerity of your heart, as to Christ

Colossians 3:22 Slaves [Employees], in all things obey those who are your masters [Supervisors] on earth, not with external service, as those who merely please men, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord.

- David was not working for Saul but the Lord. Rewarded by the Lord: Prospered
- Saul makes David 2nd commander over the Army over Israel. David would not betray Saul...the Lord's anointed King
- Pleasing to all the people: David lifted up

6 It happened as they were coming, when David returned from killing the Philistine, that the women came out of all the cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet King Saul, with tambourines, with joy and with musical instruments. **7**The women sang as they played, and said, "Saul has slain his thousands, And David his ten thousands."

- **Poetic Hebrew expression** for many...not specific numeric value

Psalms 91:7 A thousand may fall at your side And ten thousand at your right hand, But it shall not approach you.

Micah 6:7 Does the LORD take delight in thousands of rams, In ten thousand rivers of oil?

- Saul his thousands: 40 Days did nothing with Goliath! Generous

8 Then Saul became very angry, for this saying displeased him; and he said, "They have ascribed to David ten thousands, but to me they have ascribed thousands. Now what more can he have but the kingdom?"

- **Saul angry:** Displeased him? David wants the Kingdom! [has Kingdom]
- **Threatened Angry Leader:** Weakness; never letting others grow
- **Bitter Poison:** Simon the Sorcerer want to buy power of the Holy Spirit

Acts 8:18 [Peter to Simon the Sorcerer] ...your heart is not right in the sight of God. 22 Repent therefore of this your wickedness, and pray God if perhaps the thought of your heart

may be forgiven you For I see that you are **poisoned by bitterness and bound by iniquity.**"

- **Bitter glasses** (Samuel..."one better than you...will take the throne")

If you're a follower of Jesus but you feel distant from him during this [time] of your life, if you're having difficulty resting easy in his forgiveness, could it be because you're blatantly refusing to let go of your animosity toward another person. [Strobel]

"Bitterness is like drinking poison and waiting for the other person to die."

9Saul looked at David with suspicion from that day on.

- Bitterness-Insecurity-Constant Suspicion
- Saul remembers Samuel's Word...the Lord has remove the kingdom from you!

II. Saul's Jealousy Begins

10Now it came about on the next day that an evil spirit from God came mightily upon Saul, and he raved in the midst of the house, while David was playing the harp with his hand, as usual; and a spear was in Saul's hand.

- Raved in the midst [not prophesied] but babbling like a madman!
- Out of the blue: **Evil Spirit:** Jealousy (sin) made Saul vulnerable to demons

11 Saul hurled the spear for he thought, "I will pin David to the wall." But David escaped from his presence twice.

- David escapes 2x: This will be his life as Saul is consumed
- 2X David came back to play or Saul grabbed the spear and threw again

12Now Saul was afraid of David, for the LORD was with him but had departed from Saul. 13Therefore Saul removed him from his presence and appointed him as his commander of a thousand; and he went out and came in before the people.

- Saul afraid of David for the Lord was with him: Demon has his way
- Saul removed David...his hard heart now casts out that which brings peace; i.e. Spirit of God [cut off your nose/spite your face?]
- Saul was now **free** to "Rave in the midst"!

"He was *beside himself*... The Arabic intimates that he was actually possessed by an evil spirit, and that through it he uttered a sort of demoniacal predictions." (Clarke)

- God's Spirit departed due to Saul's poor choices:
- Saul's three big mistakes: **3 Big opportunities to repent**

1. Offers incense in place of the priest (Presumption) Loses Kingdom

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| 2. No food for hungry soldiers | (Misuse of Authority) | Loses Respect |
| 3. 15 Takes Agag captive | (Rebellion) | Loses Mind |
- a) Built altar to himself
b) No repentance

- How many opportunities have we had for peace that we have cast away?

Romans 1:18 [Read] For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, ¹⁹ because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. ²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse. ²¹ For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their **foolish heart was darkened**. ²² Professing to be wise, they **became fools**, ²³ and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures. ²⁴ Therefore **God gave them over** in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them. ²⁵ For they **exchanged the truth of God for a lie**, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. ²⁶ For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, ²⁷ and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error. ²⁸ And just as they **did not see fit to acknowledge God** any longer, **God gave them over** to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper, ²⁹ being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice; *they are* gossips, ³⁰ slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, ³¹ without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful; ³² and although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them.

- Saul could have repented... not King but a great, great man of God

Luke 13:34 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, just as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not have it!

Saul... appointed him as his commander of a thousand; and he went out and came in before the people.

"This was under pretense of doing [David] honor, when it was in effect only to rid himself of the object of his envy." (Clarke)

14 David was prospering in all his ways for the LORD was with him. 15 When Saul saw that he was prospering greatly, he dreaded him. 16 But all Israel and Judah loved David, and he went out and came in before them.

- David prospered...in all his ways. Lit. "behaved wisely even in sudden popularity"

Psalms 1:1 How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, Nor stand in the path of sinners, Nor sit in the seat of scoffers! 2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night. 3 He will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, Which yields its fruit in its season And its leaf does not wither; And in whatever he does, he prospers.

- Saul dreaded seeing David...jealousy is eating Saul for dinner

Self-love is, no doubt, the usual foundation of human jealousy...the fear lest another should by any means supplant us. [Spurgen]

17 Then Saul said to David, "Here is my older daughter Merab; I will give her to you as a wife, only be a valiant man for me and fight the LORD'S battles." For Saul thought, "My hand shall not be against him, but let the hand of the Philistines be against him."

- Marry my daughter: Dowry would be to fight the "Lord's battles"?
- **David had killed Goliath**...the requirement for the daughter was fulfilled!
- Spirit of God gives us integrity...doing what we say we will do. Gone from Saul

18 But David said to Saul, "Who am I, and what is my life or my father's family in Israel, that I should be the king's son-in-law?" 19 So it came about at the time when Merab, Saul's daughter, should have been given to David, that she was given to Adriel the Meholathite for a wife.

- David does not marry this daughter; Saul give her to another:

"This affront and disgrace was done to David purposely to provoke him (as is probable) to do or say something that might bring him under [criticism],... But David was too hard for him that way too: leaving it to God to right his wrongs." (Trapp)

III. David Marries Michal

20 Now Michal, Saul's daughter, loved David. When they told Saul, the thing was agreeable to him. 21 Saul thought, "I will give her to him that she may become a snare to him, and that the hand of the Philistines may be against

him "Therefore Saul said to David, "For a second time you may be my son-in-law today."

- Saul's other daughter Michal had a thing for David's looks but not his heart
- Snare to David:
 1. Dowry
 2. Saul knew Michal
- Same trick: Put him on the front line to be killed

22Then Saul commanded his servants, "Speak to David secretly, saying, 'Behold, the king delights in you, and all his servants love you; now therefore, become the king's son-in-law.'" 23 So Saul's servants spoke these words to David. But David said, "Is it trivial in your sight to become the king's son-in-law, since I am a poor man and lightly esteemed?" 24The servants of Saul reported to him according to these words which David spoke.

- **The king delights in you...**? He tried to pin him to the wall!
- **Humility:** "I am poor and lightly esteemed"

1 Samuel 9:21 "Am I not a Benjamite, of the smallest of the tribes of Israel, and my family the least of all the families of the tribe of Benjamin? Why then do you speak to me in this way?" [so long ago] Regrets?

David was always more focused on where he was before God than where he was in the opinion polls. [Guzic]

25Saul then said, "Thus you shall say to David, 'The king does not desire any dowry except a hundred foreskins of the Philistines, to take vengeance on the king's enemies.'" Now Saul planned to make David fall by the hand of the Philistines.

- **No dowry**...except 100 enemy foreskins! [David fulfilled requirement with Goliath]
- Saul wants David to fall by the enemy that embarrassed Saul
- Jealous want to see us fail...to demean and debase our victories...**to justify their sin**

26When his servants told David these words, it pleased David to become the king's son-in-law. Before the days had expired 27 David rose up and went, he and his men, and struck down two hundred men among the Philistines. Then David brought their foreskins, and they gave them in full number to the king, that he might become the king's son-in-law. So Saul gave him Michal his daughter for a wife.

- **Pleased David:** David liked a challenge [David would do this to Uriah who would die]

- 200 evidences of victory: Saul is humiliated ...again

28When Saul saw and knew that the LORD was with David, and that Michal, Saul's daughter, loved him, 29then Saul was even more afraid of David. Thus Saul was David's enemy continually.

- Fear will cause Saul to continue to make very bad decisions!
- Saul was David's enemy continually. David was never Saul's enemy!

Romans 12:18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.

30Then the commanders of the Philistines went out to battle, and it happened as often as they went out, that David behaved himself more wisely than all the servants of Saul. So his name was highly esteemed.

- Philistine retaliation for dowry
- David behaved more wisely than any of Saul's servants, he was God's servant!
- **Wisely:** Heb.to be prudent, be circumspect, have insight
- **Circumspect:** Know how to accommodate to change

CONCLUSION:

- Jonathan and David knit together: Love others as yourself
- Saul's jealousy: Door to more sin and even demonic activity
- Everything Saul tried failed. He was led by his flesh
- Everything David did prospered. He was led and moved by God's Spirit
- Do what is right...and let the chips fall where they may.