

I Samuel 18-19 – 3 March 2022

“Dealing With Murderous Infighting & Envy”

Introduction

*3rd & final section of I Samuel (chaps 16-31) is about the preparation of David to take the earthly throne

*Rise of David over Saul (Anointing & Goliath) (16-17)

*Rejection of David in presence of Saul (18-19)

*Running of David away from Saul (20-31)

*David won't take the throne until II Samuel begins

*David is now receiving great acclaim for his victories & King Saul is, frankly, jealous

*We face people & places of infighting & envy too

*Workplace, the Church, Clubs & Sports

*We have common goal, yet distracted into infighting

*Message is called “Dealing w/...” & it is murderous

*Jesus called hating w/o a cause murder of the heart

*We can murder relationship & missions by the very words of our heart coming out

***Today we'll see 3 ways David dealt with murderous infighting & envy he received from King Saul**

1st way to deal with infighting & envy is to be wise & content w/ your position (Vs 18:1-16)

Read Vs 1-2

1. Jonathan is attracted to David's friendship b/c of David's faith in God
 - a. This is the same Jonathan that we saw heroic acts of faith & bravery in battle from
2. Saul is interested in having David as a warrior

Read Vs 3-4

1. Jonathan believed David was the one worthy of his position as prince in Israel
2. Of all relationships that could have been filled with hate and envy, it's this one, but it's not!
 - a. They didn't envy each other's position, b/c they loved each other's mutual faith

Read Vs 5-9

1. David proves that you don't need the throne to do great things for God
 - a. He was living to promote God's reputation

2. Saul proves that even with the throne you can still go terribly astray in deed
 - a. Saul was living for his own reputation
3. A godly reputation CAN make others jealous
 - a. David's just out there wisely doing his job, killing Philistines off of God's land
 - b. Not bothered if living for Jesus bugs others

Read Vs 10-11

1. This evil spirit was 'permitted' by the Lord
 - a. Covered this in chapter 16
 - b. Indicates that Saul 'pretended' to prophesy
2. Envious thoughts lead to envious actions
3. Notice David stuck around for the 2nd throw!
 - a. He's just contently doing his job!

Read Vs 12-16

1. Jealousy & fear of losing what you have, go together
2. For envy, Saul wouldn't allow David control of more than 1,000 men, though the people loved him
3. Yet David found contentment
 - a. You can be wise & content when you realize that God is with you!

2nd way to deal with infighting & envy is to behave w/ innocence & humility (Vs 18:17-30)

Read Vs 17-19

1. Saul was enticing David to go fight & die
 - a. Saul didn't want David as son-in-law, he wanted him dead
2. David was humbled at the offer but God wouldn't allow David to die in battle
 - a. Later parallels
 - i. David won't lay a hand on King Saul until God does
 - ii. David has Uriah killed in battle to gain Bathsheba
 - b. David's always ready to give Saul a 2nd chance at being nice – always looking for good

Read Vs 20-21

1. Saul only gave Michal to David b/c he thought she would drag him down
2. David's simply looking for love & family

Read Vs 22-23

1. David hesitates to marry her b/c it seems presumptuous for him to marry into royalty
2. Notice the pattern here...
 - a. Saul's always stirring the pot
 - b. David's always trying to calm things down

Read Vs 24-27

1. David w/ integrity went & fulfilled the ask b/c t'was w/i God's will, though Saul had bad intentions
2. Just simply live for God's will in simplicity
 - a. God will always allow only His goodness
 - b. It might look like Joseph of OT for a while
 - i. But what's meant for evil, God uses for good

Read Vs 28-29

1. Result of God's blessing: the godly fall in love w/ you & the ungodly hate you (Read Matt 10:34)

Read Vs 30

1. David knew how to handle all people
 - a. Harsh w/ enemy, simplicity w/ the godly

3rd way to deal with infighting & envy is to rely on your network of compatriots (Vs 19:1-24)

Read Vs 1 - *First, David receives Jonathan's help*

1. Saul is now openly calling for David to die

Read Vs 2-3

1. Jonathan wants to do reconnaissance for David
2. He'll planning on interceding for David

Read Vs 4-5

1. Jonathan reminds Saul, David has done good
2. The flesh wants all people to either be your enemy or to be under you
3. The Spirit wants all people to be closer to God and promoted even above yourself
 - a. John the Baptist: "He must increase..."

Read Vs 6-7

1. Saul agrees to Jonathan not to kill David
2. Run by his emotions: Saul's having a good day

Read Vs 8-10

1. Saul has ups and down b/c he's not being controlled by the Holy Spirit but by his emotions

Read Vs 11-13 - 2nd now, David receives Michal's help

1. His wife Mical saves David from Saul at home
2. Interesting: the envious has to hid things

Read Vs 14-17

1. Michal even lies (not commended) to protect David from Saul – “he threatened to kill me!”

Read Vs 18-19 - Finally now, David receives Samuel's help

1. Where do you find refuge?
 - a. When Saul was running from God's call on him to be king, he hid from God in the carts
 - b. When David runs from evil Saul, he runs home, then towards men of God
2. The comfort of being with another man of God

Read Vs 20-24

1. 3 Sets of messengers and then Saul come to Samuel and David but just end up worshipping!
2. David will now be fleeing for rest of book
 - a. God's showing Saul: ‘this is the experience that you could, should be having w/ Me’

Conclusion

Thru all the infighting & envy, David had his mind set on fulfilling the plan of God by destroying the enemies of God. He had an outward view of advancing God's glory, not an inward pettiness. How do you deal with it?

1. Be wise & content in your position

- a. David knew that God would promote him in due time, just focus on the job at hand

2. Behave w/ innocence & humility

- a. Let's live in such a way that we're always wanting to give people the benefit of the doubt
- b. People trying to get you in trouble? Just live in simplicity of godliness

3. Rely on your network of compatriots

- a. We are here to bear each other's burdens when those overwhelming days come
- b. Have Godly friends you identify with that you can run to, that you can text, that you can call, that you can hug