

# I Samuel 23-25 – 17 March 2022

## “Turning Away Other’s Wrath”

### Introduction

- \*David has been anointed king to replace Saul, but God hasn’t dethroned Saul yet (about 15 years)
- \*David won’t take the throne until II Samuel begins
- \*David is on the run from Saul thru Judea
- \*In these situations, we need to be sure there’s not wrath & anger flying out from us
- \*Mark Twain said, “*Anger is an acid that can do more harm to the vessel in which it’s stored than to anything on which it’s poured.*”
- \*Now we all face the wrath of others on occasion
  - \*Maybe you’ve been a store clerk – yelled at
  - \*A child facing a drunk parent – in the line of fire
  - \*Sometimes the wrath of man is deserved & other times it’s not deserved
- \*Today let’s get some tips to prepare ourselves to turn away other’s wrath and anger**

# **1<sup>st</sup> tip for turning away wrath is to live in daily communion with God (Chap 23)**

Read Vs 1-5

1. David is staying busy for the Lord
2. He doesn't stop serving just b/c he has difficult things in life
  - a. King Saul hunting him, didn't stop him
  - b. His men were fearful, didn't stop him
3. Developing a closer walk w/ Jesus everyday

Read Vs 6

1. Abiathar was ready to serve the Lord

Read Vs 7-8

1. Saul hates David even more than Philistines!
2. William Alger said, "*Men often make up in wrath what they lack in reason.*"
3. This is illogical to hate David, it's pure envy

## Read Vs 9-14

1. Staying close to God and God instructs him
2. Read I John 2:19-20 – God instills the truth within us as we stay close to His side
3. So, w/ every situation, David cries out to God

## Read Vs 15-18

1. This will be Jonathan's last visit to David to strengthen him for the work ahead

## Read Vs 19-24

1. Short-sighted Ziphites turned in David to Saul
2. Notice Saul still thinks God is on his side (Vs 21)

## Read Vs 25-29

1. Believe God stopped holding back Philistines & allowed them to break thru right now to save David
2. When you believe God actually has power and control over your enemies & your circumstances, you'll cling to him in great devotion

## **2<sup>nd</sup> tip for turning away wrath is to seek mercy and reconciliation (Chap 24)**

Read Vs 1-4

1. Saul laid aside his outer garment to ‘use the bathroom’, so David picked it up & cut the end off
2. David’s proving that he’s ‘cut from a different cloth’ than Saul by sparing Saul’s life
  - a. Saul seeks more glory, David seeks mercy
  - b. Saul seeks hatred, David seeks repentance

Read Vs 5-6

1. David wouldn’t raise a hand against God’s anointed king, he would wait til God Himself did

Read Vs 7

1. Not only would David not do it, he had enough integrity to not allow his men to do it either
2. You see, mercy often speaks louder than words
  - a. Only God knows if Saul will repent
  - b. In the meantime, David seeks reconciliation

## Read Vs 8-15

1. Best display of mercy in the entire Bible outside of Christ Himself!
  - a. Vs 9 – “Don’t believe the lies that I’m against you”
  - b. Vs 11 – “I have proof that I could have killed you”
  - c. Vs 12 – “Only the Lord hold yours & my destinies”
  - d. Vs 13 – David humbly says, “I’m nothing”
2. Read Eph 4:31-32 – We treat others with mercy, b/c Christ gave us ultimate mercy!

## Read Vs 16-22

1. Saul knows thru David’s deeds that David is right w/ the Lord and he isn’t
2. David knows to give God the place of wrath and HE will repay Sual in due time
  - a. Therefore if your enemy hungers, feed him...in so doing you’ll heaps coal of fire on his head

## **3<sup>rd</sup> tip for turning away wrath is to use Godly wisdom (Chap 25)**

### Intro

1. This chap presents story of Nabal's foolish treatment of David, leading to David's wrath
2. Wisdom will be seen in Nabal's wife Abigail

### Read Vs 1-9

1. David sent some men to Nabal at work in Carmel, during a harvest of type... a time of plenty
2. David has been working 'under the table' for Nabal and is seeking his payday

### Read Vs 10-12

1. Nabal won't pay up seeking to take advantage of these under the table workers...b/c he can

### Read Vs 13

1. In ungodly minute David is ready for revenge
2. Nabal's theft is wrong but it's not a capital offence

Read Vs 14-17

1. Even Nabal's servant knows that Nabal (meaning foolish) acted foolishly

Read Vs 18-20

1. Wise Abigail brings restitution for David
2. She knows it's not good enough to apology, but you actually have to pay what's been stolen

Read Vs 21-22

1. David is determined to wipe out all the males in Nabal's house

Read 23-31

1. Abigail pleads w/ David to relent
  - a. Vs 25 – She's willing to take the blame even saying that if she was there, she would have treated David's men rightly
  - b. Vs 26 – She prays against David's enemies
  - c. Vs 27-28 – She brings restitution & asks forgiveness

d. Vs 30-31 – God will make you ruler in Israel & then this little incident will seem like no big deal

2. She doesn't have to lie, just calm things down

Read Vs 32-35

1. David admits she stopped him from sinning b/c she reminded him of who he really is & his destiny

2. A soft answer turns away wrath (Psm 15:1a)

Read Vs 36-38

1. Nabal had a type of stroke, died 10 days later

2. He didn't see anything coming, the fool

Read Vs 39-44

1. David sees the Lord's hand in judging Nabal for wronging the Lord's anointed...David

2. David is so taken with Abigail's wisdom that he wants her close

3. Nothing wrong w/ taking people into your 'house', but don't distort marriage like this



## Conclusion

So how prepared are you to deal with the angry, wrathful, bitter or just plain mean?

**1. Live daily in communion with God**

- a. Sin will keep the Bible away from you, but the Bible will keep sin away from you

**2. Seek mercy and reconciliation for others**

- a. By the power of God within you, let others see that you seek their best, even if they're seeking your worst

**3. Use Godly wisdom within yourself**

- a. Wisdom is seeing things from God's point of view
- b. God would have us seek truth & peace