

Open with 1 Sam. 19:8-18

I. David Is Sequestered From His Family (17:58 - 18:2)

"And Saul took him that day and would not let him return to his father's house." - 1 Samuel 18:2

- A. God had given victory to David - The triumph over Goliath and many other victories
- B. God had entrusted fame to David - They wrote and sang songs about David's military triumphs
- C. God had provided a family for David - Up to this point David's identity was tethered to his father's house
- D. God had provided elevation for David - Saul would not let him return home; from this point forward David would be a man

II. David Is Stripped Of His Position (19:8-10)

A. David was committed faithfully (19:8) - "And there was war again. And David went out and fought with the Philistines and struck them with a great blow, so that they fled before him."

B. David was treated spitefully (19:9-10a) - "Then a harmful spirit from the Lord came upon Saul, as he sat in his house with his spear in his hand. And David was playing the lyre. 10 And Saul sought to pin David to the wall with the spear, but he eluded Saul, so that he struck the spear into the wall."

C. David was expelled unjustly (19:10b) - "And David fled and escaped that night." He lost his privileged position

III. David Is Separated From His Wife (19:11-17)

A. An impossible situation (19:11) - "Saul sent messengers to David's house to watch him, that he might kill him in the morning. But Michal, David's wife, told him, 'If you do not escape with your life tonight, tomorrow you will be killed.'"

David had married Saul's daughter so Saul knew where to look.

B. A momentary ally (19:12-16) - "So Michal let David down through the window, and he fled away and escaped. 13 Michal took an image and laid it on the bed and put a pillow of goats' hair at its head and covered it with the clothes. 14 And when Saul sent messengers to take David, she said, 'He is sick.' 15 Then Saul sent the messengers to see David, saying, 'Bring him up to me in the bed, that I may kill him.' 16 And when the messengers came in, behold, the image was in the bed, with the pillow of goats' hair at its head." Michal helped David escape by deceiving her father, Saul

C. A painful betrayal (19:17) - "Saul said to Michal, 'Why have you deceived me thus and let my enemy go, so that he has escaped?' And Michal answered Saul, 'He said to me, 'Let me go. Why should I kill you?'"

Michal lied and said David threatened to kill her. David & Michal were never the same after this.

IV. David Is Scattered From His Mentor (19:18 - 20:1)

A. David seeks out stability (19:18) - "Now David fled and escaped, and he came to Samuel at Ramah and told him all that Saul had done to him. And he and Samuel went and lived at Naioth." When trouble hit, David turned to his father in the faith

B. Human stability proves fleeting (20:1) - "Then David fled from Naioth in Ramah and came and said before Jonathan, 'What have I done? What is my guilt? And what is my sin before your father, that he seeks my life?' There was nothing Samuel could do to protect David from Saul.

V. David Is Estranged From His Best Friend (20:40-42)

A. Jonathan was an amazing friend (20:40-41a) - "And Jonathan gave his weapons to his boy and said to him, "Go and carry them to the city." 41 And as soon as the boy had gone, David rose from beside the stone heap and fell on his face to the ground and bowed three times..."

He would do anything he could to assist David

B. Jonathan was a limited friend (20:41b-42) - "And they kissed one another and wept with one another, David weeping the most." Then Jonathan said to David, "Go in peace, because we have sworn both of us in the name of the Lord, saying, The Lord shall be between me and you, and between my offspring and your offspring, forever." And he rose and departed, and Jonathan went into the city."

He could provide intercession and information, but, ultimately, no deliverance.

VI. David Is Shamed In His Reputation (21:10-15)

A. David was operating in fear (21:10a) - "And David arose and fled that day from Saul..."

B. David was desperate for help (21:10b) - "...and went to Achish the king of Gath."

C. David exposed himself to danger (21:11-12) - "And the servants of Achish said to him, "Is not this David the king of the land? Did they not sing to one another of him in dances, 'Saul has struck down his thousands, and David his ten thousands'? 12 And David took these words to heart and was much afraid of Achish the king of Gath."

He was fully exposed in the middle of enemy territory

D. David was reduced to nothing (21:13-15) - "So he changed his behavior before them and pretended to be insane in their hands and made marks on the doors of the gate and let his spittle run down his beard. 14 Then Achish said to his servants, "Behold, you see the man is mad. Why then have you brought him to me? 15 Do I lack madmen, that you have brought this fellow to behave as a madman in my presence? Shall this fellow come into my house?"

The great hero played the part of an insane madman