

David the Great

1 Samuel 18

July 5, 2026

1 Samuel 18:1, 3-4 (NLT)

¹After David had finished talking with Saul, he met Jonathan, the king's son. There was an immediate bond between them, for Jonathan loved David.

³And Jonathan made a solemn pact with David, because he loved him as he loved himself. ⁴Jonathan sealed the pact by taking off his robe and giving it to David, together with his tunic, sword, bow, and belt.

Saul...

1. Became **angry**. 8a
2. Began to **worry**. 8b

1 Samuel 18:8b (NLT)

^{8b}“What's this?” he said. “They credit David with ten thousands and me with only thousands. Next they'll be making him their king!”

2 Corinthians 10:5 (ESV)

⁵We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ,

Saul...

3. Allowed **jealousy** to consume him. v. 9

Proverbs 14:30 (NLT)

³⁰A peaceful heart leads to a healthy body; jealousy is like cancer in the bones.

1 Samuel 18:10-11 (NLT)

¹⁰The very next day a tormenting spirit from God overwhelmed Saul, and he began to rave in his house like a madman. David was playing the harp, as he did each day. But Saul had a spear in his hand, ¹¹and he suddenly hurled it at David, intending to pin him to the wall. But David escaped him twice.

Saul...

4. To **rave!** v. 10
5. **Threw** a spear at David twice. v. 10-11
6. Became **afraid** of David. v. 12
7. Became **more afraid**. v. 15
8. **Devised schemes** to have David murdered. v. 17, 21-22, 25

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1 Samuel 18:29 (NLT)

²⁹ Saul became even more afraid of him, and he remained David's enemy for the rest of his life.

David...

- a. **Obeyed** Saul and found success in all he did. v. 5
- b. Was **promoted** to commander by Saul and was **welcomed** by people and the officers.
- c. Was **consistent**. v. 10
- d. **Cared** for Saul. v. 10-11
- e. Was **faithful** in leading the troops. v. 13
- f. Had the **Spirit of the Lord** upon his life. v. 14
- g. Was **humble** and **committed** to fulfill his opportunities. v. 27

- Saul had David in his head!
- David had God in his heart!

Proverbs 3:5-6 (ESV)

⁵ Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.

⁶ In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Proverbs 23:26 (NLT)

²⁶ O my son, give me your heart. May your eyes take delight in following my ways.

James 4:7-8 (NLT)

⁷ So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world.

Proverbs 4:23-27 (NLT)

²³ Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life. ²⁴ Avoid all perverse talk; stay away from corrupt speech. ²⁵ Look straight ahead, and fix your eyes on what lies before you. ²⁶ Mark out a straight path for your feet; stay on the safe path.

²⁷ Don't get sidetracked; keep your feet from following evil.

Philippians 4:8-9 (NLT)

⁸ And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise. ⁹ Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me—everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you.