

The Life of
David

1 and 2 Samuel



The Setting of 1 Samuel 22

- vv. 1-6

Cave of Adullam
Moab
Forest of Hereth

- vv. 7-19 Nob

vv. 20-23 Hereth

First Thing

What draws you to a leader?

Contrast in David / Saul

David at the Cave of Adullam

¹ David departed from there and escaped to the cave of Adullam. And when his brothers and all his father's house heard it, they went down there to him. ² And everyone who was in distress, and everyone who was in debt, and everyone who was bitter in soul, gathered to him. And he became commander over them. And there were with him about four hundred men.

³ And David went from there to Mizpeh of Moab. And he said to the king of Moab, "Please let my father and my mother stay with you, till I know what God will do for me." ⁴ And he left them with the king of Moab, and they stayed with him all the time that David was in the stronghold. ⁵ Then the prophet Gad said to David, "Do not remain in the stronghold; depart, and go into the land of Judah." So David departed and went into the forest of Hereth.

David at the Cave at Adullam

David and the Holy Bread at Nob /Ahimelech the priest

Doeg the Edomite (21:7)

David “the madman”

v. 1 [Then] David departed from there...

Who is drawn to David? Family and the everyone *distress...bitter in soul*. (ex. Hannah 1:10)

- David experiencing fear himself (21:12, 23:17)

David in Moab

Prophet Gad (1 Sa 22:5; 2 Sa 24:11; 1 Chr 29:29)

- Seers/Prophets to King David - Samuel, Nathan, & Gad

“Do not remain in the stronghold, depart, and go in the land of Judah.”

“So David departed and went into the land of Judah.”

- Meeting fear with faith (e.g. Abram, Gen 12:4)

Saul Kills the Priests at Nob

⁶ Now Saul heard that David was discovered, and the men who were with him. Saul was sitting at Gibeah under the tamarisk tree on the height with his spear in his hand, and all his servants were standing about him. ⁷ And Saul said to his servants who stood about him, “Hear now, people of Benjamin; will the son of Jesse give every one of you fields and vineyards, will he make you all commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds, ⁸ that all of you have conspired against me? No one discloses to me ⁹when my son makes a covenant with the son of Jesse. None of you is sorry for me or discloses to me that my son has stirred up my servant against me, to lie in wait, as at this day.” ⁹ Then answered Doeg the Edomite, who stood by the servants of Saul, “I saw the son of Jesse coming to Nob, to Ahimelech the son of Ahitub, ¹⁰ and he inquired of the LORD for him and gave him provisions and gave him the sword of Goliath the Philistine.”

Saul Kills the Priest at Nob

Leadership qualities of Saul

- v. 6 Saul sitting as King, *servants* stood about him.
 - v. 7 Saul gives things, titles, not his benevolent presence
 - v. 8 No one trusts/entrusts themselves to Saul
-
- Wants the trappings of leadership
 - Lives in fear
 - Kills those who threaten his leadership
- = Fails in the qualities of leadership (Ps 82)

¹¹ Then the king sent to summon Ahimelech the priest, the son of Ahitub, and all his father's house, the priests who were at Nob, and all of them came to the king. ¹² And Saul said, "Hear now, son of Ahitub." And he answered, "Here I am, my lord." ¹³ And Saul said to him, "Why have you conspired against me, you and the son of Jesse, in that you have given him bread and a sword and have inquired of God for him, so that he has risen against me, to lie in wait, as at this day?" ¹⁴ Then Ahimelech answered the king, "And who among all your servants is so faithful as David, who is the king's son-in-law, and captain over your bodyguard, and honored in your house? ¹⁵ Is today the first time that I have inquired of God for him? No! Let not the king impute anything to his servant or to all the house of my father, for your servant has known nothing of all this, much or little."

¹⁶ And the king said, “You shall surely die, Ahimelech, you and all your father’s house.”

¹⁷ And the king said to the guard who stood about him, “Turn and kill the priests of the LORD, because their hand also is with David, and they knew that he fled and did not disclose it to me.” But the servants of the king would not put out their hand to strike the priests of the LORD. ¹⁸ Then the king said to Doeg, “You turn and strike the priests.” And Doeg the Edomite turned and struck down the priests, and he killed on that day eighty-five persons who wore the linen ephod. ¹⁹ And Nob, the city of the priests, he put to the sword; both man and woman, child and infant, ox, donkey and sheep, he put to the sword.

²⁰ But one of the sons of Ahimelech the son of Ahitub, named Abiathar, escaped and fled after David. ²¹ And Abiathar told David that Saul had killed the priests of the LORD. ²² And David said to Abiathar, “I knew on that day, when Doeg the Edomite was there, that he would surely tell Saul. I have occasioned the death of all the persons of your father’s house. ²³ Stay with me; do not be afraid, for he who seeks my life seeks your life. With me you shall be in safekeeping.”

Form and Function

David is *functioning* as a benevolent sovereign

- In midst of his people / people drawn to him in safety
- Gad the Prophet pointing to the LORD
- Leaning into his fear/suffering with faith

Saul is *currently* king

- Regal presence, but distrust
- Self-focused
- Doeg the “yes man” is Saul’s only counsel
- Lashing out in fear

David, a Christ Figure

David is *functioning* as a benevolent sovereign, would be

- Human benevolent king of earthly kingdom, *not* without sin
- Suffering *as* a Servant Leader - Giving of himself for his sheep
- To the bitter in soul, "With me you shall be in safekeeping."

Jesus is the preeminent benevolent king, the King of Davidic Eternal Kingdom (2 Sa 7)

- As the God Man, experience life in every way, yet without sin.
- *The Suffering Servant* - Laying down His life for his sheep
- "Come unto me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest *for your souls*." Mt 11:29

Psalm 57 *Let Your Glory Be over All the Earth*

To The Choirmaster: According To Do Not Destroy. A Miktam Of David, When He Fled From Saul, In the Cave.

¹ Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me,
for in you my soul takes refuge;
in the shadow of your wings I will take refuge,
till the storms of destruction pass by.

² I cry out to God Most High,
to God who fulfills his purpose for me.

³ He will send from heaven and save me;
he will put to shame him who tramples on me. *Selah*
God will send out his steadfast love and his faithfulness!

⁴ My soul is in the midst of lions;
I lie down amid fiery beasts—
the children of man, whose teeth are spears and arrows,
whose tongues are sharp swords.

⁵ Be exalted, O God, above the heavens!
Let your glory be over all the earth!

⁶ They set a net for my steps;
my soul was bowed down.
They dug a pit in my way,
but they have fallen into it themselves. *Selah*

⁷ My heart is steadfast, O God,
my heart is steadfast!

I will sing and make melody!

⁸ Awake, my glory!

Awake, O harp and lyre!

I will awake the dawn!

⁹ I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples;

I will sing praises to you among the nations.

¹⁰ For your steadfast love is great to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the clouds.

¹¹ Be exalted, O God, above the heavens!

Let your glory be over all the earth!

Psalm 57 - Song of Lament

Vv. 1-5 Confidence that God will provide *in the midst*

- In the midst (v. 1, 4 *soul*)
- Hope in fear

Vv. 6-11 Confidence in His Victory

- Shift to *future*
- Victory that will go beyond expectation
 - *Among the nations*
 - *Over all the earth*

David sought to live this psalm, Jesus fulfilled it perfectly.

Psalm 57 - Fulfilled in Jesus

Jesus Christ - Fully God, Fully Man - Perfect Fulfillment

Went to the Cross in fear, with full confidence in God the Father

- Hope in fear “Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done.” Lk 22:42

In Jesus Christ, the victory will go *beyond* our expectations

- “Then I saw a new heaven and new earth....Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man...He will be their God. Rev 21:1, 3

Implications

Suffering is a present reality. Walking in faith, in midst of fear, uncertainty, distress is act of trust.

What is one area of your life where is the LORD calling you to walk in faith?

- Daily - How is He being merciful to you?
- Future - How does the finished work of Jesus drive your hope in this area of your life?