

1 & 2 Samuel (A Man After God's Own Heart)

God Pursues David, Part 3

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Chapters 16 to 31 of 1 Samuel are a back-and-forth of sitting king, Saul, and the king elect, David. God training David and God turning away from Saul.

1 Samuel 18:6-9, 28-30

6 As they were coming home, when David returned from striking down the Philistine, the women came out of all the cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet King Saul, with tambourines, with songs of joy, and with musical instruments. 7 And the women sang to one another as they celebrated, "Saul has struck down his thousands, and David his ten thousands." 8 And Saul was very angry, and this saying displeased him. He said, "They have ascribed to David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed thousands, and what more can he have but the kingdom?" 9 And Saul eyed David from that day on.

28 But when Saul saw and knew that the Lord was with David, and that Michal, Saul's daughter, loved him, 29 Saul was even more afraid of David. So Saul was David's enemy continually. 30 Then the commanders of the Philistines came out to battle, and as often as they came out David had more success than all the servants of Saul, so that his name was highly esteemed.

1 Samuel 19:1

1 And Saul spoke to Jonathan his son and to all his servants, that they should kill David. But Jonathan, Saul's son, delighted much in David.

- Saul becomes threatened by David's rising popularity with his daughter, son, and the people.

Saul's response will be multiple attempts to kill David:

- 1 Samuel 18:10-11; Saul throws a spear at David in a fit of jealousy.
- 1 Samuel 19:1-10; Saul sends messengers to David's house to watch and kill him, but David escapes with the Jonathan's help.
- 1 Samuel 19:11-17; Saul sends messengers to Naioth in Ramah to capture David, but they end up prophesying instead.
- 1 Samuel 20; Saul tries to kill David during a feast, but David escapes with the help of Jonathan.
- 1 Samuel 23; Saul pursues David in the wilderness of Maon and the wilderness of Ziph.
- **1 Samuel 24;** David's shows mercy toward Saul in the cave at En Gedi.
17 He said to David, "You are more righteous than I, for you have repaid me good, whereas I have repaid you evil. 18 And you have declared this day how you have dealt well with me, in that you did not kill me when the Lord put me into your hands. 19 For if a man finds his enemy, will he let him go away safe? So may the Lord reward you with good for what you have done to me this day. 20 And now, behold, I know that you shall surely be king, and that the kingdom of Israel shall be established in your hand.

- 1 Samuel 26; David's second opportunity to kill Saul but showing mercy.
21 Then Saul said, "I have sinned. Return, my son David, for I will no more do you harm, because my life was precious in your eyes this day. Behold, I have acted foolishly, and have made a great mistake." 22 And David answered and said, "Here is the spear, O king! Let one of the young men come over and take it. 23 The Lord rewards every man for his righteousness and his faithfulness, for the Lord gave you into my hand today, and I would not put out my hand against the Lord's anointed. 24 Behold, as your life was precious this day in my sight, so may my life be precious in the sight of the Lord, and may he deliver me out of all tribulation." 25 Then Saul said to David, "Blessed be you, my son David! You will do many things and will succeed in them." So David went his way, and Saul returned to his place.
Cf. Psalm 18, 52, 53, 57
- 1 Samuel 28-31; The book concludes with Samuel's death and Saul's continued downward spiral, seeking guidance from a medium and ultimately dying in battle against the Philistines, with his sons.

God works within the context of seasons.

Romans 5:1-5

1 Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. 3 Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4 and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 5 and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

Discipleship Homework:

Our theme references David being a "man after his [God's] own heart." Throughout 1 and 2 Samuel God pursues this newly anointed king to lead His people.

- Read Ecclesiastes 3:1-8. What season of life are you in right now? How do you feel in this season; encouraged, weak, joy, sadness?
- How does the idea of God working in seasons impact your approach to patience, timing, and waiting for answers to prayers or guidance?
- Write down what you are hopeful for in this current season. What is God saying? What is God doing? How will you be obedient and faithful to Him in the process? How is God being faithful to you?
- Have questions about the message or need help with the homework? Please email Pastor Jarrod at jarrod@1116.church.