



THE BOOK OF

1 SAMUEL



Sermon Series Notes

The Ups and Downs of David. 1 Samuel 20-22

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Topics: Faith; trust; obey; pride; refuge; discouragement.

David- Man of faith. V.17: 37- The Lord who delivered me from the paw of the bear/lion, will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.

Saul man of flesh: was a manipulator rather than relying on God and his word.

1. Pride and 2. Poor understanding of God's sovereignty

Search: God and relent- 13x *Hosea- If Israel Would Repent of Sin, God Would Relent of Judgment; Joel 2:13-He is eager to relent*

1 Sam. 21- 1-6- Leviticus 24:8-9). This bread of the Presence was arranged in two piles of six loaves each on a table of pure gold, covered with frankincense, and served as a memorial food offering to the Lord. The bread was reserved for the priests to be eaten not casually, but in a holy place. The bread of the presence was a type/shadow of Jesus, our bread of life. It literally meant: Bread of faces.

David begins to lie and manipulate. He's content with the **old presence**. He's not pressing on to the new presence.

Saul once had the presence of God. But he wasn't willing to keep pursuing the presence of God. Many of us are content with the older "glory" days. I tell new believers, when HIS presence is new, we all love everything. But there comes a day that the Lord takes it away for two reasons:

1. The dark night of the soul, when I am no longer floating; is God's way of saying: **Grow up!**
Spurgeon- *I am afraid that all the grace that I have got of my comfortable and easy times and happy hours, might almost lie on a penny. But the good that I have received from my sorrows, and pains, and griefs, is altogether incalculable ...* (is that you? Take heart! Joy comes in the morning)
2. Will I pursue his presence daily? Spurgeon- *Above all, feed the flame with intimate fellowship with Christ.... I never met with a half-hearted preacher who was much in communion with the Lord Jesus".* Practicing the Presence of God. " he had always been governed by love, without selfish views; and that having resolved to make the love of GOD the end of all his actions, he had found reasons to be well satisfied with his method. That he was pleased when he could take up a straw from the ground for the love of GOD, seeking Him only, and nothing else..."^[1] "That in order to form a habit of conversing with GOD continually, and referring all we do to Him; we must at first apply to Him with some diligence: but that after a little care we should find His love inwardly excite us to it without any difficulty.

So David gets spiritually distracted because he was content with the old presence –**result:** bad personal decisions. **Probably:** not in the word; accountability; no confession; unforgiveness; no intimacy

2 Samuel 21:10-22:1

Unlike fighting Goliath; he gets his eyes on his circumstance and not on the word or promises of God.

- a. Happens when we are emotionally weak/tired (Satan looks for opportunities)
- b. When we are living in reaction to fear versus faith.

Result:

- i. he begins to lie and manipulate. (Jacob/Saul); even to godly men (21:1-8)
- ii. And then he flees to the world (Gath). 21:10-15
- iii. Consequences to our lies (22:17)

Follow the pattern found in the trail of David's journal to see what went on in his heart:

You see a change in David as he moves from FEAR to FAITH Psalm 56 (when Philistines had seized him in Gath)

Psalm 34: Right after he left Gath-

Goes to Cave of Adullam (retreat, refuge). Sometimes we get taken the spiritual woodshed because of our actions. And the best response is withdraw and get back into relationship.

Ps 57- V. 1- - Take refuge in God

Psalm 52 1st. Deals with his unforgiveness not by taking revenge but giving Doeg to the Lord

2nd V. 7 - Realizes in the stronghold that he shouldn't be like Doeg.

3rd V. 8 –flourishing/peace come under God's roof. And trusting in His love. 2 Peter 1:3-5

4th V.9 Praise; happens purposefully and as a result of understanding.

Ps. 142 (in the cave);

And what does God do here after renewal? Ps. 142:7- *Then the righteous will gather about him.*

1 Sam. 22:2 Draws 400 men to him. Discontent, distressed, debt. All needed a reboot. A restart.

Do-over. The God of second chances.

V. 22: 3-5 Let me find out what God will do for me.

People here- which are you?

1. The Disdaining- Saul- refused to submit to the word of God
2. The Doeg's- Selfish; looking out for number one. Result: Ps. 52- you are a disgrace before God; God will bring him to everlasting ruin.
3. The Devoted- Jonathan- Stayed firm in faith (very few of them)
4. The David's- a period of backsliding; then repentance; trust in God- went on to be king!
5. The Discontented- hb- bitter of soul. Those longing for a better life. This is it?!
6. The Distressed- HB- *a narrow place*- Those whose lives haven't gone the way they wanted. Single parents; unfulfilled jobs; maybe friendless; emotionally hurt; pain.
7. The Debtors- Those that have failed;