

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. How important is recognition or praise from men?
2. Why didn't David leave when Saul tried to kill him? (vs. 10 and 11)
3. Why didn't Saul try to get back to a good standing with God rather than always persecuting David? (vs. 2)
4. What is jealousy?
5. How can jealousy destroy relationships or even church unity?

SUMMARY:

It is certain that, should any of us be asked whether we would be like Saul or like David, our answer would be "like David". Can we also examine the very things that made David's life what it was? Can we see the love of the Lord—the peace and joy that follows a yieldedness to God's will for us? We can examine the very heart of David and see what motivated his every move. He knew that the Lord is aware of every action that takes place in the universe. He knew—though the Lord might wait long for His judgment—that judgment and justice would be done. He knew that the righteous will shine before the Lord, not of their own righteousness but that which was promised through the Messiah to those who love and obey God.

Saul trusted in his own hand and the power of the army that surrounded him. He found, too late, that the arm of flesh is indeed weak and will not sustain. We would do well to learn this lesson while there is time to profit.

NOTES:

[SoF:6] We believe that all are sinners and lost, awaiting the judgment of God, but God is not willing that any should be lost.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #3

July 16, 2023

Third Quarter

SAUL'S JEALOUSY OF DAVID

LESSON TEXT: *1 Samuel 18:1-16; Psalm 11:1-7*

LESSON SETTING: After his victory over Goliath, David served in King Saul's court.

TIME: Approximately 1063 B.C.

- I. THE PEOPLE'S PRAISE.** 1 Samuel 18:1-7
 - A. Favor of the King (vs. 5) Proverbs 16:15; 19:12
 - B. Favor of the People (vs. 6-7) Exodus 3:21; Acts 2:47; Romans 14:18
- II. SAUL'S PERSECUTION.** 1 Samuel 18:8-16
 - A. Jealousy (vs. 8) Genesis 37:4; Matthew 20:12; Luke 15:28
 - B. Malice (vs. 11, 13) Matthew 27:23; John 12:10
 - C. Hatred (vs. 11) Genesis 27:41; 37:4; Mark 6:18-19
- III. JEHOVAH'S PROTECTION.** Psalm 11:1-7
 - A. Trust in God (vs. 1) Psalm 34:22; Proverbs 29:25; Isaiah 26:3
 - B. The Lord, a "Searcher" of Men (vs. 4) Jeremiah 17:10; 23:24; Romans 8:27
 - C. The Lord Punishes Sin [SoF:6] (vs. 6) Matthew 13:41-42; Revelation 20:15; 21:8
 - D. The Lord Loves Righteousness (vs. 7) Psalm 45:7; 1 Corinthians 15:34; Philippians 1:11

GOLDEN TEXT: *LOVE IS STRONG AS DEATH; JEALOUSLY IS CRUEL AS THE GRAVE.*

Song of Solomon 8:6

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: 1 Samuel 20:1-17

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: 2 Samuel 9:1-13; Proverbs 18:24;
Proverbs 5:19; Philippians 4:10-18;
2 Timothy 1:16-18

QUARTERLY THEME: Early Life of David

TOPIC: JONATHAN'S FRIENDSHIP TO DAVID

INTRODUCTION:

To appreciate the relationship that existed between Jonathan and David, one must examine their similarities and differences. The differences were all outward. One was the eldest son of a king and the other was the youngest son of Jesse, a simple man of the tribe of Benjamin.

The similarities were many and they had depth. Each loved the Lord and trusted in Him to do mighty things. It was this trust that allowed Jonathan and his armor bearer to attack the Philistine camp single-handedly. Each saw in the other the thing that made his life real and worthwhile. A friendship can be only as big as the force that welds it together and in this case it was most certainly the love of God that they shared.

Today, we have expanded the use of this word "friend" to include acquaintances, but it wasn't so in the time of the writing of the scripture. It meant a close association in which each sought to promise the welfare of the other. In the case of David and Jonathan, as in true friendships of today, it was a relationship in which each continued to do more for the other. Jonathan was willing to forfeit his natural ascension to the throne in favor of his friend. They were truly without jealousy one toward the other.

Each of us must decide consciously or unconsciously upon what basis we will establish our friendships. We may make friends of mammon, friends of prestige, friends of success, or friends of God. Only a God-built relationship can last beyond this life. Some of the others may not even last all of this life, but they all stop at the grave. Who are **your** friends?

CENTRAL TRUTH: Unless jealousy is curbed, it will result in much evil.

GOLDEN TEXT: *THERE IS A FRIEND THAT STICKETH CLOSER THAN A BROTHER.* Proverbs 18:24

There can be little doubt of the friend referred to in this particular scripture. It refers to that Only One who can be with us our every waking hour. The One who desires our greatest good and the One who for that greatest good died on the cross that each one of us might have eternal life through a personal relationship with Him.

The sole purpose of this "friendship" is not, however, to help sinful man to achieve eternal life. It is to provide the means through which man might gain a permanent fellowship with God the Father. It is this fellowship with God the Father. It is this fellowship that God desired when He created man in the Garden. It was this fellowship which sin shattered and made it necessary for Adam and Eve to hide from the presence of God. But Christ, who would be the Friend of all men everywhere, came to earth, lived a sinless life and allowed Himself to be crucified on the cross by sinful man.

He can truly be man's best friend and one who will be with him all the days of his life on earth and into eternity. We must do our part, though, to claim the Friendship.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF July 17 – 23

- M. Jonathan Defends David. 1 Samuel 19:1-7
- T. *David Appeals to Jonathan. 1 Samuel 20:1-8
- W. *David & Jonathan Make a Covenant. 1 Samuel 20:9-23
- T. Jonathan Demonstrates Courage. 1 Samuel 20:24-34
- F. Jonathan Befriends David. 1 Samuel 20:35-42
- S. David Keeps His Word. 2 Samuel 9:1-13
- S. Jesus' Friends. John 15:15-27