

After God's Heart

Lesson 7

1 Samuel 27-29

February 17, 2019

Cloudy Days, Dark Days

Introduction

David's story in 1 Samuel, up to this point has been a roller coaster. On the up-side, he was anointed by Samuel to be the next king of Israel, he is invited to be Saul's armor bearer, and he defeated Goliath in a battle against the Philistines. From David's numerous subsequent military victories, however, turned Saul against David and Saul attempts to end David's life several times over the next few years. David had God on his side. He pursued God and obeyed God. As a result, God blessed David and protected him from Saul.

Saul, on the other hand, disobeyed God. He began ignoring Samuel's advice and relying on his own wisdom and turned to wicked actions. What David knew and what Saul had lost was the knowledge that we need to trust in God in difficult situations.

Memory verse: "So Achish called David and said to him, "As surely as the Lord lives, you have been reliable, and I would be pleased to have you serve with me in the army. From the day you came to me until today, I have found no fault in you, but the rulers don't approve of you."—1 Samuel 29:6

Pray and read 1 Samuel 27-29. What questions or observations do you have about the passage?

What does the passage say?

1. Why did David decide to leave? Where did he go? (1 Samuel 27:1-3)
2. For what did David ask? Whom did he ask? (1 Samuel 27:5-6)
3. Who did David raid? What reason did David give for not leaving any man or woman alive? (1 Samuel 27:8-11)
4. When Saul saw the Philistine army, he sought help. What was the Lord's response? (1 Samuel 28:4-6)
5. What did Saul do next? (1 Samuel 28:8-13)
6. What did Saul inquire of Samuel? And what was Samuel's response? (1 Samuel 28: 15-19)

7. What did the Philistine commanders demand Achish do with David? What did Achish do? (1 Samuel 29:4-7, 10)

8. What was David's response? (1 Samuel 29:8, 11)

What does the passage mean?

1. Look at 1 Samuel 27:8-12 again. When God gave the Israelites the Promised Land, they were commanded to eliminate the inhabitants of the land (Deuteronomy 20:16-17, 25:17-19) David is still obeying God when he attacks the Geshurites, the Gazites, and the Amalekites. What does God promise for those who obey Him? (Deuteronomy 4:39-40; Jeremiah 7:23; John 15:7-11)

2. Saul is a tragic example of what can happen to all of us if we trust in our knowledge and don't rely on God. What happens to those who continue to rebel against God's will actively? (Isaiah 63:10; John 12:48; Hebrews 10:26-31)

3. Write a prayer giving God control of the difficult situation from the previous question.