

A MAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART
A study in I and II Samuel and the Psalms of David
 AMEN Bible Study 2014-2015

David and Saul: Jealousy Meets Faith

I Samuel 18:6-19:24; Psalm 59

November 20, 2014

18:6-30 I. God favors His anointed.

:6,7 A. God's favor often brings success.

⁶As 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. ⁷And the women sang to one another as they celebrated, "Saul has struck down his thousands, and David his ten thousands."

David's "success" – 4x (vv.5, 14, 15, 30)

:8, 9 B. Success often brings jealousy.

⁸And 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?"

⁹And Saul eyed David from that day on.

:10-11 C. Jealously often brings malice.

cf. Matthew 5:21, 22

:10a 1. Involves the spiritual underworld.

¹⁰The next day a harmful spirit from God rushed upon Saul, and he raved within his house while David was playing the lyre, as he did day by day. ...

cf. I Samuel 16:14, 23; Ephesians 4:26, 27

:10b, 11 2. Violates the sixth commandment.

... Saul had his spear in his hand. ¹¹And Saul hurled the spear, for he thought, "I will pin David to the wall."

:11b 3. Cannot overrule God's favor.

... But David evaded him twice.

:12-27 D. Malice often brings greater success.

:12-15 1. God's favor provokes fear in the wicked.

¹²Saul was afraid of David because the LORD was with him but had departed from Saul. ¹³So Saul removed him from his presence and made him a commander of a thousand. And he went out and came in before the people. ¹⁴And David had success in all his undertakings, for the LORD was with him. ¹⁵And when Saul saw that he had great success, he stood in fearful awe of him.

God with "with David" – 3x (vv. 12, 14, 28) cf. I Samuel 16:18; Matt. 28:20

Saul "fears" David – 3x (vv. 12, 15, 29)

:16 2. God's favor leads to favor with the common man.

¹⁶But all Israel and Judah loved David, for he went out and came in before them.

David "loved" – 6x (vv. 1, 3, 16, 20, 22, 28) cf. I Samuel 2:26; Luke 2:52

:17-27 3. God's favor cannot be out-manuevered.

:17-19 a. Broken promises are met with humility.

¹⁷Then Saul said to David, "Here is my elder daughter Merab. I will give her to you for a wife. Only be valiant for me and fight the LORD's battles." For Saul thought, "Let not my hand be against him, but let the hand of the Philistines be against him." ¹⁸And David said to Saul, "Who am I, and who are my relatives, my father's clan in Israel, that I should be son-in-law to the king?" ¹⁹But at the time when Merab, Saul's daughter, should have been given to David, she was given to Adriel the Meholathite for a wife.

cf. I Samuel 17:25; II Samuel 21:8

:20-27 b. Intended snares are met with victory.

²⁰Now Saul's daughter Michal loved David. And they told Saul, and the thing pleased him.

²¹Saul thought, "Let me give her to him, that she may be a snare for him and that the hand of the Philistines may be against him." Therefore Saul said to David a second time, "You shall

now be my son-in-law.”²² And Saul commanded his servants, “Speak to David in private and say, ‘Behold, the king has delight in you, and all his servants love you. Now then become the king’s son-in-law.’”²³ And Saul’s servants spoke those words in the ears of David. And David said, Does it seem to you a little thing to become the king’s son-in-law, since I am a poor man and have no reputation?”²⁴ And the servants of Saul told him, “Thus and so did David speak.”²⁵ Then Saul said, “Thus shall you say to David, ‘The king desires no bride-price except a hundred foreskins of the Philistines, that he may be avenged of the king’s enemies.’” Now Saul thought to make David fall by the hand of the Philistines.²⁶ And when his servants told David these words, it pleased David well to be the king’s son-in-law. Before the time had expired,²⁷ David arose and went, along with his men, and killed two hundred of the Philistines. And David brought their foreskins, which were given in full number to the king, that he might become the king’s son-in-law. And Saul gave him his daughter Michal for a wife.

cf. Genesis 50:20

:28-30 E. Greater success brings greater hostility

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.

19:1-24 II. God delivers His anointed.

“Escape” – 5x (vv. 10, 11, 12, 17, 18) cf. Luke 4:29, 30; John 6:15; 7:30, 44; 8:20; 10:39; Acts 4:21; 5:19-21; 9:23-25; 12:6-11; 14:19, 20; 16:25, 26; 19:28-41; 20:31-32; 22:22-29; 23:12, 23f; 25:9-12; 27:42-44; 28:30, 31. cf. John 12:27; 19:11; Acts 7:54-60; 12:1-3; Daniel 3:17, 18

:1-7 A. Intrigue is foiled by integrity.

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. ² And Jonathan told David, “Saul my father seeks to kill you. Therefore be on your guard in the morning. Stay in a secret place and hide yourself. ³ And I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where you are, and I will speak to my father about you. And if I learn anything I will tell you.” ⁴ And Jonathan spoke well of David to Saul his father and said to him, “Let not the king sin against his servant David, because he has not sinned against you, and because his deeds have brought good to you. ⁵ For he took his life in his hand and he struck down the Philistine, and the LORD worked a great salvation for all Israel. You saw it, and rejoiced. Why then will you sin against innocent blood by killing David without cause?” ⁶ And Saul listened to the voice of Jonathan. Saul swore, “As the LORD lives, he shall not be put to death.” ⁷ And Jonathan called David, and Jonathan reported to him all these things. And Jonathan brought David to Saul, and he was in his presence as before.

cf. Matthew 10:35; John 7:43; 9:16; 10:19

:8-10 B. Murder is foiled by mobility.

⁸ And there was war again. And David went out and fought with the Philistines and struck them with a great blow, so that they fled before him. ⁹ Then a harmful spirit from the LORD came upon Saul, as he sat in his house with his spear in his hand. And David was playing the lyre. ¹⁰ And Saul sought to pin David to the wall with the spear, but he eluded Saul, so that he struck the spear into the wall. And David fled and escaped that night.

:11-17 C. Murderous plot is foiled by marital prevarication.

¹¹ Saul sent messengers to David’s house to watch him, that he might kill him in the morning. But Michal, David’s wife, told him, “If you do not escape with your life tonight, tomorrow you will be killed.” ¹² So Michal let David down through the window, and he fled away and escaped. ¹³ Michal took an image and laid it on the bed and put a pillow of goats’ hair at its head and covered it with the clothes. ¹⁴ And when Saul sent messengers to take David, she said, “He is sick.” ¹⁵ Then Saul sent the messengers to see David, saying, “Bring him up to me in the bed, that I may kill him.” ¹⁶ And when the messengers came in, behold, the image was in the bed, with the pillow of goats’ hair at its head. ¹⁷ Saul said to Michal, “Why have you deceived me thus and let my enemy go, so that he has escaped?” And Michal answered Saul, “He said to me, ‘Let me go. Why should I kill you?’”

Psalm 59

Deliver me from my enemies, O my God; protect me from those who rise up against me; ² deliver me from those who work evil, and save me from bloodthirsty men. ³ For behold, they lie in wait for my

life; fierce men stir up strife against me. For no transgression or sin of mine, O LORD, ⁴for no fault of mine, they run and make ready. Awake, come to meet me, and see! ⁵You, LORD God of hosts, are God of Israel. Rouse yourself to punish all the nations; spare none of those who treacherously plot evil. Selah

⁶Each evening they come back, howling like dogs and prowling about the city. ⁷There they are, bellowing with their mouths with swords in their lips – for “Who,” they think, “will hear us?”

⁸But you, O LORD, laugh at them; you hold all the nations in derision. ⁹O my Strength, I will watch for you, for you, O God, are my fortress. ¹⁰My God in his steadfast love will meet me; God will let me look in triumph on my enemies.

¹¹Kill them not, lest my people forget; make them totter by your power and bring them down, O Lord, our shield! ¹²For the sin of their mouths, the words of their lips, let them be trapped in their pride. For the cursing and lies that they utter, ¹³consume them in wrath; consume them till they are no more, that they may know that God rules over Jacob to the ends of the earth. Selah

¹⁴Each evening they come back, howling like dogs and prowling about the city. ¹⁵They wander about for food and growl if they do not get their fill.

¹⁶But I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning. For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress. ¹⁷O my Strength, I will sing praises to you, for you, O God, are my fortress, the God who shows me steadfast love.

:18-24

D. Devilish invasion is foiled by divine intervention.

¹⁸Now David fled and escaped, and he came to Samuel at Ramah and told him all that Saul had done to him. And he and Samuel went and lived at Naioth. ¹⁹And it was told Saul, “Behold, David is at Naioth in Ramah.” ²⁰Then Saul sent messengers to take David, and when they saw the company of the prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing as head over them, the Spirit of God came upon the messengers of Saul, and they also prophesied. ²¹When it was told Saul, he sent other messengers, and they also prophesied. And Saul sent messengers again the third time, and they also prophesied. ²²Then he himself went to Ramah and came to the great well that is in Secu. And he asked, “Where are Samuel and David?” And one said, “Behold, they are at Naioth in Ramah.” ²³And he went there to Naioth in Ramah. And the Spirit of God came upon him also, and as he went he prophesied until he came to Naioth in Ramah. ²⁴And he too stripped off his clothes, and he too prophesied before Samuel and lay naked all that day and all that night. Thus it is said, “Is Saul also among the prophets?”
cf. I Samuel 10:11, 12; Psalm 2; Ezekiel 34:23, 24