

**David, Shepherd and King**  
**#4 Friendship & Hostility, 1 Samuel 18 (1/24/2010 AM)**

1. Jonathan's Friendship (1-4)

***Jonathan Was Drawn to David***

• **Two men with a \_\_\_\_\_ for God**

David was a man after God's own heart. Their souls were "knit" together. The word means knotted, tied firmly. "Jonathan loved him as his own soul." This love is the Hebrew equivalent of agape love in the New Testament. This is the type of love that we are to display to other believers. Romans 12:10, "Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another." Jonathan will display true friendship to David, Proverbs 17:17. Jonathan, the heir to the throne, made "a covenant" of friendship with David. The gifts he gave David in verse 4 are still highly esteemed in the East as an act of bestowing honor.

**Jonathan's Admiration for David Is Seen against the Dark Backdrop of Saul's Growing**

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2. Saul's Jealousy (5-16)

***David Entered Saul's Service***

David's wise actions "behaved wisely" caused him to be successful in carrying out his duties. Wisdom leads to success. This is referred to four times in this chapter (14, 15, & 30).

• **The secret to David's success was \_\_\_\_\_**

This same word is used in Deuteronomy 29:9, "Therefore keep the words of this covenant, and do them, that you may prosper in all that you do."

David was enabled by God and blessed by God because he walked with God, Psalm 111:10.

• **Saul became \_\_\_\_\_ by David's success**

There is no indication that David ever promoted himself or paraded his successes. David retained his humble servant's heart. He was not influenced by the fickle praise of the masses. Verse 6 is recording not David's return from defeating Goliath, but one of his ongoing expeditions. The fact that the people were going out "to meet Saul" probably indicates some special celebration or occasion. It was their custom to compose songs to memorialize their victories.

• **Saul was becoming convinced that David would be his successor**

Saul must have been recalling Samuel's words that the kingdom was torn from Saul and would be given to his neighbor. He had stood powerless before Goliath, watching this shepherd boy step up and give him the victory. Now he saw signs that indicated that David was probably the man Samuel spoke of. Saul's jealousy will lead not to David's destruction, but to his own, Proverbs 14:30 & James 3:16.

• **Saul's jealous anger turned to \_\_\_\_\_**

We saw earlier that Saul's own insecurities and jealousies became intensified by the evil spirit. This prophesying was created by an evil spirit, not the Holy Spirit who had departed from Saul. Twice Saul tried to kill David, but David escaped. Ironically, it was Saul not David who was afraid. This was a spiritual confrontation, not a political one. Saul demoted David (13) probably with the intent of hoping he would be killed in battle.

**We Learn from David to not Retaliate nor Demand our Rights but to \_\_\_\_\_ to God's Leading**

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3. Saul's Plotting (17-30)

***Saul's Anger Fed His Self-pity***

At this point David's popularity with the people discouraged Saul from outright killing him. Saul began to scheme to get rid of David.

• **Saul \_\_\_\_\_ humiliated David**

Saul had earlier promised to give his daughter to the man who killed Goliath. It was customary to provide for a dowry to be given to the father of the bride. Saul seems to be saying that David's dowry will be to continue to "fight the LORD's battles." Saul's real intent was for David to be killed. David's response, (18) "Who am I", must have further frustrated Saul who decided to humiliate David by giving Merab to another man.

- **Saul \_\_\_\_\_ sought to ensnare David**

The text does not reveal that David held any bitterness toward Saul, even after all that Saul had done to him. Some amount of time probably passed between the events of verses 19 and 20. Saul learns that his other daughter Michal “loved David” (20).

The word “snare” is used only three other times and always in connection to idol worship. It is later revealed that Michal had idols in their home. This shows the depths to which Saul has fallen. He won’t deal with the sin in his own life or in his own home. It also shows the extent of Saul’s selfish heart. Saul’s plot also includes the hope that David will again be killed by the Philistines.

David again responded to Saul’s offer of marriage with humility (23). When Saul was informed of this, he asked for a specific dowry.

David responded by killing 200 Philistines and bringing the bloody evidence before Saul. Saul gave Michal to David hoping that she might compromise him spiritually. Saul’s schemes have completely back fired upon him. His son, Jonathan, and his daughter, Michal, both love David. David continued to be successful because (30) “David behaved more wisely.” And David’s “name became highly esteemed” in the nation of Israel. The result was that “Saul became David’s enemy continually” (29). David had done nothing to earn Saul’s hatred. He had served Saul faithfully, never trying to promote himself even though he had been anointed by Samuel to be the next king.

**David Is a Type of \_\_\_\_\_ Who When Wrongly Accused Did Not Retaliate**