

Rise & Fall: David the Fugitive
Aaron Crane · 7/2/2023 · 1 Samuel 18-24

1 Samuel 19:8–12 ESV *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. 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. 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. Saul sent messengers to David's house to watch him, that he might kill him in the morning.*

Discussing 3 things today:

- Preparation
- Provision
- Providence (divine guidance or care)

THE LORD IS WITH DAVID

1 Samuel 18:6–9 ESV *As 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. And the women sang to one another as they celebrated, "Saul has struck down his thousands, and David his ten thousands." And 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?" And Saul eyed David from that day on.*

1 Samuel 18:12,14-16 ESV *"Saul was afraid of David because the Lord was with him but had departed from Saul... "And David had success in all his undertakings, for the Lord was with him. And when Saul saw that he had great success, he stood in fearful awe of him. But all Israel and Judah loved David, for he went out and came in before them."*

1 Samuel 16:7 *"But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart."*

DAVID THE FUGITIVE

1 Samuel 19:1 ESV *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.*

1 Samuel 20:30–34 ESV *Then Saul's anger was kindled against Jonathan, and he said to him, "...As long as the son of Jesse lives on the earth, neither you nor your kingdom shall be established. Therefore send and bring him to me, for he shall surely die." Then Jonathan answered Saul his father, "Why should he be put to death? What has he done?" But Saul hurled his spear at him to strike him. So Jonathan knew that his father was determined to put David to death. And Jonathan rose from the table in fierce anger and ate no food the second day of the month, for he was grieved for David, because his father had disgraced him.*

1 Samuel 21:10–13 ESV *And David rose and fled that day from Saul and went to Achish the king of Gath. And the servants of Achish said to him, "Is not this David the king of the land? Did they not sing to one another of him in dances, 'Saul has struck down his thousands, and David his ten thousands'?" And David took these words to heart and was much afraid of Achish the king of Gath. So he changed his behavior before them and pretended to be insane in their hands and made marks on the doors of the gate and let his spittle run down his beard.*

1 Samuel 24:1–7 ESV When Saul returned from following the Philistines, he was told, “Behold, David is in the wilderness of Engedi.” Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel and went to seek David and his men in front of the Wildgoats’ Rocks. And he came to the sheepfolds by the way, where there was a cave, and Saul went in to relieve himself. Now David and his men were sitting in the innermost parts of the cave. And the men of David said to him, “Here is the day of which the Lord said to you, ‘Behold, I will give your enemy into your hand, and you shall do to him as it shall seem good to you.’” Then David arose and stealthily cut off a corner of Saul’s robe. And afterward David’s heart struck him, because he had cut off a corner of Saul’s robe. He said to his men, “The Lord forbid that I should do this thing to my lord, the Lord’s anointed, to put out my hand against him, seeing he is the Lord’s anointed.” So David persuaded his men with these words and did not permit them to attack Saul. And Saul rose up and left the cave and went on his way.

- God was **PREPARING** David
- God was **PROVIDING** for David
- David trusted God’s **PROVIDENCE**

What does David’s story as an innocent fugitive teach us today?

- Embrace God’s **PREPARATION**
- Recognize God’s **PROVISION**
- Trust God’s **PROVIDENCE**

“...[God’s] providence is not a threat to our joy, but the basis of it”. —John Piper

JUST LIKE HE WAS FOR DAVID...

GOD is the Hero in our story.

God is our strength in weakness.

God is Judge over all injustices thrown upon us.

God is the Sustainer and Provider in all the chaos we face.

God is the Preparer of our lives for His purpose

One simple sentence with a powerful meaning: “*God is with us.*”

FOR FURTHER READING AND ENCOURAGEMENT READ: PSALMS CHAPTER 34 AND 56

REMINDER: BAPTISM NEXT SUNDAY, JULY 9 DURING ALL SERVICES

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