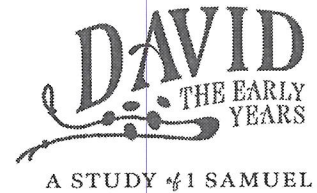


1 SAMUEL 24

March 23-24, 2022



1. David spent many years running from King Saul in the wilderness. In Psalm 57 we see the words David specifically wrote when he fled from Saul in a cave. Read this Psalm and list the attributes of God which gave David courage when pursued by his powerful enemies.

Even though danger surrounded him, describe David's condition according to Psalm 57:7.

What can we learn from David when frightening circumstances pursue us?

2. In 1 Samuel 23:26-29, David was hiding from King Saul in the wilderness of Maon. Look back at these verses. Why did Saul have to give up the chase even though he was closing in on David?

In what ways has God been your Rock of Escape?

Where is David's new hiding place?

3. Read 1 Samuel 24:1-2. David had 600 men with him. How many men did Saul have?

What does Romans 8:31-37 teach us about the invisible power that surrounds God's own?

4. Read 1 Samuel 24:3. Consider the length and depth of the trials and tribulations that Saul had put upon David. With Saul within reach, what thoughts would be running through the mind of David if he had not been a godly man?

What are fallen man's first reactions when he has been treated unjustly?

5. Read 1 Samuel 24:4-7 to see how David reacted to Saul's presence in the cave. List the positive outcomes that were a result of David's commitment to God and His plans.

Look at the response of David's men again in 24:4. What part might others play when we are choosing how to respond to injustice?

Whose opinion matters most to David?

Why might David's cutting of the robe bring grief to his heart?

6. Read and envision 1 Samuel 24:8-11. List the words and actions of David that demonstrated respect for King Saul's position.

Saul believed David desired to harm him, but looking Saul in the face, David made a case for his innocence in 24:8-11. What arguments did David use?

When we are looking injustice in the face, Romans 12:9-10, 17-19 gives us wise direction. Read these verses and list the responses God desires of us.

Choose one of these marks of a Christian in Romans 12 that has been difficult to live out and ask the Lord to help you submit to His will in this area.

7. Read 1 Samuel 24:12-15. After stating his case to Saul, David turns to his Judge to make his appeal. Read these verses and record what David knows to be true about his just God in this situation.

Look closely at David's words again. What are the sinful attitudes we must set aside in order for us to allow God to handle our hurts?

8. Read Saul's response to David's actions and words in 1 Samuel 24:16-20. What many realizations enter Saul's heart after hearing David's wise words?

How does Proverbs 25:11-12 speak into this situation?

Share a time you blessed someone by your wise response to an offense, or a time someone blessed you by their response to a situation in which you offended them.

9. Read 1 Samuel 24:21-22. What is Saul admitting when he asks David to spare his offspring and not destroy his name from his father's house?
10. Write out a personal prayer request in one or two sentences to share with your small group.

FACE TO FACE WITH INJUSTICE

1 Samuel 24

SAUL'S PURSUIT OF DAVID

24:1-3

Saul's evil jealousy of _____ about David took over his heart, his reasoning, and his faith.

The King of Israel became the King of Injustice when it came to his relationship with David.

In the strongholds of Engedi, the unrighteous caught up with the righteous.

Saul's chase brought him to the sheepfolds and he entered a cave to cover his feet.

Deep in the darkness of the cave was the bright hope of Israel, waiting for God's perfect _____.

Unfairness will often pursue us while we live in this broken world.

There will be Sauls around many corners.

We maintain our hope by trusting God's _____ for us will be accomplished.

DAVID'S PURSUIT OF GOD

24:4-22

David's men encouraged David to end his unfair persecution by taking the life of his persecutor.

David would not respond to Saul's presence the _____ way, because he knew it was not God's way.

Cutting Saul's robe symbolized taking the kingdom from God's anointed King and grieved David.

David made the case that he would not sin against Saul, though Saul plotted to take his life.

David called for the Lord Himself, the only _____ Judge, to decide the fate of David and Saul.

Overwhelmed by David's goodness, the King of Israel pronounced David the future King of Israel.

When tempted to take matters into our own hands, _____ on God to make things right.

FACING THE INEVITABLE

DON'T BE A SAUL

Don't assume God is on your side.

Don't gather others to join you on your bitterness journey.

Don't send out spies to gather more information.

DO BE A DAVID

Do approach injustice with prayer and thanksgiving.

Do beware of well-meaning counselors.

Do respond to injustice God's way and not man's way.

Do hold on to the evidence of your obedience.

Do use words that can soften a hardened heart.

Do guard yourself against continued injustice.

KEY: everything, timing, plans, easy, fair, rely

David – The Early Years – 1 Samuel 24
March 23-24, 2022

PSALM 57:2 I cry out to God Most High, to God who fulfills his purpose for me.

PSALM 37:23-24 The steps of a man are established by the LORD, when he delights in his way; though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the LORD upholds his hand.

ROMANS 8:28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

PSALM 57:3 He will send from heaven and save me; he will put to shame him who tramples on me. God will send out his steadfast love and his faithfulness!

JOB 12:13, 16, 22 “With God are wisdom and might; he has counsel and understanding. . . . With him are strength and sound wisdom; the deceived and the deceiver are his. . . . He uncovers the deeps out of darkness and brings deep darkness to light.”

PSALM 37:5-6 Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act. He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday.

PSALM 37:8-9 Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath! Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil. For the evildoers shall be cut off, but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.

PSALM 57:6-10 They set a net for my steps; my soul was bowed down. They dug a pit in my way, but they have fallen into it themselves. My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast! I will sing and make melody! Awake, my glory! Awake, O harp and lyre! I will awake the dawn! I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing praises to you among the nations. For your steadfast love is great to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds.

JAMES 1:12 Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.