

## FINAL STUDY NOTES – 1 Samuel Chapters 19 –21      9/1-2/2025

### CLASSROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION:

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NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

**MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM DAYLIGHT SAVING Time (US and Canada)**  
**THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING ON ZOOM ONLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!**

**MEETING ID - 878 5864 4763 Passcode: 087484**

Join Zoom Meeting -

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87858644763?pwd=b25tUzhkaTE0UzIrSnpkVmZEWGJVQT09>**

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One tap mobile: +16699006833,,87858644763# US (San Jose) +13462487799,,87858644763# US (Houston)  
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**TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM DAYLIGHT SAVING Time (US and Canada).**

TUES MORNING MTG PLACE: 1201 KEY WEST, CORONA DEL MAR (shown as 1201 KW, Corona del Mar, CA 92625) on Global Positioning System (GPS) in automobiles. For driving directions, suggest using (waze.com/live map) or *MapQuest* (mapquest.com), **AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!**

**MEETING ID# - 853 0915 0746 - Passcode: 715340**

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### OPENING PRAYER

***1 SAMUEL – Chapter 19 – Saul Persecutes David; Psa 59 – (vs. 1-24)! Chapter 20 – Jonathan’s Loyalty to David (vs. 1-42)! Chapter 21 – David and the Holy Bread (vs. 1-15) Psa 34,56! Doeg -Psa 52***

- The 19th chapter begins with Saul’s announcement of his intention of killing David and ordering his servants to do so.

***1Sa 19:1-2 Now Saul spoke to Jonathan his son and to all his servants, that they should kill David; but Jonathan, Saul's son, delighted greatly in David. [2] So Jonathan told David, saying, "My father Saul seeks to kill you. Therefore please be on your guard until morning, and stay in a secret place and hide.***

- We saw last week where David and Jonathan had a love covenant between them. There was this tremendous love!

***1Sa 19:3-6 And I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where you are, and I will speak with my father about you. Then what I observe, I will tell you." [4] Thus Jonathan spoke well of David to Saul his father, and said to him, "Let not the king sin against his servant, against David, because he has not sinned against you, and because his works have been very good toward you. [5] For he took his life in his hands and killed the Philistine, and the LORD brought about a great deliverance for all***

*Israel. You saw it and rejoiced. Why then will you sin against innocent blood, to kill David without a cause?" [6] So Saul heeded the voice of Jonathan, and Saul (falsely) swore, "As the LORD lives, he shall not be killed." (Psa 119:113) I hate the double-minded, But I love Your law.*

- **Saul has become somewhat of a schizophrenic.** He orders them to kill David, and then Jonathan points out, David has been a faithful servant. He risked his own life to kill the Philistine, and you rejoiced at his victory. This guy has behaved wisely; he is a faithful servant to you. *Why should you kill innocent blood?* Saul had enough reason to realize that what Jonathan was saying was correct. Saul said, "Surely as the LORD lives," and swearing by taking an oath by the LORD, "he shall not be killed!"

*1Sa 19:7-8 Then Jonathan called David, and Jonathan told him all these things. So Jonathan brought David to Saul, and he was in his presence as in times past. [8] And there was war again; and David went out and fought with the Philistines, and struck them with a mighty blow, and they fled from him.*

- That victory got David into trouble because Saul's jealousy arose again. David is doing great exploits out on the battlefield. David's exploits were being heralded by the women. They would come out of the cities, with their tambourines, and their dances, and they would sing, "*Saul has killed his thousands, and David his tens of thousands.*" Saul had a real ego problem with David getting this kind of attention, Saul could not handle it.
- **We can open the doors of our lives to the work of the enemy.** If you open yourself up to these things, an evil spirit can just take over your life. The Bible says, *(Jas 4:7-8a) Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. [8a] Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.* But if you do not resist the devil, if you give into this ill spirit, then an evil spirit can just take over your life.

*1Sa 19:9 Now the distressing spirit from the LORD came upon Saul as he sat in his house with his spear in his hand. And David was playing music with his hand.*

- As was the ordinary custom, when Saul would go into one of these deep moods of depression, David would come in and play soothing music, skillfully on the harp. Saul would be soothed. But this time he did not give David enough opportunity to play.

*1Sa 19:10 Then Saul sought to pin David to the wall with the spear, but he slipped away from Saul's presence; and he drove the spear into the wall. So David fled and escaped that night.*

- Saul, in a fit of rage, took his javelin in his hand, threw it at David, and he ducked. The javelin just missed him, being driven into the wall. Wisely, David left and escaped that night!

### **Michal Helps David Escape; Psalm 59**

*1Sa 19:11-13 Saul also sent messengers to David's house to watch him and to kill him in the morning. And Michal, David's wife, told him, saying, "If you do not save your life tonight, tomorrow you will be killed." [12] So Michal let David down through a window. And he went and fled and escaped. [13] And Michal took an image and laid it in the bed, put a cover of goats' hair for his head, and covered it with clothes.*

- Michal made up the bed, put this statue in it, making it look like David was lying in it. She took the goats' hair, and put it for the bolster, wrapping it around, putting it in the bed.

*1Sa 19:14-17 So when Saul sent messengers to take David, she said, "He is sick." [15] Then Saul sent the messengers back to see David, saying, "Bring him up to me in the bed, that I may kill him." [16] And when the messengers had come in, there was the image in the bed, with a cover of goats' hair for his head. [17] Then Saul said to Michal, "Why have you deceived me like this, and sent my enemy away, so that he has escaped?" And Michal answered Saul, "He said to me, 'Let me go! Why should I kill you?' " (He threatened my life." I was afraid.)*

- Now, at this point, we have the background for *(Psa 59:1-2, 16-17) To the Chief Musician. Set to "Do Not Destroy." a Michtam of David When Saul Sent Men, and They Watched the House in Order to Kill Him. Deliver me from my enemies, O my God; Defend me from those who rise up against me. [2] Deliver me from the workers of iniquity, And save me from bloodthirsty men. [16] But I will sing of Your power; Yes, I will sing aloud of Your mercy in the morning; For You have been my defense And refuge in the day of my trouble. [17] To You, O my Strength, I will sing praises; For God is my defense, My God of mercy.*
- **God is stripping away all of those helping, forcing David to trust on God alone! Here assassins are to kill David at his home! Under these terrible circumstances would I have written, (Psa 59: 2,16) Deliver me from the workers of iniquity, And save me from**

**bloodthirsty men. [16] But I will sing of Your power; Yes, I will sing aloud of Your mercy in the morning; For You have been my defense And refuge in the day of my trouble.**

*1Sa 19:18-19 So David fled and escaped, and went to Samuel at Ramah, and told him all that Saul had done to him. And he and Samuel went and stayed in Naioth. [19] Now it was told Saul, saying, "Take note, David is at Naioth in Ramah!"*

- Naioth was the school that was in Ramah that Samuel had for the prophets. So, they went to the school of the prophets, there at Naioth.

*1Sa 19:20 Then Saul sent messengers to take David. And when they saw the group of prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing as leader over them, the Spirit of God came upon the messengers of Saul, and they also prophesied.*

- The power of the Spirit was so strong, these guys were overcome, and they could not capture David. They just started joining in the prophecy!

*1Sa 19:21-24 And when Saul was told, he sent other messengers, and they prophesied likewise. Then Saul sent messengers again the third time, and they prophesied also. [22] Then he also went to Ramah, and came to the great well that is at Sechu. So he asked, and said, "Where are Samuel and David?" And someone said, "Indeed they are at Naioth in Ramah." [23] So he went there to Naioth in Ramah. Then the Spirit of God was upon him also, and he went on and prophesied until he came to Naioth in Ramah. [24] And he also stripped off his clothes and prophesied before Samuel in like manner, and lay down naked all that day and all that night. Therefore they say, "Is Saul also among the prophets?"*

- The power of God was protecting David! Note that Saul was desiring to kill him. He had sent messengers to take David. But each time he would send the messengers, the Spirit of God would come upon them, and they would prophesy, helpless to do anything against David. Finally, Saul came himself. The Spirit of God came upon Saul: he became helpless. Thus, David was divinely protected from Saul, yet David, in a lapse of faith and trust in God, resorted then to his own devices to escape from Saul.
- Much different from Abraham in *Gen 22*, who had such confidence in the promises of God, that *through Isaac was the seed to be called*, He was willing to offer Isaac as a sacrifice before he had any children, knowing that God would have, if necessary, raise him from the dead in order to keep His Word. In other words, God's Word is going to come to pass. Abraham had that strong faith, David did not.
- It was the Word of the LORD that David should be king, but David just could not rest in God bringing it to pass. Though he saw the hand of God delivering him, yet he lapsed to his own devices.
- He is so much like us! Even though we see the power of God, and we have seen God provide, and we have seen God bless, we begin to panic when a troublesome situation arises again. We forget so quickly the promises of God, and the deliverances of God that we often turn to the flesh in the hour of trouble or despair.

*1Sa 20:1 Then David fled from Naioth in Ramah, and went and said to Jonathan, "What have I done? What is my iniquity, and what is my sin before your father, that he seeks my life?"*

- Jonathan did not really believe that his father was still after David's life. Jonathan thought that Saul was anointed with the Spirit, and Jonathan figured, 'Hey, that should do it.' Now the old man's cooled down, it is going to be okay.

*1Sa 20:2 So Jonathan said to him, "By no means! You shall not die! Indeed, my father will do nothing either great or small without first telling me. And why should my father hide this thing from me? It is not so!"*

- No, my dad is not after you. If he were after you to kill you, he would have let me know. He tells me everything. And if he were after you, wouldn't he have told me?

**Jonathan Helps David Escape; "There is but a step between me and death"; Ready to Die?**

*1Sa 20:3 Then David took an oath again, and said, "Your father certainly knows that I have found favor in your eyes (your father knows of our friendship, of our love), and he has said, 'Do not let Jonathan know this, lest he be grieved.' But truly, as the LORD lives and as your soul lives, there is but a step between me and death."*

- David was living in the consciousness that his life was hanging on a thin thread! 'Man, I'm just a step away from death.' He had that consciousness. This is true of all of us. We all live just a step away

from death--but we do not always have that consciousness. In fact, we usually have the opposite. We usually have a consciousness of immortality: "It's not going to happen to me."

- **On the other hand, there is wisdom in the recognition** that my life is in the hands of God, and I do not know at what time God may withdraw His hand of protection, and I might be taken. Thus, I should live with the consciousness of the eternal, and that motivates me in my service for God.
- **We look for the return of Jesus Christ**, realizing that He could come at any moment, which keeps us walking a straight line. It keeps us pure. *(1Jn 3:2-3) Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. [3] And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure. It is a purifying hope,* the fact that Jesus is coming at any moment! We do not know when -- it could be tonight. **Therefore, I want to be doing those things that would be pleasing to Him** when He returns. The consciousness that I live on the border of eternity, and I do not know when I am going to pass through that door into eternity.
- **David just said, "Man, I'm living on the border of eternity. There's just a step between me and death.** Your dad's after me and he's trying to kill me." *(1Sa 27:1a) And David said in his heart, "Now I shall perish someday by the hand of Saul. (Dan 5:23d) and the God who holds your breath in His hand and owns all your ways, you have not glorified.*
- **What a statement!—"there is but a step between me and death."** It was not only that way in David's day, it is also that way today. Whether we drive the streets or the freeways, you and I are within a step of death. Isaiah said that there is only a heartbeat between you and death. Death can come at any time. That is the reason we ought to be ready at any moment to move out into eternity and into the presence of God!
- **How many of us have made every arrangement for this life but none for the next life?** Are you a saved individual—that is, are you trusting Christ as Savior—so that if you should die at this moment you would go into the presence of God? **Are you ready to die?** If not, do not put off accepting Christ as your Lord and Savior any longer!
- **"There is but a step between me and death." Are you ready to die? Am I ready? Are all of my children? All of my grandchildren? Be sure! Ask them! Pray for them! Do not put off repenting, surrendering, and accepting Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior!**

*1Sa 20:4-8 So Jonathan said to David, "Whatever you yourself desire, I will do it for you." [5] And David said to Jonathan, "Indeed tomorrow is the New Moon, and I should not fail to sit with the king to eat. But let me go, that I may hide in the field until the third day at evening. [6] If your father misses me at all, then say, 'David earnestly asked permission of me that he might run over to Bethlehem, his city, for there is a yearly sacrifice there for all the family.' [7] If he says thus: 'It is well,' your servant will be safe (I will have peace). But if he is very angry, be sure that evil is determined by him. [8] Therefore you shall deal kindly with your servant, for you have brought your servant into a covenant of the LORD with you. Nevertheless, if there is iniquity in me, kill me yourself, for why should you bring me to your father?"*

- **If I have done something wrong, go ahead and kill me yourself.** Why should you bring me to your dad if there is something wrong?

*1Sa 20:9-13 But Jonathan said, "Far be it from you (God forbid)! For if I knew certainly that evil was determined by my father to come upon you, then would I not tell you?" [10] Then David said to Jonathan, "Who will tell me, or what if your father answers you roughly?" [11] And Jonathan said to David, "Come, let us go out into the field." So both of them went out into the field. [12] Then Jonathan said to David: "The LORD God of Israel is witness! When I have sounded out my father sometime tomorrow, or the third day, and indeed there is good toward David, and I do not send to you and tell you, [13] may the LORD do so and much more to Jonathan. But if it pleases my father to do you evil, then I will report it to you and send you away, that you may go in safety. And the LORD be with you as He has been with my father.*

- **Now Jonathan recognizes in the conversation with David** that David is going to be the next king. He knows that. And he is seeking, now, that David would make a covenant with his family and David's family; that there would be kindnesses between the families by David, when he becomes king.

*1Sa 20:14-15 And you shall not only show me the kindness of the LORD while I still live, that I may not die; [15] but you shall not cut off your kindness from my house forever, no, not when the LORD has cut off every one of the enemies of David from the face of the earth."*

- Jonathan is recognizing David's ultimate triumph. God's hand is upon him. 'When you come into the kingdom, when you come into the throne, then show kindness unto my family.

*1Sa 20:16-17 So Jonathan made a covenant with the house of David, saying, "Let the LORD require it at the hand of David's enemies." [17] Now Jonathan again caused David to vow, because he loved him; for he loved him as he loved his own soul.*

- So, this pact of love: this covenant of love that was between them, was renewed.
- Jonathan is to go and eat with his father. David had his place at Saul's table during the feast, and the feast was a two day feast. David's absence from the feast is surely to be noticed by Saul. If Saul brings up the question of David's absence, 'Tell your dad that our family was having a big yearly sacrifice in Bethlehem, so please excuse David. If your dad says, 'Fine, I hope he has a good time,' then we will know everything is okay. But if your dad gets angry, 'it's only because he has intended evil against me.' Jonathan says, 'Okay, we will do it, and I swear before God. I will come and let you know what my dad's attitude is. "But David--I love you, and you love me. Let us renew our covenant of love." So, there was the renewal. Jonathan caused David to swear again.
- It is interesting how that we love the reaffirmation of love? If someone loves us, we want them to tell us, over and over. "Of course I love you, I told you that when I married you. Isn't that enough?" No! We want reaffirmation! "Now, swear to me again. Tell me again." That is something that we cannot hear too much, is it not?

*1Sa 20:18-23 Then Jonathan said to David, "Tomorrow is the New Moon; and you will be missed, because your seat will be empty. [19] And when you have stayed three days, go down quickly and come to the place where you hid on the day of the deed; and remain by the stone Ezel. [20] Then I will shoot three arrows to the side, as though I shot at a target; [21] and there I will send a lad, saying, 'Go, find the arrows.' If I expressly say to the lad, 'Look, the arrows are on this side of you; get them and come'—then, as the LORD lives, there is safety for you and no harm. [22] But if I say thus to the young man, 'Look, the arrows are beyond you'—go your way, for the LORD has sent you away. [23] And as for the matter which you and I have spoken of, indeed the LORD be between you and me forever."*

- "The matter" - This thing of 'honoring my family,' and 'when you have come into power,' and so forth, showing kindness.

*1Sa 20:24-26 Then David hid in the field. And when the New Moon had come, the king sat down to eat the feast. [25] Now the king sat on his seat, as at other times, on a seat by the wall (the place of prominence). And Jonathan arose, and Abner (the general) sat by Saul's side, but David's place was empty. [26] Nevertheless Saul did not say anything that day, for he thought, "Something has happened to him; he is unclean, surely he is unclean."*

- Now you had to go through a ceremonial kind of a cleansing in order to come and eat at the feast. And Saul figured, "Oh, he did not have a chance to go through the ceremony of cleansing himself to eat. So, surely, that is the problem; he will be here tomorrow."

*1Sa 20:27-30 And it happened the next day, the second day of the month, that David's place was empty. And Saul said to Jonathan his son, "Why has the son of Jesse not come to eat, either yesterday or today?" [28] So Jonathan answered Saul, "David earnestly asked permission of me to go to Bethlehem. [29] And he said, 'Please let me go, for our family has a sacrifice in the city, and my brother has commanded me to be there. And now, if I have found favor in your eyes, please let me get away and see my brothers.' Therefore he has not come to the king's table." [30] Then Saul's anger was aroused against Jonathan, and he said to him, "You son of a perverse, rebellious woman! Do I not know that you have chosen the son of Jesse to your own shame and to the shame of your mother's nakedness (her shame)?"*

- Notice, how typical that dad wants to blame his wife when there are problems with the kids? *Do I not know that you have chosen the son of Jesse to your own shame and to the shame of your mother's nakedness?*

*1Sa 20:31 For as long as the son of Jesse lives on the earth, you shall not be established, nor your kingdom. Now therefore, send and bring him to me, for he shall surely die."*

- In other words, “Jonathan, you are a fool! Don’t you know I want to kill him for your sake? If that guy lives, you are not going to be king, Jonathan. You will never come to the throne; don’t you understand that?” To Saul it was a thing of hanging-on to the kingdom, though he had been told by the prophet that God had taken the kingdom from him. But yet, he is trying to hold on.

*1Sa 20:32-33 And Jonathan answered Saul his father, and said to him, "Why should he be killed? What has he done?" [33] Then Saul cast a spear at him to kill him, by which Jonathan knew that it was determined by his father to kill David.*

- Saul has become mad. He is insane! He is filled with rage and jealousy!

*1Sa 20:34-41 So Jonathan arose 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 treated him shamefully. [35] And so it was, in the morning, that Jonathan went out into the field at the time appointed with David, and a little lad was with him. [36] Then he said to his lad, "Now run, find the arrows which I shoot." As the lad ran, he shot an arrow beyond him. [37] When the lad had come to the place where the arrow was which Jonathan had shot, Jonathan cried out after the lad and said, "Is not the arrow beyond you?" [38] And Jonathan cried out after the lad, "Make haste, hurry, do not delay!" So Jonathan's lad gathered up the arrows and came back to his master. [39] But the lad did not know anything. Only Jonathan and David knew of the matter. [40] Then Jonathan gave his weapons to his lad, and said to him, "Go, carry them to the city." [41] As soon as the lad had gone, David arose from a place toward the south, fell on his face to the ground, and bowed down three times. And they kissed one another; and they wept together, but David more so.*

- Here is, unfortunately, the last time these two fellows meet together. This tremendous camaraderie, this tremendous love that they had; and this is their last meeting, weeping together.

*1Sa 20:42 Then Jonathan said to David, "Go in peace, since we have both sworn in the name of the LORD, saying, 'May the LORD be between you and me, and between your descendants and my descendants, forever.'" So he arose and departed, and Jonathan went into the city.*

- So, this was the final time, certainly a lot of sadness and emotion here. Jonathan must have been very sad, knowing that his father was determined to kill his beloved friend David!

### David and the Holy Bread; Psalm 52 (Doeg)

*1Sa 21:1 Now David came to Nob, to Ahimelech the priest. And Ahimelech was afraid when he met David, and said to him, "Why are you alone, and no one is with you?"*

- He is sort of suspicious that David is there alone.

*1Sa 21:2-3 So David said (not telling the truth) to Ahimelech the priest, "The king has ordered me on some business, and said to me, 'Do not let anyone know anything about the business on which I send you, or what I have commanded you.' And I have directed my young men to such and such a place. [3] Now therefore, what have you on hand? Give me five loaves of bread in my hand, or whatever can be found."*

- David tells an outright lie to Ahimelech, and asks for something to eat.

*1Sa 21:4-6 And the priest answered David and said, "There is no common bread on hand; but there is holy bread, if the young men (those with David) have at least kept themselves from women." [5] Then David answered the priest, and said to him, "Truly, women have been kept from us about three days since I came out. And the vessels of the young men are holy, and the bread is in effect common, even though it was consecrated in the vessel this day." [6] So the priest gave him holy bread; for there was no bread there but the showbread which had been taken from before the LORD, in order to put hot bread in its place on the day when it was taken away.*

- Now, according to the law, there in the tabernacle in the holy place on the right hand side, there was this little golden table, upon which twelve loaves of bread were set. Each loaf representing one of the tribes of Israel. Each week these loaves of bread were changed, putting fresh bread on the table.
- This holy bread, called *showbread*, could not be eaten by anybody but the priests. However, David and his men are hungry. David asked the priest to give him this *showbread* because of their hunger. The priest gave this bread to David and to the men to eat; yet, because of their need, the law of hunger actually superseded the ceremonial law of God.
- In the New Testament (*Mat 12:2-4*) And when the Pharisees saw it, they said to Him, "Look, Your disciples are doing what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath!" [3] But He said to them, "Have you not

*read what David did when he was hungry, he and those who were with him: [4] how he entered the house of God and ate the showbread which was not lawful for him to eat, nor for those who were with him, but only for the priests?*

- **In other words, a man's hunger supersedes these things.** So, the disciples were doing that which according to the technical aspects of the law, was unlawful. But their hunger brought it into a lawful action, that of the need. Jesus uses this situation with David, to show that need supersedes the ceremonial aspects of the law.

**1Sa 21:7** *Now a certain man of the servants of Saul was there that day, detained (A vow? Purification? leprosy?) before the LORD. And his name was Doeg, an Edomite, the chief of the herdsmen who belonged to Saul.*

- **He had probably been going through a cleansing ritual**, or it is possible that they thought he had leprosy. But he was under detention before the LORD to fulfill some vow, or some spiritual problem.
- **Psalm 52 is entitled "A prayer of David when Doeg the Edomite came to Saul, and said to him, David went to the house of Ahimelech."** As Doeg reports to Saul that Ahimelech is helping David, Saul's fierce and ungodly vengeance results in murdering eighty-five priests (1Sa 22:18!) Ahimelech was totally innocent!

**1Sa 21:8-9** *And David said to Ahimelech, "Is there not here on hand a spear or a sword? For I have brought neither my sword nor my weapons with me, because the king's business required haste." [9] So the priest said, "The sword of Goliath the Philistine, whom you killed in the Valley of Elah, there it is, wrapped in a cloth behind the ephod. If you will take that, take it. For there is no other except that one here." And David said, "There is none like it; give it to me."*

**David Flees to Gath; Then Pretends Insanity; Psalm 34 & 56**

**1Sa 21:10** *Then David arose and fled that day from before Saul, and went to Achish the king of Gath.*

- **Achish is also called Abimelech, which is the Philistine title** for the king, like the Turkish title was Sultan; The Russian title is Czar; the Egyptian title is Pharaoh; the Assyrian title was Sennacherib. The title for the king was Abimelech. When Abraham went to Abimelech. The actual name of this king was Achish, but he was also called Abimelech because that was the king's title among the people.
- **So, David fled to their enemies, the Philistines.** He came to Achish, the king of Gath.
- In (**Psa 34:1**) *A Psalm of David When He Pretended Madness Before Abimelech (Achish), Who Drove Him Away, and He Departed.*

**1Sa 21:11-15** *And the servants of Achish said to him, "Is this not David the king of the land? Did they not sing of him to one another in dances, saying: 'Saul has slain his thousands, And David his ten thousands'?" [12] Now David took these words to heart, and was very much afraid of Achish the king of Gath. [13] So he changed his behavior before them, pretended madness in their hands, scratched on the doors of the gate, and let his saliva fall down on his beard. [14] Then Achish said to his servants, "Look, you see the man is insane. Why have you brought him to me? [15] Have I need of madmen, that you have brought this fellow to play the madman in my presence? Shall this fellow come into my house?"*

- **Achish said to his servants to get rid of him!** So, David escaped out of the hand of the king by pretending insanity.
- In (**Pro 29:25**) *The fear of man brings a snare, But whoever trusts in the LORD shall be safe.* Now David was afraid of Achish. This fear led David, this man that God had ordained to be king, lead him into this behavior of acting like a mad man: scrabbling at the walls, letting his saliva run down over his beard, and just babbling insane babblings. The fear of man will bring even a great noble man into the actions of a fool.
- **Now about the only good thing you can say about this is that it worked.** David did escape. However, it shows David's lack of real trust in God. David is quite ambivalent at this time. He is under extreme pressure! He knows that Saul is out to kill him, and that there is just a step between him and death. So, he is reacting under this kind of pressure. But on the other side, there is still that trust in God. There is still that awareness, and consciousness of God, and that seeking of love.
- **Turn to (**Psa 34:1-4**) A Psalm of David When He Pretended Madness Before Abimelech, Who Drove Him Away, and He Departed.** *I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. [2] My soul shall make its boast in the LORD; The humble shall hear of it and be glad. [3] Oh, magnify the LORD with me, And let us exalt His name together. [4] I sought the LORD, and He heard me, And delivered me from all my fears. **Wow! Imagine saying that at such a fearful time?***

- Several Psalms were born out of these experiences. *Psalm 56*, “*To the chief Musician a prayer of David, when the Philistines took him in Gath.*” (Psa 56:3-4) *Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You. [4] In God (I will praise His word), In God I have put my trust; I will not fear. What can flesh do to me? ‘I will praise His word’ (3x)! They said, ‘Hey, this is the David,’ and they took him. So, he was afraid and he pretended, then: the madness. So, *Psalm 56* along with *Psalm 34* has to do with the experience in Gath. So wonderful!*
- I would encourage you to learn from David’s mistakes! We see David calling upon the LORD, seeking the LORD, but resorting to the flesh. Oh, that we would just trust in the LORD at all times, and lean not to our own understanding. But just commit our ways completely unto Him, knowing that God will work things out for His glory! (1Sa 20:17) *Now Jonathan again caused David to vow, because he loved him; for he loved him as he loved his own soul.*
- ***Even as Jonathan sought that David should renew the covenant of love (1Sa 20:17); how long has it been since you have renewed your covenant of love with Jesus Christ? Telling Him that you do love Him and want to commit your life fully and completely. Love wants and desires to make a covenant, and it desires the renewal of that covenant. Is it not time to renew the covenant?***
- *Is He worthy?*

## SUMMARY

- ***God is stripping away all of those helping, forcing David to trust on God alone! Here assassins are to kill David at his home! Under these terrible circumstances would I have written, (Psa 59: 2,16) Deliver me from the workers of iniquity, And save me from bloodthirsty men. [16] But I will sing of Your power; Yes, I will sing aloud of Your mercy in the morning; For You have been my defense And refuge in the day of my trouble. (1Sa 19:17)***
- ***“There is but a step between me and death.” Are you ready to die? Am I ready? Are all of my children? All of my grandchildren? Be sure! Ask them! Pray for them! Do not put off repenting, surrendering, and accepting Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior! (1Sa 20:3)***
- ***Even as Jonathan sought that David should renew the covenant of love (1Sa 20:17); how long has it been since you have renewed your covenant of love with Jesus Christ? Telling Him that you do love Him and want to commit your life fully and completely. Love wants and desires to make a covenant, and it desires the renewal of that covenant. Is it not time to renew the covenant? (1Sa 21:15)***

## IS HE WORTHY? Chris Tomlin (4:32/4:35)

Do you feel the world is broken? **(We do)** Do you feel the shadows deepen? **(We do)**

But do you know that all the dark won't Stop the light from getting through? **(We do)**

Do you wish that you could see it all made new? **(We do)** Is all creation groaning? **(It is)** Is a new

creation coming? **(It is)** Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our midst? **(It is)**

Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? **(It is)** Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole? Is anyone able to

break the seal and open the scroll? The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave He was David's root and

the Lamb who died to ransom the slave Is He worthy? Is He worthy? Of all blessing and honor and glory

Is He worthy of this? **(He is!)** Does the Father truly love us? **(He does)** Does the Spirit move among us?

**(He does)** And does Jesus, our Messiah hold forever those He loves? **(He does)** Does our God intend to

dwell again with us? **(He does)** Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole? Is anyone able to break the seal and

open the scroll? The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave He is David's root and the Lamb who died

to ransom the slave From every people and tribe Every nation and tongue He has made us a kingdom

and priests to God To reign with the Son Is He worthy? Is He worthy? Of all blessing and honor and glory

Is He worthy? Is He worthy? Is He worthy of this? **He is! He is!** Is He worthy? Is He worthy? **He is! He**

**is! He is worthy! He is worthy! He is!**

## CLOSING PRAYER



**NEXT WEEK: Study *1 Samuel, Chapters 22-24!***