

FINAL STUDY NOTES – *1 Samuel Chapters 27-29* 9/22-23/2025

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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Dial by your location: +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose); +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston); +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma); +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C); +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago); +1 929 436 2866 US (New York). Meeting ID: 878 5864 4763 Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87858644763?pwd=b25tUzhkaTE0UzIrSnpkVmZEWGJVQT09>

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 27-28 – David Allied with the Philistines – (27:1-12, 28:1-2)! Saul Consults a Medium – (28:3-25)! Chapter 29 – The Philistines Reject David – (vs. 1-II)!

- **I Samuel, chapter twenty-seven. The one thing about the bible is it is plain honesty.** It talks about men as they really are. It does not try to create idols of men. The Bible does not give you any false illusions about anybody. Even those men in the Bible who through the centuries have been the heroes. Who has been a greater hero than David? I have always admired this guy for his daring. I love it when Saul's pursuing him, that he is daring enough to slip down into the camp of Saul, with Abishai. I mean, go right into the camp, you know! I love this guy for his bravery, and for his daring.
- **Yet the bible is so blunt, and so honest with his mistakes.** It leaves us no illusions. David is a man, like us, subject to discouragement, to fear, and to mistakes. In the twenty seventh chapter of I Samuel, we see David in one of the low points of his life.
- **He had been under pressure** because Saul had been pursuing him for at least 8 years! Saul was bent on killing him. Wherever David would seek to hide from Saul, there were always those people around, who were willing to gain some kind of a favor from Saul, telling Saul where David was attempting to hide. Too many times, too much pressure, and David begins to snap. He is discouraged, fear has gripped his heart, he is despairing.

David Flees to the Philistines

1Sa 27:1 And David said in his heart, "Now I shall perish someday by the hand of Saul. There is for me than that I should speedily escape to the land of the Philistines; and Saul will despair of me, to seek me anymore in any part of Israel. So I shall escape out of his hand."

- Now David's declaration of despair showed that he had lost faith in the promise of God! God had promised that David would sit upon the throne. God had declared that He had rejected Saul from being king, and David was going to rule in his stead. For David to say in his heart, "I know that one day Saul is going to kill me," is a lack of faith in what God has promised!
- But Saul has been pursuing and David is tired of running, and his faith definitely is lapsing at this point. As with so many people, when his faith in the promises of God began to lapse, he began then to devise himself a means of escape. "I will take things into my own hands. I do not believe that God is able to take care of me any longer. I do not believe that God will continue to deliver me from the hand of Saul. I do not think that God is sufficient to take care of my needs, and therefore I better take care of myself!"
- Oh man do we get into trouble with that kind of thinking! Whenever I think that, "I better do something for myself, because obviously God isn't going to work, God isn't going to keep His word, God is going to fail, so I better take over now, and I better plan my way out of this." That is just an open invitation for disaster! So when David began to devise his own means of escape from Saul, his own means of preservation. Here is what I am going to do."
- *There is nothing better for me than that I should speedily escape to the land of the Philistines.* Oh what a false conclusion! There is nothing better for me," there is really nothing better for you, than to just submit yourself totally to the will of God. David, there is nothing better than you just committing yourself completely into His care! That is the best thing for you! But David is now filled with fear. Fear has fought off the faith, he is despairing. "I know Saul is going to kill me! There is nothing better for me than to escape speedily to the Philistines! This word, "*speedily*," gives you the clue, and the key to the whole thing.
- Whenever Satan is beginning to pressure you into action, it is always for you to move quickly! "Hurry! Do not think about it!" How many times have we gotten into trouble with this, "Quick, speedily, hurry up and do it now!"? We act before we have an opportunity to pray before we have an opportunity to even think it through. We move out on our own without seeking the counsel of God!
- Not seeking the will of God! This was David's problem! He had the priest with him. The priest that brought the ephod. David had been consulting God, God warned David that Saul was indeed coming. God showed him, and delivered him, as he sought God through the priest. But in this case, there is nothing about David seeking the LORD or seeking the will of God.
- He is just acting now out of his own analysis of the situation, and not seeking the guidance, and the counsel of God, and moving quickly. "Oh I'd better speedily get down there!" Watch out when Satan begins to push you. "You do not have time to pray about this, you better act now!" You are going to miss this opportunity! If you do not get it now man, it is going to be gone forever! Quick! Move!" Satan often pressures us into actions that we spend years regretting, because we hurried into a situation, without waiting upon God first, and getting the mind of God.
- If God wants it for you, it will be there tomorrow. You do not have to worry about that! It will be there next week, you can spend a week in prayer on it, and if God wants you to have it, it will still be there. But that "*speedily*." David says, "I will *speedily* go down."
- *Saul will despair of me, to seek me anymore in any part of Israel. So I shall escape out of his hand.* So David devised his own survival own plan of escape. He does the very worst thing that a saint can do at that moment in time. He abandons God as a counselor. He becomes his own counselor!
- **When was the last time I was just very tired and fearful, wanting to quit being a Christian? That I decided to become my own counselor and follow my own will? That I knew what God's will was, but I didn't want to do it, and actually wanted to flee to the enemy's camp and sin? What did I do? What will I do the next time this happens?**

1Sa 27:2-4 Then David arose and went over with the six hundred men who were with him to Achish the son of Maach, king of Gath. [3] So David dwelt with Achish at Gath, he and his men, each man with his household, and David with his two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the Carmelitess, Nabal's widow. [4] And it was told Saul that David had fled to Gath; so he sought him no more.

- You may say, “Why fault David?” The plan worked. It was a good plan. Saul did not chase him any further.” There is a damnable philosophy that the ends justify the means, but that is not always so. In fact it is difficult to justify the means by the end result. Here, the end results were good, but it does not justify what David did. His lapse of faith, his failure to trust in God. Whenever you take that turn from God’s path, you are on now a path that is going to lead you ever downward into the pit. David, turning aside from God’s path, has now begun a path that we shall follow, as we see our hero going down deeper, and deeper into the pit. Until he gets so low, that we cannot believe that this is David, God’s man, and God’s choice!

1Sa 27:5-9 Then David said to Achish, "If I have now found favor in your eyes, let them give me a place in some town in the country, that I may dwell there. For why should your servant dwell in the royal city with you?" [6] So Achish gave him Ziklag that day. Therefore Ziklag has belonged to the kings of Judah to this day. [7] Now the time that David dwelt in the country of the Philistines was one full year and four months. [8] And David and his men went up and raided the Geshurites, the Girzites, and the Amalekites. For those nations were the inhabitants of the land from of old, as you go to Shur, even as far as the land of Egypt. [9] Whenever David attacked the land, he left neither man nor woman alive, but took away the sheep, the oxen, the donkeys, the camels, and the apparel, and returned and came to Achish.

- So David began these incursions against these Bedouin type people, their villages, in the area of the Negev desert, south from the area of Gath into the area towards Egypt. These were really raiding parties. David was ripping off the cattle, the sheep, the donkeys, and stealing their goods.
- You cannot justify what David is doing. It is wrong to destroy people, and to rob them of their goods! But this is the path of a man who is headed downward. He has turned aside now from God’s path, and he has begun a downward trend.

1Sa 27:10 Then Achish would say, "Where have you made a raid today?" And David would say, "Against the southern area of Judah, or against the southern area of the Jerahmeelites, or against the southern area of the Kenites."

- The Jerahmeelites were actually one of the major families of the tribe of Judah, and against the southern part of Judah, and the Kenites were a protectorate tribe of Israel. David lied outright to Achish about where he was gaining these spoils. He was actually taking the spoils from the people who were friends to the Philistines, then wiping them out completely, so there would be no witnesses.

1Sa 27:11 David would save neither man nor woman alive, to bring news to Gath, saying, "Lest they should inform on us, saying, 'Thus David did.'" And thus was his behavior all the time he dwelt in the country of the Philistines.

- He did not leave any witnesses, no one was there to report on what David was doing. That was horribly wrong! Committing these horrible crimes, and then killing all the witnesses. There is no excuse and no justification for David’s actions. He was horribly wrong!

1Sa 27:12 So Achish believed David, saying, "He has made his people Israel utterly abhor him; therefore he will be my servant forever."

- It is too bad, this king trusted and believed David, yet David was just a liar. It pleased Achish because he figured that David going against Judah, they are all angry with him now, they all hate him, and so he will never be able to go back, he will be my servant forever.

1Sa 28:1-2 Now it happened in those days that the Philistines gathered their armies together for war, to fight with Israel. And Achish said to David, "You assuredly know that you will go out with me to battle, you and your men." [2] So David said to Achish, "Surely you know what your servant can do (deliberately ambiguous)." And Achish said to David, "Therefore I will make you one of my chief guardians forever."

- You will be my personal body guard. I know how valiant, tough, and strong you are in battle, you will be my personal body guard.

1Sa 28:3 Now Samuel had died (1Sa 25:42,43) an important point here, emboldening the Philistines), and all Israel had lamented for him and buried him in Ramah, in his own city. And Saul had put the mediums and the spiritists out of the land.

- That is people who were dabbling in spiritism, the mediums or the witches who would contact the dead, and be “channelers. Saul had gotten rid of all of these channelers. These people whose bodies became possessed by the demons who spoke declaring to be Ramtha, or some other spirit.

Saul and the Medium of En-dor

1Sa 28:4-6 Then the Philistines gathered together, and came and encamped at Shunem. So Saul gathered all Israel together, and they encamped at Gilboa. [5] When Saul saw the army of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart trembled greatly. [6] And when Saul inquired of the LORD, the LORD did not answer him, either by dreams or by Urim or by the prophets.

- The Philistines were getting ready to face off in this gigantic battle. Saul was afraid of the huge Philistine army; also because of a guilty conscience! He inquired of the *LORD*, but He was no longer speaking to Saul. Saul had rebelled against God. Saul refused to obey the command of God. He had been rejected by God because he had rejected God. So here he is seeking, and this is interesting, these are three of the ways by which they sought guidance from God.
- **Through dreams, for God would often speak** to them through dreams. Or, through the Urim, Saul had slaughtered the priests and killed them all! Often God would speak to them through prophets. Throughout the Old Testament, we find the prophet of the *LORD*, coming to a king, and speaking to him, the word of the *LORD*. Now with Saul, God was not speaking. No prophets, He would not respond through the Urim, nor were there any dreams.

1Sa 28:7-11 Then Saul said to his servants, "Find me a woman who is a medium (having a demonic spirit), that I may go to her and inquire of her." And his servants said to him, "In fact, there is a woman who is a medium at En Dor (not far from Gilboa)." [8] So Saul disguised himself and put on other clothes, and he went, and two men with him; and they came to the woman by night. And he said, "Please conduct a seance for me, and bring up for me the one I shall name to you." [9] Then the woman said to him, "Look, you know what Saul has done, how he has cut off the mediums and the spiritists from the land. Why then do you lay a snare for my life, to cause me to die?" [10] And Saul swore to her by the LORD (contradiction term), saying, "As the LORD lives, no punishment shall come upon you for this thing." [11] Then the woman said, "Whom shall I bring up for you?" And he said, "Bring up Samuel for me."

- Today there are those who supposedly contact the spirits of the dead. There are people who go to them in order to contact some dead relatives. These people often gain credence in their trance, and supposedly the voice of your dead relative begins to speak to you, they will talk to you about incidences of the past of which only you and this person were familiar with. Thus, as soon as they begin to say, "Remember that glorious weekend we had at Carmel, and how when we were sitting out there on the balcony, we saw that a whale that surfaced out there in there in the beach? And you think, "Oh this has got to be it, because no one, we, you know, that was a glorious weekend, no one knew that. Oh!" You are sucked in.
- **This is often done by demonic spirits.** These demons are around, they know what is going on, and often these people who are the mediums, or channelers, are really demon possessed. They are able to reveal startling, and interesting facts of the past. Because of this people are deceived into believing that they are actually contacting the spirits of their dead relatives.
- **There is nothing new about this. It has been around almost the beginning.** There are laws against this in the books of Exodus, Leviticus, and Deuteronomy. (*Deu 18:9-14*) "When you come into the land which the LORD your God is giving you, you shall not learn to follow the abominations of those nations. [10] There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, [11] or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead. [12] For all who do these things are an abomination to the LORD, and because of these abominations the LORD your God drives them out from before you. [13] You shall be blameless before the LORD your God. [14] For these nations which you will dispossess listened to soothsayers and diviners; but as for you, the LORD your God has not appointed such for you. The Bible tells us this is an abomination to the LORD! Don't go there! Don't do it!
- **In the Bible we see God's heart regarding things that are an abomination to Him! Here it is witchcraft, calling up the dead. How much are these things really an abomination to me? Do I really fear God, having His hatred of abominations in my heart and in my life?**
- So it existed from way back when. Even before the law was written, these people had learned how to contact, and how to be possessed by demon spirits, and how to be the channelers for these demon

spirits. This witch of En Dor was such a medium. She was possessed by a demon spirit, and did have demonic powers. **(Luk4:41)** *And demons also came out of many, crying out and saying, "You are the Christ, the Son of God!" And He, rebuking them, did not allow them to speak, for they knew that He was the Christ.*

- **"Bring up for me"** These words are an explanation or more precise definition of "divine unto me." Prophesying by the *Ob* (in Hebrew Bible) was probably performed by calling up a departed spirit from Sheol (Luk 16:19-31), and obtaining prophecies, that is, disclosures concerning one's own fate, through the medium of such a spirit.
- **"The one I shall name to you"** When Saul came to her, he requested that she would bring back the spirit of the man that he would name. She said, "Well you know that king Saul has ordered all of the witches put to death." He swore unto her, and interestingly, he swore unto her by the LORD, that she would not be put to death.
- **We remember Saul's disobedience came back from the destruction** of the Amalekites. God said, "Utterly destroy them, don't leave any of them alive." The Amalekites were still alive. David was making raids against the Amalekites, and we are going to find where the Amalekites made a raid against David. They were left alive. Saul did not obey the voice of the *LORD*. In fact, Saul was killed by an Amalekite. Amalek was a type of the flesh. Saul was told to utterly destroy them, to utterly destroy the flesh. In his failing to do so, he was destroyed by an Amalekite.
- **If you do not bring the flesh to the cross, the flesh can destroy you.** It can destroy your spiritual walk. So how important that is!
- **Now, remember that when he disobeyed, he didn't obey the command of God**, and Samuel came out to meet him, saying, "As the *LORD* lives, I've done everything the *LORD* commanded me", and he said, "If you've done everything the *LORD* commanded, then how come I hear the sheep, and the cattle?", and he said, "Oh I brought these back to sacrifice them to God", and Samuel said, **"To obey is better than to sacrifice, and to hearken is better than the fat of rams! For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft."**
- **Saul already had been guilty of a similar type of sin.** Rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and here he is now, consulting the witch, entering into witchcraft! So she said, *"Whom shall I bring up for you?"* He said, "Samuel." So she went into her trance.

1Sa 28:12 *When the woman saw (only one who saw Samuel's spirit) Samuel, she cried out with a loud voice. And the woman spoke to Saul, saying, "Why have you deceived me? For you are Saul!"*

- **She was probably shocked herself that it worked!** Here she saw this spirit ascending, and it frightened her. She screamed!
- **Did the woman really call up the spirit of the dead?** Did God just use this opportunity? Had she deluded herself? Was she a deliberate imposter?
- **It seems likely that Samuel's coming was of the *LORD* and not because of the witch's art.** The witch was surprised when Samuel appeared. Samuel came because he had a special message from the *LORD* for the king.
- **Note the profound silence of the scripture concerning the details of contacting Samuel,** forbids our desire, our coveting to know the depths of Satan, **(Rev 2:24)** *"Now to you I say, and to the rest in Thyatira, as many as do not have this doctrine, who have not known the depths of Satan, as they say, I will put on you no other burden. Or to have our curiosity gratified with an account of the mysteries of iniquity! What the LORD doesn't tell us in the Scriptures, may we not speculate!*

1Sa 28:13-14 *And the king said to her, "Do not be afraid. What did you see?" And the woman said to Saul, "I saw a spirit ascending out of the earth." [14] So he said to her, "What is his form?" And she said, "An old man is coming up, and he is covered with a mantle." And Saul perceived that it was Samuel, and he stooped with his face to the ground and bowed down.*

- **Now it does not say that Saul saw him.** He perceived, from her description, that it was Samuel. I question that he would still look like an old man in the spirit state. I do not think that you are ever going to be in eternity, in the state in which you die. Otherwise, it would be better for all of us to kick off at about twenty five or so. The fact that there was the appearance of an old man, you see well, his body was in the grave. You know, it could not have been his body, that was already decayed in some sarcophagus someplace. So she sees this old man with a mantle. Interesting, and you can do with it whatever you want with this statement. But he began to speak to Saul.

1Sa 28:15-17 *Now Samuel said to Saul, "Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up?" And Saul answered, "I am deeply distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God has departed from*

me and does not answer me anymore, neither by prophets nor by dreams. Therefore I have called you, that you may reveal to me what I should do." [16] Then Samuel said: "So why do you ask me, seeing the LORD has departed from you and has become your enemy? [17] And the LORD has done for Himself as He spoke by me. For the LORD has torn the kingdom out of your hand and given it to your neighbor, David.

(1Ch 10:14) But he did not inquire of the LORD; therefore He killed him, and turned the kingdom over to David the son of Jesse.

1Sa 28:18 Because (this is the reason) you did not obey the voice of the LORD nor execute His fierce wrath (judgment) upon Amalek, therefore the LORD has done this thing to you this day.

- **Prior to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, everyone who died went into Sheol, into Hades, which is in the center of the earth. So, "Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up?"**
- **Saul answered, "I am deeply distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God has departed from me and does not answer me anymore. Oh what a tragedy! What a confession! "God has departed from me." How sad and tragic, the life when God has departed from a person!**
- **Neither by prophets. Saul had killed eighty five of the priests of God! He had wiped out these men of God. So there is really no men of God around to speak to him!**

1Sa 28:19 Moreover the LORD will also deliver Israel with you into the hand of the Philistines. And tomorrow you and your sons will be with me (in Sheol with the dead.) The LORD will also deliver the army of Israel into the hand of the Philistines."

- **Deuteronomy 18 contains the test of a prophet.** The message here comes true regarding Saul's death. Satan could not have accomplished this feat, since God would not allow Satan to deliver such a mighty message, nor would the LORD put His approval on a practice His Word condemned. The witch becomes a mere spectator once Samuel is on the scene.
- **Saul, you have had it man! Thus, the last hope is taken from Saul.** His day of grace was gone, and judgment was now to come upon him without delay! So what news could be worse?
- *(1Ch 10:13) So Saul died for his unfaithfulness which he had committed against the LORD, because he did not keep the word of the LORD, and also because he consulted a medium for guidance.*

1Sa 28:20-22 Immediately Saul fell full length on the ground (totally exhausted), and was dreadfully afraid because of the words of Samuel. And there was no strength in him, for he had eaten no food all day or all night. [21] And the woman came to Saul and saw that he was severely troubled, and said to him, "Look, your maidservant has obeyed your voice, and I have put my life in my hands and heeded the words which you spoke to me. [22] Now therefore, please, heed also the voice of your maidservant, and let me set a piece of bread before you; and eat, that you may have strength when you go on your way."

- **She came to him to take some refreshment, that he might be able to get clear from her house, fearing that if he should be ill, especially if he should die there, she should be punished for it as a traitor!**

1Sa 28:23-25 But he refused and said, "I will not eat." So his servants, together with the woman, urged him; and he heeded their voice. Then he arose from the ground and sat on the bed. [24] Now the woman had a fatted calf in the house, and she hastened to kill it. And she took flour and kneaded it, and baked unleavened bread (no time for it to rise) from it. [25] So she brought it before Saul and his servants, and they ate. Then they rose and went away that night.

- **It is almost unbelievable the King Saul, a man chosen by God, could ever participate in so wicked a deed; yet the record is there. (1Co 10:12) Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.**
- **Saul walked in darkness, not in the light.** He disguised himself yet he was actually revealing his true character! He allowed a woman to break the law. He brought shame and defeat upon his nation, his army, his family, and himself.
- **Saul's last meal on the night before his death was in the home of a witch.** I mean, what a terrible, terrible ending to King Saul's life. It is just terrible what a disobedient life can lead to! How could any thinking person want to traffic with a witch or a spirit, to get in touch with the spirit world, the information coming from hell, not from heaven! Any communication coming that route which looks supernatural, and it may be supernatural, comes from the pit of hell.
- **Why not listen to the Man who went down through the doorway of death and came back?** He is the only One who made a two-way thoroughfare of it. He says, *(Rev 1:18) I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death.* If you want

any information, go to Him! If you want help, go to Him! If you want salvation, go to Him! He went down through the portal of death for you and for me, and He came out in mighty power which He makes available to His own!

The Philistines Reject David

1Sa 29:1 Then the Philistines gathered together all their armies at Aphek, and the Israelites encamped by a fountain which is in Jezreel.

- They are up in the upper middle part of Israel, in the Valley of Esdraelon (Armageddon), Jezreel, in the area of Mount Gilboa.

1Sa 29:2-3 And the lords of the Philistines passed in review by hundreds and by thousands, but David and his men passed in review at the rear with Achish. [3] Then the princes of the Philistines said, "What are these Hebrews doing here?" And Achish said to the princes of the Philistines, "Is this not David, the servant of Saul king of Israel, who has been with me these days, or these years? And to this day I have found no fault in him since he defected to me."

- Achish had been deceived by David, but he said, "Hey this is David who came to live with me. He is a good man!"

1Sa 29:4 But the princes of the Philistines were angry with him; so the princes of the Philistines said to him, "Make this fellow return, that he may go back to the place which you have appointed for him, and do not let him go down with us to battle, lest in the battle he become our adversary. For with what could he reconcile himself to his master, if not with the heads of these men?"

- The princes of the Philistines were thinking, "What better way could David make up with Saul, then in the midst of the battle, turn and cut our heads off! You know, so no way will we allow him to go into battle with us!"

1Sa 29:5-8 Is this not David, of whom they sang to one another in dances, saying: 'Saul has slain his thousands, And David his ten thousands'?" [6] Then Achish called David and said to him, "Surely, as the LORD lives, you have been upright, and your going out and your coming in with me in the army is good in my sight. For to this day I have not found evil in you since the day of your coming to me. Nevertheless the lords do not favor you. [7] Therefore return now, and go in peace, that you may not displease the lords of the Philistines." [8] So David said to Achish, "But what have I done? And to this day what have you found in your servant as long as I have been with you, that I may not go and fight against the enemies of my lord the king?"

- Here we find David at the lowest point! You see, ultimately he went to fight against God with the enemies of God. He had sunk so low, and we have watched his progress downward, that now he calls God's people his enemies, or "The enemies of my king, and I'm ready to go *and fight against the enemies of my lord the king*," and announces that Achish is his lord, his king. He is ready to fight against the enemies of Achish.
- The sad, tragic thing is that many times, when a person turns away from the path of God, he never intended to go as far as he does, to get this involved! He did not intend to get so far immersed in that sin, that one day he would turn his back upon God, and become an enemy to God, or to the people of God. Finding himself now in that position of fighting against the people of God, he has come to rock bottom. This is as low as David could sink. But next week, we will see the grace of God, as God brings him out. But with some heavy, heavy dealings.
- But here's David, he is sort of feigning, giving the appearance, "Hey you know, what have I done man? I want to fight with you, *against the enemies of my lord the king!*" David has himself in a very difficult situation. He is saying it to manage the situation, and playing his cards to the, you know, playing them all the way out, and just putting on this thing. "Hey man I am ready to fight with you. What have I done? You know, I am ready to go into battle!"

1Sa 29:9 Then Achish answered (having been deceived by David) and said to David, "I know that you are as good in my sight as an angel of God; nevertheless the princes of the Philistines have said, 'He shall not go up with us to the battle.'

- Oh man, how David had him fooled! I mean, you know people like to put on this kind of a holy aura though, you know. "I'm like an angel of God, I'm so holy and so good," and here he's lying through his teeth to the guy, and, and deceiving him, and doing all these dastardly things, and yet you know, his appearance before Achish, is, is just you know, "I am this noble man, ripping off all the Israelites, and bringing me the loot."

1Sa 29:10 Now therefore (Achish says), rise early in the morning with your master's servants who have come with you. And as soon as you are up early in the morning and have light, depart."

- God provides David a way to appear being loyal to King Achish and is spared a terrible situation where he would have to fight against his own people of Israel.

1Sa 29:11 So David and his men rose early to depart in the morning, to return to the land of the Philistines. And the Philistines went up to Jezreel.

- So David parted from their company, and went back to Ziklag. We see him at the very bottom of his career. Next week we see where God restores David, and, and this is the beautiful thing. You see, if the Bible did not give us this insight of David, if the Bible only gave us the high points, the victories, David's Psalms, only giving us his strong faith in God, and trust in God and we did not have all of these other things about David's life, we would think, "Wow! Would not it be great to be like David, so God could use me! But I know God cannot use me, because man, you know I have told lies, and I have failed. But you see, God points out that David had his flaws, in fact some of them, much worse than yours. Yet God used David! How encouraging! So He can use you! He can use me!
- **Being weak, failing, does not disqualify me.** If I will yield my life to God, if I will just repent of my sin, and ask God's forgiveness, God will use me as His instrument, to do His work. God can still use you. You may have sunk pretty deep in the pit! But God is forgiving, and God is merciful, and if you will just seek God, He will restore you, and God will use you to do His work! That is to me, the beauty of the whole story. God lets us know that the men He uses, are not perfect men, they are people just like us, filled with flaws, fraught with failures, and yet God, in His grace, uses them to do His work!
- **May God make each of us His instrument, as we yield ourselves unto Him! May God help us to guard against despair, discouragement, and fear! That lack of faith and trust in the promises of God, which would drive me to do things on my own, because that is the beginning of the path that, which if followed, will lead me down to the bottom.**
- Take my life and let it be consecrated, LORD, to Thee! Take me! Use me for Your glory!

SUMMARY

- **When was the last time I was just very tired and fearful, wanting to quit being a Christian? That I decided to become my own counselor and follow my own will? That I knew what God's will was, but I didn't want to do it, and actually wanted to flee to the enemy's camp and sin? What did I do? What will I do the next time this happens? (1Sa 27:1)**
- **In the Bible we see God's heart regarding things that are an abomination to Him! Here it is witchcraft, calling up the dead. How much are these things really an abomination to me? Do I really fear God, having His hatred of abominations in my heart and in my life? (1Sa 28:11)**

TAKE MY LIFE AND LET IT BE – Havergal/Malan - Vineyard Music (2:39/2:42)

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee. Take my hands and let them move At the impulse of Thy love. At the impulse of Thy love.

Take my feet and let them be, swift and beautiful for Thee. Take my voice and let me sing, always, only for my King. Always, only for my King.

Take my lips and let them be Filled with messages from Thee. Take my silver and my gold, Not a mite would I withhold. Not a mite would I withhold

Take my love, my God, I pour At Thy feet its treasure store. Take myself and I will be Ever, only, all for Thee. Ever, only, all for Thee

CLOSING PRAYER

NEXT WEEK: Study 1 Samuel, Chapters 30-31!