

# **I Samuel 16-20**

## **“David in Saul’s Court”**

### **Introduction**

- Tonight we continue in our study of I Samuel
  - And the content of I Samuel can be remembered by the fact that the book is really about 3 people, 3 main characters

### **The Book of I Samuel**

#### **Samuel – I Samuel 1-7**

#### **King Saul – I Samuel 8-15**

#### **David – I Samuel 16-31**

- As we come now to chapter 16 we have focused on Samuel, the last judge of Israel, we have seen the good and bad from King Saul, Israel’s first king
  - And tonight we move on to start to see the man who will be the focus and hero of most of the rest of I Samuel and II Samuel – a man by the name of David - A man by whom all other Kings in Israel’s history will be measured by
- But David doesn’t start out as King over Israel, he has many years serving in Saul’s court and eventually being chased around the country by Saul as God prepares David for his life and ministry
  - And tonight we focus on those years of David serving and living in the court of Saul - We will notice 4 things tonight for you note takers

### **David in Saul’s Court – I Samuel 16-20**

#### **#1 – David’s Anointing – I Samuel 16:1-23**

#### **#2 – David’s Adversaries – I Samuel 17:1-18:30**

#### **#3 – David’s Protection – I Samuel 19:1-24**

#### **#4 – David’s Stone of Direction – I Samuel 20:1-42**

- we will look at these one at a time

### **David in Saul’s Court – I Samuel 16-20**

#### **#1 – David’s Anointing – I Samuel 16:1-23**

- here we have the story of the anointing of David as the future King over Israel

### **Please understand most Bible schools believed we have skipped a lot of time since chapter 15 ended**

- if you remember from last week – God gave Saul one more assignment to see whether or not he was going to obey the Lord
  - and when Saul killed most of the Amalekites, keeping the best of the people and animals alive, God says – I have rejected you as king over Israel
- and the chapter ends with God sad that Saul was King and Samuel sad that God had rejected Saul

### **As chapter 16 opens it seems to be the same vibe, but understand much time has passed**

- Again Saul reigned for 40 years according to Acts 13:21, the first two years of Saul’s reign are recorded in chapters 9-12
- Now we are not certain how long of a period chapters 13-15 cover, but it seems to be a relatively short period of time,
- by the time we get to chapter 16 Saul has about 15 years left as King over Israel, meaning we have fast forwarded maybe as much as 20 years since chap 15

### **Now the question is, well what happened during those 20 years – and the answer is a whole lot of nothing, because that is always the case when we are living in carnality**

- we saw the same thing when we were going through the book of Numbers
  - In the Book of Numbers the first generation fails to trust the Lord to enter the land at Kadesh Barnea

**And after that as they being on their death march there is a chapter two that lets us know about the rebellion of Korah and some additional laws they were to remember**

- but all of a sudden it's 38 years later, everyone from the first generation other than Moses, Joshua and Caleb is dead and they are ready to enter the promised land
  - what happened to the 38 years
  - it was lived in carnality and therefore there isn't much of it that God chooses to record
- And I just mention that to you because all of us want our lives to count for something – we want to make an impact
  - But understand although how you live doesn't change God's love for you or His feelings toward you
  - It doesn't change whether or not your life has effective purpose and meaning
  - 38 years wasted in the wilderness
  - and perhaps 20 years here, wasted as a carnal king sits on the throne
- But in chapter 16 we pick up the story, because now Saul's kingship has meaning as he is interacting with David and it starts with David's anointing

**God asks Samuel how long will you mourn for King Saul**

- I have moved on Samuel God is saying and you need to as well
  - it shows Samuel's love of Saul
  - that 20 years later he is bummed that it didn't work out for the King of Israel
- God however knows that there is a young man in Bethlehem that He is ready to anoint
  - And God sends Samuel to Bethlehem

**Samuel knows that if he makes it known he is going to anoint a new King, Saul will put him to death**

- so God sends him to have a feast with David's family and oh by the way, at the feast, Samuel is to anoint the future King

**And I love it, as Samuel gets close to Bethlehem, they are afraid – it was like getting called into the principal's office**

- we all know the feeling
  - its funny, he totally is not this way at all anymore, he spends much quality time as friends with the staff, but years ago, I remember Pastor Rob telling me as a youth pastor – if I don't say anything to you, it means you are doing a good job, if I call you in my office, there are problems
  - now again – Pastor Rob is not like that at all anymore
- But I still get nervous, even though I think I'm partly in charge too, but I still get nervous when he says, can you come to my office
  - And since my office is right across from his, it happens frequently
  - And I'm always nervous

**Well the people of Bethlehem have that same feeling – why are you here, what did we do?**

- but Samuel says, I am just coming to feast with the family of Jesse
  - and Samuel wants to have Jesse's sons pass before him
- And as the first son comes by, tall and regal looking, Samuel thinks, this must be the one
  - But God reminds him, that is how we got Saul, looking for who looks the part, instead of looking at the heart, who they are inside

**And when it came to David, he was so not the obvious choice. When the prophet of Israel says I want to meet your sons, David isn't even invited to the dinner**

- that is crazy when you think about it
  - oh yeah – I have one more kid, but he just takes care of the sheep

- But when David comes before Samuel – he is described as ruddy, meaning red faced, with bright eyes, we would say beautiful eyes, but since David is a guy, you say bright eyes, red face from being out in the sun,
  - And God says that is the one
  - And Samuel anoints David in the presence of all his brothers

**Now we are not sure whether they fully understood what the whole act meant but what we do know is from that moment forward the Spirit of the Lord came upon David and stayed with Him for the remainder of His life**

- we also know from verse 14, at the same moment, the Spirit of God left King Saul and was replaced by a distressing Spirit from the Lord

**Now that phrase had caused some confusion but I think the book of Job gives us some insight**

- that the distressing Spirit wasn't from God, but allowed by God or simply by the fact Saul really had no interest to walk with God or in the power of His spirit
  - and when we make those kinds of decisions, evil is going to find its way to affect our hearts
  - Saul is distressed from that moment forward

**This distressing spirit caused Saul's men to look for a man who could play music in the presence of Saul because they noticed that when worship music was played, Saul seemed to be better, not oppressed**

**And this is a crazy thing to consider**

- our enemy seems to not like being around the worship of God
  - it may be because worship was once the job of Satan
  - and to extol the Lord is something he doesn't like to be reminded of
- for whatever the reason is. it seems to be that worship chases that away
  - did you see the story a week or so ago about this young boy

**This young boy pictured on the screen – picture of worship kid**

- this 9 year old boy was kidnapped from his driveway in Atlanta.
  - The kidnappers had him for 3 hours, but the entire time the little boy just keep singing worship songs
  - And eventually the kidnappers without harming him in any way, except of course the fear he experienced, let him go
  - That is amazing to me
- I have often told my kids as I drive them somewhere, and they are just talking, talking, talking about everything – Legos, video games, Ninja cartoons and more Legos
  - I have said if you ever get kidnapped, just do this, just keep talking until they say – that is quite enough
  - But now I am changing my strategy – just sing worship – the enemy seems to be greatly hindered by it

**And I don't know about you, but I have found that to be true, not just in extreme cases like the one in Atlanta, but in my own life**

**I don't know how many times I have been distressed by the enemy, only to put on some worship music and the Lord just changes things**

- not always the circumstances because sometimes, most times, I am still facing the same exact things
  - but it just seems the Lord gives a peace that passes understanding
  - the distressing spirit of the enemy just flees

**I hope you have a chunk of your iPod or CD collection dedicated to worship music**

- you don't have to be all legalistic like me and only listen to worship music or Christian music
  - but I am telling you music is spiritual

- and I believe the more we allow the Spirit of the Lord to work in our thoughts and minds, then the distressing spirit of the world is going to flee

## **David in Saul's Court – I Samuel 16-20**

### **#1 – David's Anointing – I Samuel 16:1-23**

### **#2 – David's Adversaries – I Samuel 17:1 - 18:30**

- The first adversary David is going to face is going to be Goliath
  - And we are actually going to cover this story in-depth in this weekend's services

## **But understand once again – the nation of Israel is facing a common foe, the Philistines**

- but this time the battle is different
  - one representative will stand in for the Philistines and one representative will stand in for the Jewish people – whoever kills the other will represent the nation and the rest of the defeated nation will serve as slaves
- Now that sounds really strange to us but actually it was a very common practice in the Near East – especially following battles of great casualties which had been the result on both sides in years previous

## **So representing the Philistines was Goliath**

- and the Bible describes him as a giant
  - but sometimes when the Bible talks about such things people roll their eyes, because they think the Bible is describing some 30 foot tall monster that would have to bend down to look into your upstairs bedroom window
  - And then they read this and think, Jack in the Bean stalk, how could that be
- But when you convert cubits, to feet, Goliath was around 9 foot 6
  - Now that is still huge, I mean, 9 foot six is a few inches taller than me
  - But it is not mythical giant size, in fact it is not outside of some people living today
  - The Guinness World Records says the tallest person alive today is Sultan Kösen and he is 8 foot 3

## **So he was no mythical beast, but he was an enormous man**

- Now on the Jewish side King Saul was afraid because remember he was a head taller than anyone else in Israel
  - We don't know this for sure but the Jewish Talmud says he was 7 feet tall – we don't know for sure, but he was a tall guy
  - So Saul was the obvious choice to go up against Goliath but he was afraid

## **Now in contrast with that is David**

- Who again this weekend we will break down the entire story, but David sees the situation not in light of who he is, but who God is

## **David thought this way because**

- #1 – God's past faithfulness in his life
  - David up until this day was a shepherd and he tells Saul, I have killed both a lion and a bear, and this Philistine will be just like them
  - What that tells us is David had faced difficult circumstances in the past – I mean how many in here has had to face a lion or a bear. That would not be an oh by the way story, but I would tell that one every Bible study, if I had killed a lion or bear
  - And remember David is 15 to 17 at this point
- So that means when he was younger, in Jr. High maybe, he fought a lion
  - No doubt in that situation, David had to pray – Lord I know you have a plan for my life and it is not to be this lion's dinner, so I am counting on you to save me
  - And God did
- And God was using those situations in David's life to depend on Him when the odds seemed overwhelming

## **And God will put you in situations to prepare you for what He has later in your life**

- I remember when I first got to Texas, I was taking over a church, a small church of about 15 to 20 people, but a church that loved their old pastor none the less
  - And I remembered when dealing with situations that five years before, I was Scott Cunningham's assistant when he was the High School Pastor here – and when he announced he was leaving, I remember kids balling

**In fact I think it was Rachel, Cottage at this time, Urbina now, it could have been Rebecca now McKay or Lindsay, now O'Keef, but one of them walked up to me and said, It is not that we are sad that you are the youth pastor, we just love Scott**

- Taking over for Scott who was beloved was certainly not easy
  - But I learned so many things and five years later, talking over for another beloved pastor, I remembered so many of the lessons and I was so thankful for that lion of a situation in my life
- David leaned on God's past faithfulness

**And #2 David understood this was God's battle not his and like Jonathan he counted on God for a whole lot**

- and that is why, when Goliath is yelling insults at young David, David says, 'You come to me with a sword and spear, but I come to you in the name of the living God whom you have defied'
  - and then David runs at Goliath
  - you know that was probably the first time Goliath ever saw that – he was used to people running from him, but not towards him
- And God guided that stone, right into the temple of Goliath
  - He probably thought, nothing like this has ever come into my mind before
  - And Goliath was defeated

**Now this weekend we are going to draw parallels from this story and how we can have victory over the giants in our lives**

- and even more than that, the deeper illustration of this story as it applies to what Jesus has done for us and what our response is supposed to be, I hope you can be with us
  - But before we get into chapter 18...

**At the very end of the chapter, Saul says to Abner his general, whose son is that**

- and these verses have caused some confusion
  - because remember we just read in chapter 16 that when Saul was having trouble with a distressing spirit, it was David who they brought in to play for him
  - so why is Saul, asking who this kid's Dad is – doesn't he know David is the young man that has been playing the harp?

**But if you read carefully, it's not that Saul is asking, "Who is this kid" – he knows he is the music kid**

- he is asking who his father is because remember Saul had promised whoever killed Goliath, his family would be exempt from taxes and he was going to marry Saul's daughter
  - so Saul is finding out – who is getting out of taxes and what family am I joining to my own

**But this joining with the family of Saul brings us to David's next adversary because the giant Goliath would be nothing in compared to the giant problem King Saul would be in David's life**

- the battle with Goliath lasted a few minutes, David will battle Saul for the next 15 years
  - and we see the beginning of the problem in chapter 18
  - read chapter 18

**In contrast to the love and affection of Jonathan who was significantly older than David – at least 20 years older – but when you meet someone who has the same heart it doesn't matter**

- I think one of my closet friends from my time in Texas was the pastor of Calvary Chapel Amarillo and he is at least 20 years older than me, but from the day I met him, I just thought he is somebody as crazy as me and we have been great friends ever since

**So this happens with David and Jonathan**

- But Saul is not a fan

**Due to Saul's great insecurity that we looked at last week, Saul is afraid and envious of David**

- one because of the song that had been floating around the country at that time
  - as they were coming back from battle the women were lining the streets singing – Saul has slain his thousand and I bet he liked that part – these ladies are recognizing what a great warrior I am
  - but David has slain his 10's of thousands – what?
- Again, just like with his son last week, instead of saying, I am so glad to have guys like Jonathan and David on my team
  - No – Saul takes credit for Jonathan's deeds and when he can't for David – He just despises him

**The other reason there is a problem between Saul and David, is because the Spirit of the Lord that once was on Saul has now left him and was on David**

- and the next time that distressing spirit came upon Saul, he began to prophesy, which only means by a controlling, leading and speaking by the spirit
  - that can happen to us under the influence of the Holy Spirit and it can happen to us under the influence of other "spirits" as well
  - evil spirits, distressing spirits and my son asked the other night – why does the store sell wine and spirits – why do they call it that? – out of the mouth of babes, but anyway
- The distressing spirit comes upon Saul and David is playing music for him and Saul under the influence of this spirit tries to spear David to the wall

**Now this little vignette, speaks volumes to me about David**

- First of all David, the most successful general Saul has, is still willing to just sit in this crazy's man's bedroom and play music - are you kidding me
  - I would be thinking, doesn't anybody else in your kingdom play
  - You want me to fight your battles and then come home and sing you a bedtime song too – really
  - But David just serves
- And then, if that wasn't bad enough, Saul attacks him while he is serving
  - And of course Saul misses and at that moment David has a choice
  - Remember David is the one who has killed 10's of thousand
  - David could have picked up the spear and done Saul in – but David was a different guy than Saul
- And listen to me precious ones, once you start throwing spears, you may think that you will only throw them at your enemies, but we will see before we go our way tonight that is not true
  - Eventually Saul is going to throw a spear at his own son

**And all of us have a choice to make**

- are we going to be those with the harp of praise in our hands, the heart of a servant, not matter what title, what accomplishment, you are just willing to serve, even a crazy man
  - or are you going to have a spear in your hand and look for a reason and justification to throw it

- All of us have a choice – but only one of those options is being a man after God's own heart

### **Saul tries to kill him a few times by throwing a spear and when that doesn't work – he decides to try and use the Philistines**

- Remember Saul had promised to make David his son in law, well after breaking his promise on the first marriage
  - Saul finds out that Michal loves David (and you have to say this correctly with the Jewish accent, Miccccelll) because if you say it Michael well then it sounds like David was marrying a dude, so Micceelll loves David
- and so Saul uses this occasion to get David – not because there was anything wrong with Michal – but because of the requested dowry – David I don't want any money from you, but instead I want 100 foreskins of the Philistines
  - Now Saul thinks, let the Philistines kill David and this should do it. I mean, the Philistines were not going to just hand those over – David was going to have to kill 100 men
  - But David kills 200 and Saul's plans to kill David are foiled again
- And that leads us to the third thing we want to consider tonight

### **David in Saul's Court – I Samuel 16-20**

#### **#1 – David's Anointing – I Samuel 16:1-23**

#### **#2 – David's Adversaries – I Samuel 17:1 -18:30**

#### **#3 – David's Protection – I Samuel 19:1-24**

- We see in this chapter 4 things God used to protect His servant David
  - And I am so encouraged by this, because God uses the same things to protect me and to protect you
  - What were they?

### **David's Divine Protection**

#### **#1 – A Prince who pleads his cause – 19:1-7**

- Jonathan pleaded with his Father to be merciful to David – and Saul listens to the Word of his son
  - A son, and more than that, a prince, pleading the cause to His Father, the King – how does God do that with us???
- Jesus does with us, oh God is not like Saul
  - But you understand before Jesus there is a war between us and God
  - There was a war and the wage we owed was death, just like Saul wanted for David
- But Jesus paid for that sin in our life, and as we have received Him as our savior, he now pleads our cause before His Father in heaven
  - I John 2:1 says, "if anyone sins, which I do, and so do you, but we have an advocate with the Father, a defense attorney that says, I died for that sin, Jason is forgiven
  - And the Father says, absolutely
- What a protection from the accusations of the enemy we have in a prince who pleads our cause, just like David
  - But there is more...

### **David's Divine Protection**

#### **#1 – A Prince who pleads his cause – 19:1-7**

#### **#2 – A Bride who saves his life – 19:8-17**

- Michal had problems –she has a personality that Saul her Dad knew would be a snare to David, that is a pretty crazy thing but far beyond her attitude
  - We see in this text she struggled with idolatry, for she has one in her bed to be a fake that David is in there, and there is more...



**After she is discovered, instead of confronting her Dad's insane behavior, she lies and says David made her lie or he was going to kill her**

- But notice, God also used this bride of David's to further protect him from the plans the enemy had for him
  - And where do I see a parallel in our lives to that – yeah, what are you saying about Christy???

**Oh I am not talking about my bride Christy, not specifically – but you the bride, the bride of Christ, the church**

- We are protected from the enemies plans, number one because we have a prince who pleads our case, but we are also protected by a bride, the bride of the son of David, the church
  - Friends the body of Christ can be a tremendous help if you will plug in
  - What these guys????

**But they lie, they are idolaters**

- So was Michal
  - God uses the sinners around you, and like you, to help you defeat Satan
  - I don't know how many times I have been on the verge of defeat, and yet I call a brother and say here is what I am going through, will you pray for me
- And developing those relationships in your life, whether you do it through home fellowships, mommy groups, men's fellowship – I don't care how, just do it
  - Because it will help protect you
  - We are protected by a prince who pleads our cause, we are protected by a bride, even a sinful bride, God is so graceful
  - Thirdly...

**David's Divine Protection**

**#1 – A Prince who pleads his cause – 19:1-7**

**#2 – A Bride who saves his life – 19:8-17**

**#3 – A Prophet who strengthens his heart – 19:18**

- David goes to Samuel, who walks with David and pours into Him, and strengthens him in his troublesome time
  - So how do we have a prophet to walk with us and talk with us – Jason are you saying that is you, I can't even get on your cell phone
  - No – not me – I would never claim to be a prophet

**But do you realize you have the prophets to walk with you and talk with you and share wisdom and peace with you everyday**

- you do, in this book you have Isaiah, oh the things he has to share
  - and Jeremiah, the wisdom and comfort
  - oh David, how I love to read the Psalms and I feel like he does so often and then to hear God comfort him, how it comforts me
- And then Jesus, the greatest prophet, priest and King to ever live
  - Oh His words how they burn in my heart, how they change my countenance

**And Paul and Peter and John**

- Oh friends God has given you this book not to sit on your coffee table and collect dust
  - He has given you this book to read, and to draw strength from
  - And as you do – you will be protected from the plans of the enemy
- It has been said, and I show you this so you know it's true, the Christians whose Bible is falling apart, rarely has a life that is

**David's Divine Protection**

**#1 – A Prince who pleads his cause – 19:1-7**

**#2 – A Bride who saves his life – 19:8-17**

**#3 – A Prophet who strengthens his heart – 19:18**



#### #4 – The Spirit who amazes his enemies – 19:19-24

- 3 waves of enemies come against David and the Spirit overwhelms them
  - The God you and I serve is powerful – I will never forget...

When I was pastoring the church in Texas, we had a precious brother who was part of the fellowship and yet his first Sunday he was there to find out what was wrong with Calvary Chapel, there had to be something evil, something wicked going on here for people to be coming like they do, leaving the Baptist churches, and he was going to let all of Paris (he worked for the Paris news) he was going to let the people know what this weirdo from California was doing to the people of Paris, and yet while he was here, the Lord began to convict his heart, and afterwards he came up to me, with tears in his eyes and he said, “I came here as an enemy of Calvary Chapel, but now I want to know how to be of part Calvary Chapel.

- And I share that story not to say there is anything amazing about me or us, but there is something about the Spirit of God we serve
  - And we don’t have to defend him, we don’t have to lash out when attacked – we simply need to love on Him, and love on His people and get out of the way

**You do have an enemy! – A Saul, named Satan who is bent on your destruction – But you do not have to strike back and you do not have to fear**

- but you have a prince who is pleading your cause, you have a bride that God has given you for protection, you have the prophets to walk with you in the darkest of times and you have the Spirit of God – who is just down right greater than he that is in the world, that is bent on your destruction
  - I am so encouraged by this...

#### **David in Saul’s Court – I Samuel 16-20**

##### **#1 – David’s Anointing – I Samuel 16:1-23**

##### **#2 – David’s Adversaries – I Samuel 17:1-18:30**

##### **#3 – David’s Protection – I Samuel 19:1-24**

##### **#4 – David’s Stone of Direction – I Samuel 20:1-42**

- As the chapter opens up Jonathan still believes that his Father isn’t out to get David, but David knows better – so they devise a little test
  - I am suppose to be at this feast and Saul will notice that I am gone, and you should tell him I had to go to my father’s house
  - And if he is fine with it, well then no worries
  - But if he gets all upset, then you know he is planning on hurting me

**So the plan is set and the first day Saul thinks David must have been unclean**

- But the second day – Saul is upset and tries to kill Jonathan - Jonathan realizes the truth (better late than never)
  - And this loving departure begins David’s 10 years of exile which we will cover over the next two weeks

**But David knew it was time to go at The Rock of Ezel – the stone that shows the way**

- all of us need to come to the rock that will show us the way
  - sometimes the arrows are beyond you and you need to go
  - sometimes the arrows are before you and it is time to return

**How do you know – you go to the rock that shows the way – James 1 – God wants to give you wisdom!**

**“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.” – James 1:5**