

"David's Relationships"

1 Samuel 18

David & Jonathan - 1 Samuel 18:1-5a - The term 'soul mate' comes to mind as we read these verses.

Summary: When someone gains earthly fame the nature of friendship often changes; there are a few close friends but there will be many others who are challenged to deal with the change.

David & King Saul - 1 Samuel 18:6-15 - The relationship between David and Saul developed through the lens of others (18:6-7); what people were saying and that is almost always distorted.

Summary: Saul had no trouble coming face to face with David but once David killed the giant something changed inside of Saul and something else changed inside of the people.

David & the Nation - 1 Samuel 18:5b, 16 - The biggest change was how David's countrymen saw him.

Summary: From verse 1 to 16 there is a description, a depiction of love for David that is quite normal. What remains in this chapter puts people in categories between those two extremes.

David & Saul's Daughters - 1 Samuel 18:17-29 - There is a saying, 'keep your friends close and your enemies closer' and Saul practices that idiom in these verses.

Bride Price: The bride price is money that is paid to the parents of the prospective bride (Genesis 29:21-24; Exodus 22:16-17; Deuteronomy 22:23, 25, 29) and functioned as a guarantee that should the husband desert the girl or he die she would be cared for by his gift.

David & Duty - 1 Samuel 18:28-30 - David remained true to his commitments to Saul's army as verse 30 states; David fought the right battle (Philistines) and God took care of his issues with Saul.

Summary: David simply focused on his role as a military leader and success kept coming his way and the esteem that came with it kept piling up.

Conclusion: David is the Lord's chosen king to rule Israel—but in time he will prove to be inadequate and a true Messianic figure, will arise to carry out that role perfectly.

It is not possible to overestimate the importance of "God being with us".

Things happen and we have little or no control over them; what we do have control over is our response to what happens.

What took place in David as a result of God's Spirit is first reported in 1 Samuel 17; he kills the giant and then a series of far lesser events take place that puts David into the royal family; regarded by Saul's children as loved and held in high esteem by the people of Israel and Judah. Saul's condition reveals a steady decline: (1 Samuel 18:9-12, 15, 25b, 28-29). God's favor is a blessing that we should never dismiss.

1 Samuel 18:9-12, 15, 25b, 28-29 The withdrawal of God's Spirit is no small thing. (1 Samuel 4) Saul is a miniature picture of what that did to the nation of Israel and for several chapters they struggle to find their way. In each situation the place that God plays in Israel's history is vital to their national health and prosperity. That nation is blessed whose God is the Lord (Psalm 33:12; 144:15).