

"Navigating Enemies"

1 Samuel 26-27

Introduction:

Domestic Enemies - 1 Samuel 26

Abishai is part of a family of three soldiers, Abishai, Asahel and Joab, all sons of Zeruiah (1 Chronicles 2:16).

Precept: The Hebrew term translated "*deep sleep*" is used elsewhere in the O.T. for sleep that is induced by God, most of the time for individuals but here for 3000 men and their King. This was divine intervention and God's way of protecting David.

Summary: It is important to realize that David's faith is growing as he learns that God is for him, God can and will protect him; David's stealth and cleverness seems special until we read the end of verse 12; God is providentially caring for the future king.

The Lord's Anointed

Foreign Enemies - 1 Samuel 27 - This chapter begins with self-talk; it's a common activity in the minds and hearts of distressed people and that includes God's people.

Anger & Faith

Precept: There will be times when you need to be encouraged in the Lord. Sometimes that is on you, while other times that is a burden that God puts on a friend or someone who knows you, loves you and knows what is going on.

Precept: God's people should realize that God's ways are always the best ways and in the end point the most people to the ways of the Lord. Choose your influences wisely!

Summary: The beauty of chapter 26 is that we can see God protecting David as he tiptoes through the camp of Saul and in the end Saul returns home embarrassed. In Chapter 27 two things happen that God has ordained; Ziklag becomes the Royal City of the kings of Israel and old Canaanite tribes that God wanted erased were decimated by God's servant and this happened as David manipulated a Philistine king.

Conclusion: David's response to Abishai is underpinned with theology. What should my reactions and responses be to those who rule and lead me? (Matthew 4:1-11; Luke 4:1-13)

Enemies are far and near; sometimes we know them and at other times we don't. The person behind these enemies is Satan either as a primary influence or as a subtle influence. The enemy's first effort is to distract you from obeying God and then to do less than fully obey God—resist with all of your might by simply obeying God and the enemy will flee.

Chapter 27 is void of any references to God and reveals a story of David navigating tricky circumstances and pagan influences. God is not consulted but he is faithful even when David is not overtly seeking the Lord's guidance. So how do I discern the Lord's will when I am surrounded by tricky circumstances and pagan influences? .

Intentionally Obey the Moral Law; Pursue Wisdom; Timing

Spiritually Opportunistic; Walk by Faith; Humble Planning; Sensitivity to the Holy Spirit Preferences; Process; The Collective Way of Wisdom