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DAVID: forged, fugitive, favored and forgiven

DEDICATED STUDIES FROM
1 SAMUEL 21

THIS SPECIAL EDITION IS DEDICATED TO
ROYAL SEED CHURCH INT'L



INTRODUCTION

The books of 1 and 2 Samuel actually form one book (not two books) in the ancient Hebrew manuscripts. They were not divided into two books until later, when the Old Testament was translated into Greek. While the original author is unknown; certainly, we can locate Samuel as a major contributor. However, it's instructive to note that books are so named, not because he wrote all of the contents, but because they describe his great legacy and ministry in Israel. And please also note that much of the book took place after his (Samuel's) death.

I welcome you to a fresh spotlight on David today based on the 21st chapter of 1 Samuel. For David, what started as a simple life at the yard of his Bethlehem peasant family suddenly transformed into a complex; no, a complicated life almost through out the rest of his life. His father Jesse hosted an unexpected visitor, that anointed him as king over United Commonwealth of Israel in the place of Saul; but between the anointing and the monarchy, there are many untold trials the shepherd boy turned king must scale.

Of all the benefits and blessings of this study, nothing should more gladden our hearts than the fact that we can trust the Holy Scripture's testimony: for it records the good and the bad of its heroes so people can learn from both.



It is such a joy for me to invite you to explore the depths of God's love to a man whose heart is like His. In this study, David will make you laugh and cry. He will delight and disappoint you. You'll want to be just like him at times and nothing like him at others. He is clearly a vivid demonstration to us how God always meets us wherever we are. Therefore, if you are ever in doubts, temptations, losses, or personal failures and inconsistencies, then this study is for you.

1. THE PLACE TO FLEE

If like David, we learn recourse to God by faith, we will see all the reasons in the world to be easy. In Psalms 32:7, he (David) had said, *"You are my hiding place; you shall preserve me from trouble; you shall compass me about with songs of deliverance. Selah."*

- This explains why he runs to Nob, the house of God or priests. In his uncertain circumstances David went to the right place – the house of the LORD, [verse 1a](#).

Deliverance is Divine. God is the One who saves.

David's philosophy: I lift up my eyes to the mountains-- where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord. (Psalm 121:1)

David's theology: In the LORD I take refuge. So how can you say to me, "Flee to your mountain like a bird!" (Ps 11:1)

We must learn how learn deal with loneliness.

DAVID'S LIFE DEMONSTRATES HOW GOD ALWAYS MEETS US WHEREVER WE ARE.

- "Why are you alone, and no one is with you?" [verse 1b](#) is a revelation of human assumption of us.

People don't expect us to be humans. Like Abimelech, they are afraid but they don't expect us to be; lonely, yet they think we are a majority.





God's people should always be where they are expected.

God's House, His Heart and Hands:

People always perceive us as everything. Are they wrong? Well, may be not. We are God's kingdom of priests, a holy nation – His peculiar people, and His temple. However, we must learn more from this study by zooming out on Abimelech the priest.

- Abimelech was able, and available. He was a priest, and he was where a priest should be—at the house of God, the tabernacle of the LORD, where his sacred calling was.
- God's servants are natural people. They don't know all things.
- God's people are weak people. They may be deceived too.
- God's people are flesh and blood. They too are afraid. Notice how it seemed strange and dangerous to Abimelech so that he was afraid that David traveled alone, tired, weary, disheveled, and probably looked like he had been crying a lot.

WHAT TO DO WHEN WE FEEL AFRAID AND LONELY

The rise and falls of Bible men; the depravity and devotion are great examples and lessons to us today. We must learn the right things to do when we feel lonely, desperate and afraid.

We are charged to “Be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” (Joshua 1:9) We must learn how to run to God: “You are my hiding place; you will protect me from

trouble. and surround me with songs of deliverance.” (Psalm 32:7).

When “the floods have risen up, O Lord. The floods have roared like thunder; the floods have lifted their pounding waves. But mightier than the violent raging of the seas, mightier than the breakers on the shore—the Lord above is mightier than these!” (Psalm 93:3-4) And “the Lord himself will fight for you. Just stay calm.” (Exodus 14:14)

We must all learn to comfort ourselves in the eternal promise. God says: “For I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord. ‘They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.’” (Jeremiah 29:11)

We also need to surround ourselves with other people that can remind us of these

We learn the importance of locating our Abimelechs. These are godly and spiritual people that we must always surround ourselves with; who are able and willing to remind us of scripture truths. They are not superhumans. They have fears and desperations; but they are God's men for us, and for the hour.

God's people are always like minded. Though we are not called to a unity of head, no, we never think alike or agree on the same things; but we are called to a unity of heart. For instance, in Psalm 73, we find a man like David, called Asaph. He had the same heart like David. He describes how troubled he was at injustice and the prosperity of the wicked. It really troubled him, and didn't make any sense at all. He says, When I thought how to understand this, it was too painful for me; until I went into the sanctuary of God; then I understood their end. (Psalm 73:16-17).

Nothing would made sense to us, and to our troubled generation except we all find our answers in God. Among God's people, and in the house of the LORD, we are helped to understand things in light of eternity.

Be it a day of prosperity or a day of adversity, or we feel even more fugitive than David, the only pathway to the answers we all seek is the LORD.

2. A FLESH TO KILL

"What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God, through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with my mind I serve the law of God, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin."

Don't you think that such words are most strange to be issued from the lip like Paul, a great apostle of Christ to the Gentiles, a chosen vessel unto honor, a man of abundant labors and grace – most blessed. But most certainly, through this scripture, God brings the fact of our human weakness before all.

In our text, David came to the house of the LORD, but he came as a man of flesh and blood.

- He came with a lie. lied to protect himself: "The king has ordered me on some business."
- He elaborated on his lie by putting false words in the mouth of Saul to establish an environment of secrecy: "Do not let anyone know anything about the business on which I send you." This was a plain lie.

