



THE PEOPLE AND THE PRESENTATION OF

2 SAMUEL

[PART 3]

AN OLD TESTAMENT SAINT WITH THE NEW TESTAMENT ATTITUDE

Reading: 2 Samuel 1:1 - 16

Introduction

- David is about 30 years of age at this point in his history.
- For the previous 8 years he's been compelled to live as an outlaw on the run.
- King Saul has sinned against him time after time and made his life so difficult.
- At last David is told that his nemesis lives no more. The witch hunt is over.
- But David's response is '*weird*'.
- There is no hatred or malice on David's part.
- Instead David speaks with grace and behaves with grace.
- Consider [vs 11, 17, 23, 24].
- David was still the man after God's own heart.
- Although he was an Old Testament saint he was living the New Testament Jesus way.

1 Who Are The 'Sauls' In Your Life?

- Everyone of us have '*Sauls*' in our lives. Those who have hurt us or wronged us.
- How do you feel about them?
- If you got the opportunity to exact revenge would you take it?
- Are you living the '*Jesus Way*'?

2 What Is The Jesus Way?

- It is called '*Forgiveness*'.
- Consider the 3rd petition of the Lord's Prayer.
- Consider Jesus commentary on that petition. [Matthew 6:14/15].
- Consider further [Romans 12:17 - 21]. David was living this 1000 years earlier.
- Consider [Matthew 5:43 - 45].
- Consider Jesus in [Luke 23:34].
- Don't let your Sauls make you bitter. The Jesus way is to allow them to make you better.
- Do you go around carrying and nurturing bitterness in your heart?
- Be a good gardener of your heart and do some weeding. [Hebrews 12:14/15].
- Bitterness is a weed that needs rooted out.
- Phil Wickham: *'If you curse me then I will bless you. If you hurt me I will forgive. If you hate me I will love you. I choose the Jesus way.'*

3 The Amalekite's Mistake

- Is there a contradiction between the testimony of the sacred writer in [1Samuel] and the words of the Amalekite in [2 Samuel 1]?
- Who do we believe?
- The Amalekite was trying to curry favour with David thinking David would reward him.
- There is no mileage in telling deliberate lies.

4 Finally

- The argument of the Amalekite in [vs 10] has been used in parliament recently regarding the Terminally Ill Adults (End Of Life) Bill.
- The argument didn't work 3000 years ago and it doesn't work today.

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