

THE CHARACTERS AND DRAMA OF 1 SAMUEL

[PART 34]

DAVID AND JONATHAN: THE GIFT OF A FRIEND

Reading: 1 Samuel 18:1 - 4

Introduction

- From the vantage point of the royal tent, king Saul and prince Jonathan watch David advance to meet Goliath.
- Amazed, they watch the boy slay a giant; a shepherd boy kill a warrior.
- They watch the Philistines flee as Israel pursue them.
- David is brought to the royal tent and in that moment one of the greatest friendships in the world is born.

1 What Is A Friend And Friendship?

- A friend is one of the best things you can be and one of the greatest things you can have.
- Count your wealth by the number of friends you have. (Not on Facebook).
- A friendship is a close personal relationship.
- A friend is someone who knows all about us and yet still loves us.
[Proverbs 17:17].
- True friends stay by our sides supporting/motivating us in the race God has set before us.
- Friends forgive one another.
- One of the greatest statements in the Bible was made between friends.
[Ruth 1:16/17].

2 The Friendship Of David And Jonathan

- Consider these statements. [18:1], [18:3], [20:41], [2 Samuel 1:26].
- Some friends become family.

3 David And Jonathan And The LGBTQ+ Lies

- Based on the language of the above texts certain people in LGBTQ+ community allege the friendship of David and Jonathan was a homosexual relationship. Lies.
- It was common in the ancient near east culture for men to kiss one another.
- Consider [10:1] and [20:9]. It indicated acceptance/fondness NOT romance.
- NB. In Ethiopian culture 2 men who are best friends will walk down the street holding hands.
- In [18:3] the word '**loved**' used here is never used to describe same sex attraction or homosexual acts.
- Re [18:1] some have suggested Jonathan was stripping naked in front of David.
- Jonathan would have had his under garments on.
- He was merely giving David his princely robe as an acknowledgement he was the rightful heir to throne.
- The language in [2 Samuel 1:26] is poetic lament, not a love song.
- The '**covenant**' in [18:3] is not a covenant of marriage but a covenant of loyalty to each other.
- It is possible for 2 men or 2 women to be really close friends without being gay.
- Don't read into the text what is not there.

4 A Greater Friendship Than That Of David And Jonathan

- It is possible for a person to have a friendship with God.
- Consider [James 2:23] and [Exodus 33:11], [Proverbs 18:24].
- It is possible to be Christ's friend and have Him as our Friend. [John 15:13 - 15].
- The secret of your life can be that you too have this Friend.
- He'll never leave you or '**drop you**', even if you're in the wrong.
- He makes a '**covenant**' with us and He has taken of His robe and given it to us.
- '**What A Friend We Have In Jesus.**'

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