

THE CHARACTERS AND DRAMA OF 1 SAMUEL

[PART 44]

SAUL AND THE DOCTRINE OF TOTAL DEPRAVITY

Reading: **1 Samuel 22:6 - 19**

Introduction

- Important doctrine/teaching: **'the total depravity of humanity'** or **'Radical Corruption'** of humanity.
- This is a result/consequence of **'the Fall'** of Adam/Eve in Eden.
- Every part of our being has been radically corrupted by plague of sin.
- Sin has penetrated to the very core of our being.
- No part of us is not tainted or polluted by sin.
- Sin is present in us from even the moment of conception. [Psalm 51:5].
- The **'heart'** is the crux of the problem.
- Consider: [Genesis 6:5], [John 3:19], [Jeremiah 17:9], [Romans 3:10 - 18], [Mark 7: 21 - 23], [Ephesians 2:2/3].
- We see this doctrine manifested in our chapter.

1 Saul's Pity Party [Vs 6 - 8]

- Saul wants David, **'Dead or Alive'**.
- Because of lack of intelligence re: David Saul is having a **'pity party'**.

2 Doeg The Edomite

- We've met Doeg before in [21:7]. He is chief of Saul's herdsman.
- When David was at the tabernacle in Nob being helped by Ahimelech, Doeg **'clocks'** him.
- He **'grasses'** on David meeting Ahimelech.

- Doeg gives Saul his breakthrough and Ahimelech is sent for.
- Ahimelech pleads his innocence but to no avail.
- Saul condemns the anointed high priest to death. (Oh the depravity of human heart).

3 The Heart's Terrible Wickedness

- Saul's servants wouldn't carry out Saul's orders to kill the priests.
- This was due to their '**conscience**'.
- Saul '**over-rode**' his conscience.
- This is surely evidence that Saul wasn't a '**saved man**'.
- Jesus announced in [Matthew 7:20] it is "**by their fruits, you will know them**."
- Saul was a bad tree.
- Doeg was an '**Edomite**'.
- A descendant of Esau who wrestled with his brother Jacob in their mother's womb. [Genesis 25:22].
- This was an indicator of the future on-going strife between their descendants.
- This Edomite instigated a blood bath as did his descendant Herod the Great in nativity story.

4 Massacre In Priestland

- This is another chapter in the blood stained volume of massacres.
- Nazi massacre of the Jews in WWII.
- The massacre of Tutsi's in Rwanda in 1994.
- St. Bartholomew's Massacre of Huguenots in France in 1572.
- In our chapter Doeg is like a mini antichrist, '**making war with the saints**'.

5 Create In Me A Clean Heart

- The heart is like a well; what's in the well eventually comes up in the bucket.
- The heart has the most frightening potential for evil.
- David was always conscious of his heart from Samuel anointed him to be king.
- Later he would pray in [Psalm 51:10], "**Create in me a clean heart**."
- This is a great prayer to pray every day.
- **Remember:** [Matthew 5:8] "**Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God**."

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