

THE CHARACTERS AND DRAMA OF 1 SAMUEL

[PART 50]

THE CAVE MAN PLEADS HIS CASE

Reading: **1 Samuel 24: 8 - 20**

Introduction

- David is hiding in the caves on the western side of the Dead Sea at En Gedi.
- Saul with 3000 chosen men are pursuing him.
- Saul unknowingly, to answer a '**call of nature**', has entered the very cave David is hiding in.
- God has delivered Saul into David's hand.
- Instead of killing Saul, David secretly cuts a corner of Saul's royal robe as a trophy.
- David's men are flabbergasted at him.
- Question: Who are the Saul's in your life and how do we respond to them?

1 The Cave Man's Speech: Vs 9 - 15

- Notice the respect David show his enemy: '**stoops with his face to the ground.**'
- [Vs 8] He calls Saul, '**My lord, the king.**' [Vs 6] '**My master.**' [Vs 10] '**My lord.**'
- Twice in [vs 6/10] he calls Saul, '**the Lord's anointed.**'
- Remember, there was a time when Saul was '**anointed**' and although he is sinful he is still anointed.
- David is **NOT** going to raise his hand to the '**Lord's anointed.**'
See [Psalm 105:15] and [1Chronicles 16:22].

2 Notice David's Heart, David's Eye and David's Hand

- In [vs 5] his heart smote him for cutting the robe of the king.
- In [vs 10/11/12 & 13] he speaks about his hand. Are your hands clean?
- In [vs 10] David speaks about **'his eye.'** Is there pity in your eye?

3 David's Defence

- **'Why Do You Listen To The Words Of Men?'**
- Saul had listened to the poisonous words of men who lied about David seeking Saul's life.
- Saul choose to believe the worse about a person instead of the best.
- Don't believe what a person says about someone until you've checked it is true.
- Do you seek someone's harm?
- Consider [Colossians 3:13/14].
- Question: Have you sinned against someone?

4 David's Confidence In God's Justice

- [Vs 12] **'Let the lord judge between you and me and let the Lord avenge me on you.'**
- David hasn't sinned against Saul but Saul has clearly sinned against David.
- He will not raise his hand against Saul because he has confidence in God's justice.
- Our God is a **JUST** God. [Deuteronomy 32:4] and [Genesis 18:25].
- David will allow God to adjudicate and His hand to judge in due course.
- It might seem people get away with it but they won't - because God is just.
- One day all your Saul's will sit down to a banquet of consequences.
- There's a **'bema seat'** for believers to be dealt with at and a great white throne for the ungodly.

5 The King's Speech: Vs 16 - 21

- David did not exact revenge.
- David new that the best form of revenge was not being like the one who hurts you.
- It seems Saul is repenting in [vs 16] but he's back hunting David again in [Ch 26].
- Saul understands the **'law of the harvest.'** He should have got what he'd sown.
- David understands the law of the harvest. He sowing mercy and kindness.
- He will need to reap that harvest in his own life in the years to come.
- What are you sowing in the field of your life?

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