

THE CHARACTERS AND DRAMA OF

1 SAMUEL

[PART 60]

GRACE TO SAVE DAVID FROM ANOTHER FINE MESS

Reading: 1Samuel 29:1 - 11

Introduction

- After the break in [Ch 28] to deal with Saul's visit to the witch/medium at Endor, the story returns in [Ch 29] to the mess David's gotten himself into.
- David has lost heart and fled to king Achish in the land of the Philistines for asylum.
- He trusts he will be beyond Saul's reach now.
- This was risky as Gath was the home of Goliath whom he had previously killed.
- Achish gives David and his people the city of Ziklag.

1 A Resumption Of Hostilities

- David had been with Achish for 16 months. [27:7].
- Achish intended to make David his bodyguard. [28:2].
- The old hostilities between the Philistines and Israel are about to resume. [28:1].
- David and his men are also numbered with the Philistines as mercenaries.
- Achish expects David to fight against his own people.
- David would be regarded as a traitor and the chance of being Israel's king then **'zero'**.

- To refuse Achish would also be problematic.
- During this time David is backslidden in heart.
- He had stopped praying and when that happens you're open to sin.
- How is David to get out of this cul-de-sac?

2 Saving And Keeping Grace

- The God who saved David from Saul now saves David from himself.
- God isn't finished with David.
- Maybe you've messed up? God hasn't finished with you either.
- The Philistine lords were afraid David would turn against them in the fight.
- They knew of David's reputation. [vs 5].
- Achish didn't want to antagonize his princes so he sent David away.
- The response of these princes was a merciful deliverance.
- Here we see the invisible hand of providence at work again.
- God had a plan for David's life and not even David could mess that plan up.
- God's plan for all of us can't be '**messed up**'
- God moves the Philistine lords not to favour David and David is extracted from the mess.

3 Amazing Grace

- Can you look back at times when God got you out of some mess you made?
- Years later David would write [Psalm 103:10].
- God did not deal with David according to his sins.

4 A Warning

- Don't be tempted to think that because you are saved by grace you can live as you please.
- RT Kendall: '**Those whose lives are governed by the principle of grace are subject to God's discipline. [Hebrews 12:6].'**
- There are 3 types of chastening: internal, external and terminal.
- God gets David out of his stew but there is chastening to follow. (But grace with the chastening).

Teaching Biblically · Thinking Biblically · Living Biblically