

2 Samuel 1

Lesson 1

Setting the Scene

- Saul was the first king of Israel.
- God rejected him as king and chose David to be his successor.
- Saul had been trying to kill David for years, forcing him to live as a fugitive.
- Other men and their families had been drawn to David (600 or so).

Setting the Scene

- Finally, to escape Saul, David fled to Philistia and put himself into the service of King Achish.
- Achish gave David and his followers the city of Ziklag.
- They lived there with their families and went from there to raid & destroy enemies of Israel, while claiming to raid parts of southern Judah.



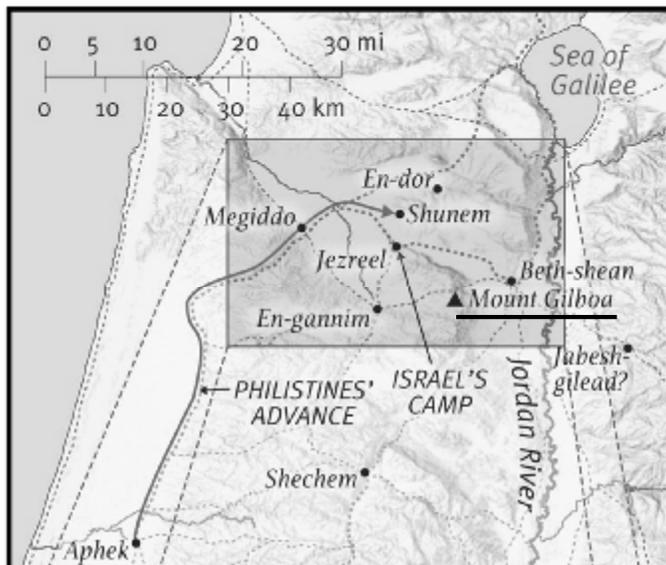
Setting the Scene

- David and his men killed Geshurites, Girzites, and Amalekites.
- The day came when the Philistine king expected David and his men to fight against Israel & King Saul.
- They traveled with the Philistines as far as Aphek before the other leaders objected & sent David & co. away.

Setting the Scene

- After traveling south for 3 days, David & his men found their city of Ziklag burned and their families stolen by Amalekites.
- With God's blessing, they pursued and killed most of the Amalekites and rescued their families and their possessions—even sending some plunder back to cities in Judah.

Battle of Mt. Gilboa (1 Sam.31)



Mercy Killing Is Not Biblical:

- Gen 9:6 Whoever sheds man's blood, By man his blood shall be shed, For in the image of God He made man.
- Ex 20:13 You shall not murder.
- Ex 21:12 He who strikes a man so that he dies shall surely be put to death.

Mercy Killing Is Not Biblical:

- Job 14:5 A person's days are determined; you have decreed the number of his months and have set limits he cannot exceed.
- Ps 31:15 My times are in Your hand.

Anointed Ones

- Anointed = to pour oil on, to set apart for a special ministry
- Priests (Ex. 28), prophets (1 Kgs.19), and kings were anointed.
- Saul and David were anointed as kings of Israel.

Anointed Ones

- Jesus is the Messiah / the Christ / the Anointed One.
- Believers are anointed (2 Cor.1:21).
- God calls the Israelites His anointed ones (Ps.105:15).
- **All** set apart for a special ministry!

Amalekites

- Historical enemies of the Israelites from the time of the Exodus through the time of Hezekiah.
- Exodus 17:8-16 Amalekites fought Israel at Rephidim before they reached Mt. Sinai.

Amalekites

- Ex 17:14 Then the LORD said to Moses, “Write this in a book as a memorial and recite it to Joshua, that I will utterly blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven.”

Amalekites

- 1 Sam 15:1–35 Several hundred years later, God commanded King Saul to destroy the Amalekites as punishment for their attack at Rephidim, but Saul spared their king, Agag, and the best of the livestock.

Amalekites

- In the book of Esther, the villain Haman is repeatedly called an “Agagite” (e.g., Esther 3:1), referring back to the Amalekite king spared by Saul.
- Haman tried to exterminate the Jews, but Esther saved her people.

Amalekites

- Ironic that an Amalekite announced Saul’s death & took credit for killing him.
- If Saul had done God’s will, neither this man nor Haman in the time of Esther would have been alive.

David's Lament (Song of the Bow)

- Solemn & Beautiful
- 1:18—The bow was Jonathan's weapon (cf. 1.22).
- 1:19—cf. 1.25—Both lines refer to Jonathan.
- For David the biggest loss is his dear friend Jonathan.

David's Lament (Song of the Bow)

- 1.20—"Tell it not in Gath."
- David doesn't want Saul's enemies rejoicing over his death.
- "Keep this a secret from those who would see our bad news as their good news."
- Micah 1:10—Tell it not in Gath.

Friendship of David & Jonathan

- Hebrew words for *brother* and for *love* did indicate affection, but they also pointed to a friendship *covenant*.
- This special covenant appears at least four times in 1 Samuel.

Friendship of David & Jonathan

- 1 Samuel 18 (right after David killed Goliath)
- 18:1—Now it came about when he had finished speaking to Saul, that the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as himself.

Friendship of David & Jonathan

- 18:3—Then Jonathan made a covenant with David because he loved him as himself.
- 18:4—Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was on him and gave it to David, with his armor, including his sword and his bow and his belt.

Friendship of David & Jonathan

1 Sam. 20:14 If I continue to live, show me kindness from the LORD, but if I die,
15 don't ever withdraw your kindness from my household—not even when the LORD cuts off every one of David's enemies from the face of the earth.”
16 Then Jonathan made a covenant with the house of David.

Friendship of David & Jonathan

1 Sam. 20:42 Jonathan then said to David, “Go in the assurance the two of us pledged in the name of the LORD when we said, ‘The LORD will be a witness between you and me and between my offspring and your offspring forever.’” Then David left, and Jonathan went into the city.

Friendship of David & Jonathan

1 Samuel 23
15 Now David became aware that Saul had come out to seek his life while David was in the wilderness of Ziph at Horesh.
16 And Jonathan, Saul's son, arose and went to David at Horesh, and encouraged him in God.

Friendship of David & Jonathan

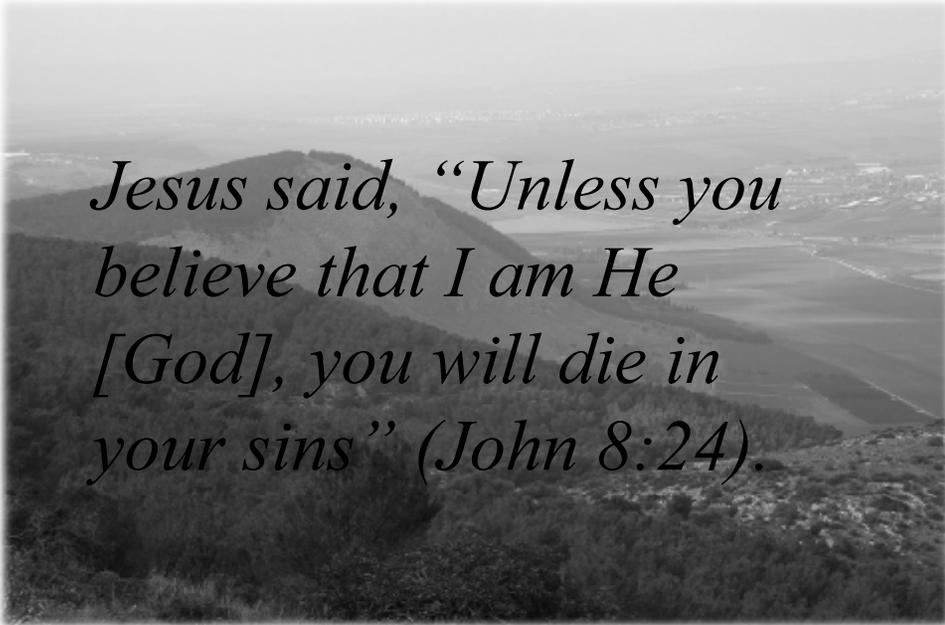
1 Samuel 23

17 Thus he said to him, “Do not be afraid, because the hand of Saul my father will not find you, and you will be king over Israel and I will be next to you; and Saul my father knows that also.”

18 So the two of them made a covenant before the LORD; and David stayed at Horesh while Jonathan went to his house.

Why did Saul die? (1 Chr. 10:13-14)

1. Unfaithfulness, failure to obey God about destroying the Amalekites (1 Sam.15)
 2. Consulting a medium
 3. Failing to consult God
- Why doesn't God mention Saul's murder of the priests of Nob or his many attempts to kill David?
 - God's reasons aren't always ours (Is. 55:8).



Jesus said, “Unless you believe that I am He [God], you will die in your sins” (John 8:24).