

# **The God of David**

## **Saul Determines to Kill David**

**1 Samuel 18-20**

**Lesson 7**

*Trinity Bible Church Sunday School  
October 14, 2012*

# Dark days of Judges

- ▶ A point of light in Bethlehem (Ruth)
- ▶ Hannah's hope – *Messiah/King*
- ▶ Depravity of the nation
  - Defilement of the Divine presence
  - The final judge rejected
  - Rejection of Divine rule
- ▶ Divine mercy
  - Granting a false king
  - Grace – forward progress of the plan of God
    - Samuel – return of the Word
    - Anointing David as King – “man after God's heart”

# Presentation of King David

- ▶ Shepherd
- ▶ Saul's minstrel – minister of peace
- ▶ Victorious warrior
- ▶ “Whose son is this youth?” (17:55-58)
- ▶ “The son of your servant Jesse the Bethlehemite”

# 1 Samuel 18-20

## ▶ 18:1-9 – Jonathan and David

- Loved by Saul, Jonathan and Michal
- Covenant + selfless love
- Saul set him over men of war
- Blessed and exalted by faithfulness
- Selfish love becomes jealousy
  - A pattern in history – Joseph's brothers (Acts 7:9) and Christ (Luke 15:10)
  - Pride – root sin
- Saul cast a suspicious eye on David – potential rival for the throne

# 1 Samuel 18-20

- ▶ 18:10-16 – Saul determines to kill David
  - A harmful spirit from the LORD
  - David escaped twice
  - Saul feared – because the LORD was with David
  - Appointment as Commander of a thousand
  - Success – loved of Israel and feared by Saul

# 1 Samuel 18-20

- ▶ 18:17-30 – Marriage of David and Michal
  - Double cross – King's daughter for David
  - David's humility
  - Saul's characteristic unfaithfulness
  - Michal – “marriage trap”
  - LORD with David
  - Saul is afraid – the enemy of David
  - David is successful and is highly esteemed

# 1 Samuel 18-20

- ▶ 19:1-10 – Jonathan's intercession
  - Command to kill David
  - Jonathan's intervention – conversation in the field
  - Saul's oath to forbear
  - David restored to the king's presence as before
  - Victory in battle
  - Harmful spirit from the LORD
  - David escaped the spear of Saul

# 1 Samuel 18-20

- ▶ 19:11-17 – Michal saves David
  - Messengers sent to kill David – Psalm 59
  - Michal's plan to deceive her father
  - Teraphim – image for worship
    - Gen. 21:25-35 – Rachel stole her father's teraphim
    - Judges 17-18 – Micah's ephod and teraphim
    - 1 Sam. 15:23 – Rebellion is as . . . idolatry (teraphim)
    - 2 Kings 23:24 – images (teraphim) – abomination
    - Zech. 10:2 – idols (teraphim)
  - The patient survives
  - Michal's lie about David



# 1 Samuel 18-20

- ▶ 19:18-24 – Protected by the Spirit of God
  - 4 attempts to capture David
  - Spirit of God intervened directly
  - Saul humiliated in the eyes of the people
  - Is Saul also among the prophets? – a joke or mocking question

# 1 Samuel 18-20

## ▶ 20:1-23 – David’s despair

- David: “but a step between me and death.”
- David’s plan – skip dinner to test the king
- Jonathan’s promise
- Jonathan’s request for blessing for his household forever
- Covenant – second time
- Shooting practice
- Jonathan: “The LORD has sent you away” (20:22)

# 1 Samuel 18-20

- ▶ 20:24-42 – Saul determines to kill David
  - The feast of the new moon
  - Jonathan's explanation of David's absence
  - Saul's anger – David's claim to the kingdom (20:31)
  - Jonathan escaped death
  - Shooting practice
  - The meeting and separation
  - The name of the LORD

# The Mystery of Divine Providence

- ▶ Israel's king becomes like the nations
  - Ignorance of Samuel and the Kingdom of God (10:16)
  - No fear of God
  - Initial successes: Repeated victories over enemies (14:47-48)
  - Hostility to the God of Israel and the Messiah King
    - The ancient sin – pride before the Most High God
    - Turns away from judging Israel and fighting their battles (8:20)
    - Focus now upon David as the enemy – the anointed of the LORD

# The Mystery of Divine Providence

- ▶ Efforts to kill David – 12 times . . . with more to come
  - 18:11 – 2 attempts with the spear
  - 18:17 – 1 attempt in battle
  - 18:25 – 1 attempt by bride price
  - 19:1 – direct command to Jonathan and all his servants
  - 19:9-10 – 3rd attempt with the spear
  - 19:11 – command to kill him at home
  - 19:15 – command to bring him (sick) in his bed
  - 19:19 – messengers sent 3 times to bring David to Saul
  - 19:22 – Saul goes to Naioth to get David
  - 20:31 – command to Jonathan to bring David to Saul

# The Mystery of Divine Providence

## ► Deliverance by the LORD

- David personally evaded 3 spears
- Victory in battle against Philistines
- Jonathan protected David
- Michal protected David
- Holy Spirit protected David
- David exalted before the nation – even before Saul's servants

# The Mystery of Divine Providence

## ▶ David's response

- Faithfulness to Saul - submission
- Despair – “a step between me and death” (v. 20)
- Deception
- Running – occupies several chapters of the Bible and several years

# David's Prayer – Psalm 59

- ▶ A cry for deliverance from the LORD (1)
- ▶ No fault of mine (4)
- ▶ Enemies defy the LORD (7)
- ▶ Let them be trapped in their pride (12)
- ▶ Show local and universal rule of God Jacob (13)



# David's Testimony – Psalm 59

- ▶ David's response to the providence of God in his life
  - 59:9 – אֶשְׁמְרָה (eshmorah) – watch/wait
  - 59:17 – אֶזְמְרָה (azamerah) – sing praises
- ▶ The basis for David's faith
  - 59:10 – the steadfast love/mercy of the LORD
  - 59:17 – the steadfast love/mercy of the LORD is for me

# The LORD is my Shepherd . . .

- ▶ The paths of righteousness for His Name's sake
  - Under sentence of death by Saul and daily at risk
  - The righteous way of the LORD
- ▶ A fearful depressing time
  - Watch and wait for the LORD'S deliverance
  - Sing praises to the LORD