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 18:1-9 – 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 – אֶשְׁמֹרָה (eshmorah) – watch/wait
  - 59:17 – אָזָמֵרָה (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