

Journey Through the Bible (50)

The United Kingdom (4) David, Goliath & Jonathan

1 Samuel 17-20

The United Kingdom

- We are continuing the 9th of 17 time periods of Bible history – the United Kingdom. This was a period where Israel is governed by a king.
- This period lasted 120 years under 3 kings – Saul, David and Solomon. From ~1050-930 BC.
- It was a period of relative peace and expansion
- Biblically - **1 Sam. 8 – 1 Kings 11, 1 Chronicles 1 - 2 Chronicles 9.**
Also, the period of much poetic literature.

The United Kingdom

- In our last lesson, we addressed the downfall of king Saul and the anointing of David.
- **1 Sam. 15-16** - Saul failed to destroy the Amalekites as instructed. Therefore God rejected him as king.
- YHWH then sent Samuel to find and anoint David as Israel's next king. David also begins to help Saul when a distressing spirit came upon him.
- Today, **1 Samuel 17-20**

The United Kingdom

- David and Goliath
- **1 Sam. 17** – The Philistines are gathered in battle against Israel near Sochoh in Judah.
- They present their warrior Goliath (~9½ feet tall) who mocks Israel for 40 days. NONE of Israel were willing to confront him.
- David is sent by Jesse to inquire about his 3 older brothers who were at the battle site – to bring supplies to them and the troops.

The United Kingdom

- David and Goliath
- **1 Sam. 17:26ff** – David inquires about Goliath and notes he is an uncircumcised Philistine who is defying the armies of the living God.
- Eliab, his oldest brother rebukes David for coming (interfering). But David replies, “What have I done now? Is there not a cause?” (**29**)
- David offers to go fight Goliath. Saul is told and tries to prevent him, but David bravely wants to go. He tells of recent encounters with a bear and a lion “*and He will deliver me from...this Philistine*” (**37**)

The United Kingdom

- David and Goliath
- **1 Sam. 17:37** – Saul allows him to go. He even gives David his own armor. But when David tries it on, it is too big & heavy and had not been tested (by him).
- He gathers 5 stones from a brook and confronts Goliath with a sling.
- Goliath is insulted and mocks David (and Israel). David replies – see vs. **45-46**.
- David with ONE stone strikes Goliath and killed him. He then cut off his head with his own sword.

The United Kingdom

- David and Goliath
- **1 Sam. 17:51** – This emboldens Israel & Judah and they pursue the Philistines and drive them all the way back to their own territory (Ekron). They return and plunder their tents.
- David takes Goliath's head home to Jerusalem and put the armor in his tent. The head is then presented to Saul.
- Saul inquires of Abner and learns who David is (likely intending to reward him).

The United Kingdom

- David and Jonathan
- **1 Sam. 18:1-4** – David and Jonathan become the closest of friends. They make a covenant with each other (platonic). Jonathan gives David his armor, etc.
- **18:5-16** – David faithfully and successfully serves in Saul's military. The people love him more than Saul and sing about it. Saul (being insecure) becomes jealous and suspicious of David. He feared him (**vs. 15**)

The United Kingdom

- David and Michal
- **1 Sam. 18:17ff** – Saul offers to David his oldest daughter, Merab, hoping something would happen to him. David humbly refuses to marry her. She is given to another.
- Michal, Saul's younger daughter loves David so he is convinced to marry her. His dowry – 100 foreskins of Philistines. David brings him 200.
- Saul gives him Michal and continues to fear him. Saul makes David his enemy.

The United Kingdom

- Saul begins to persecute David
- **1 Sam. 19:1-7** – Saul tells Jonathan and other servants to kill David. But Jonathan intercedes and reminds Saul of the good David has done. He relents and David is restored - temporarily
- **19:8-10** – Saul's distressing spirit returns and as David seeks to soothe him, he throws his spear at David. But David flees.
- **19:11-17** - He returns to Michal's house and she helps him escape out the window.

The United Kingdom

- Saul begins to persecute David
- **1 Sam. 19:18-24** – David goes and finds Samuel at Ramah. They go to Naioth and Saul is told where David is at.
- When messengers arrive, they begin prophesying. 3 groups are sent and each does the same.
- Then Saul goes and he strips off his clothes and prophesies. God defeats his plans.

The United Kingdom

- Saul begins to persecute David
- **1 Sam. 20:1-42** – David flees again and finds Jonathan and wants to know what he has done. Jonathan promises to defend and protect him. They devise a plan to determine if David is safe to return. Note **vs. 13-16**. David is not safe! Note **vs. 30-31** – Saul knows David is the next king .
- After informing David, they meet to say goodbye – they kiss (platonic) and weep. David is sent away in peace and Jonathan returns to his father.

Lessons to Consider

- With God's help you can face your giants also – David's main weapon was his faith in God. God does NOT work as men do. Recall **1 Sam. 16:7**. Also **Romans 8:31**
- Building on past experiences – David trusted because he had confronted both bear and lion. We need to learn from our past – **Job 12:12, Proverbs 3:13, cf. Psalm 37:25**
- Give God the credit – David's confidence was not in himself but what God could accomplish. He always glorified God (see many of his psalms)
James 1:17, 1 Peter 4:11

Lessons to Consider

- Is there not a cause? – David asks this when none would face Goliath. We need to live knowing there is a cause for what we do. Will we stand up and defend our Lord?
- God can use the young – David started as a youth. Joseph, A servant girl in Naaman's house, Timothy, a boy with a small lunch –
1 Timothy 4:12. Ecclesiastes 12:1
- Pride goes before a fall – Saul's pride is his enemy. Ours too – **Proverbs 16:5, 18,**
James 4:6

Lessons to Consider

- The mighty armor of God – we will not win our spiritual battles with conventional weapons –
2 Corinthians 10:3-5, Ephesians 6:10-18
- The value of a close, trusted friend – loyalty!
Proverbs 18:24, 17:17
- The destructiveness of jealousy – another great enemy of Saul.
Ours too – **Galatians 5:20.**

Lessons to Consider

- Ungodly scheming – Saul tried. Sadly he is not the only one. We expect it in society, but when we are betrayed by brethren...
- Will you stand up for the righteous – Jonathan did! **Proverbs 31:8-9,**
1 Thessalonians 5:14
- Always try reasoning FIRST in a tense situation – Jonathan did this too!

Lessons to Consider

- God can accomplish His will – a continued lesson throughout our studies!
Romans 8:31, Philippians 4:13
- The importance of covenants – toward God and one another as spouses, etc.

Lessons to Consider

- **Psalm 59** – This psalm is keyed to 1 Samuel 19 when men were sent to Michal to kill David. A psalm of trust and requesting God to deal with his enemies.
Accepting your place before God -
Jonathan knew David would be king. He did not object. We all have limitations – will we accept them?

How will you handle the
challenges of life?

