

BOOK OF 1 SAMUEL
WHERE IS GOD IN ALL THIS?
1 SAMUEL 27:1-12

Introduction

Sometimes even the most spiritual of people can abandon the things that made them spiritual to begin with, but we can't do so without consequence.

I want you to see that when we don't trust God as we should, but rather depend upon ourselves, we can fall into a great depression and do things we wouldn't ordinarily do.

I. WHERE WERE DAVID'S THOUGHTS?(Vs 1; Philippians 4:6-8)

Our thinking can be a very powerful influence on our actions both for good or for evil!

Proverbs 4:23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

David had just had a victory in his conversation with King Saul again. Chapter 26 ended on an upbeat.

But now we see Chapter 27 starts with David saying in his heart in so many words... "Saul's gonna get me yet!"

What was David thinking? Remember that his conversation with Saul in Chapter 26 was a *deja vu* moment for David of his conversation with Saul recorded in Chapter 24. It appears that David was remembering that first conversation and how quickly Saul went back on his word.

It is interesting to note that God is not mentioned in David's conversation with himself...In fact God is not mentioned in this entire chapter.

It had been "all about God" in David's life...Now it is "all about David"!

Has doubt ever crept into your heart and you began thinking the wrong way and your pity party spiraled out of control where you forgot: Whose you are? God's promises to you? Where your strength lies?

BOOK OF 1 SAMUEL
WHERE IS GOD IN ALL THIS?
1 SAMUEL 27:1-12

WHERE WERE DAVID'S THOUGHTS?

II. WHERE WAS DAVID'S TRUST? (Vs 1)

David's trust and reliance upon God is one of the outstanding characteristics of his life!

Remember how we ended last week by saying:

When trouble comes—the first time, the second time, the hundredth time—and we refuse to panic, and instead face our problems with our faith in God, determined to do what is right, then we are trusting God.

When we can say with David what he sang in:

Psalm 56:11 In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do unto me.

Psalm 27:1 The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Psalm 23:4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

But here we see that even David came to this point in his life where **he exchanged his previous spiritual reliance on God for self-sufficiency.**

David was filled with pessimistic doubt: i.e. he was saying "there's nothing better for me to do than to just run away!"

He appears to have decided that God couldn't take care of him anymore...He was going to have to take care of himself!

III. WHAT HAPPENED TO DAVID'S TEMPERAMENT? (Vs 2-3)

We'll see that the change in David's thoughts and the loss of his trust in God caused him to do some things here that he shouldn't have done.

What happened to his mind-set toward the Philistines?

BOOK OF 1 SAMUEL
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Isn't this still Mr. *"Is there not a cause?"*

Isn't this still the Philistine slayer and giant slayer?

Why then did he seek refuge in the land of his enemies and the land of one of Israel's bitterest enemies then?

David sought help from and ran with the wrong crowd. He literally aligned himself with the enemy.

See what the **wrong thinking** will do for you?

It will affect your **trust** and affect your **temperament!**

IV. WHAT HAPPENED TO DAVID'S TESTIMONY? (Vs 3-5)

Think about this very carefully and note David's associations stated in the Scripture here.

All the people who touched David's life were affected in some way!

A. His Testimony With His Men And Their Families. (Vs 3a)

All 600 of his men and their families were affected by being brought into a place of compromise and temptation.

B. His Testimony With His Family. (Vs 3b)

His family that was with him. His family that he left behind.

C. His Testimony With Saul And His Men. (Vs 4)

D. His Testimony With The Pagan Philistine King Achish. (Vs 5-6; 12)

E. His Testimony Among The Heathen Philistines Themselves. (Vs 7)

Note very carefully : *Romans 14:7* says, *"For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself."*

That basically means that **everything we do** in our lives touches those around us—both saved and lost including family, friends, and foes.

BOOK OF 1 SAMUEL
WHERE IS GOD IN ALL THIS?
1 SAMUEL 27:1-12

When a husband or a wife steps out of God's will, it affects their marriage. When one or both parents refuse to live by God's standards, it has an impact on their children. When grandparents get out of sort with God it affects both their children and their grandchildren!

People at home, at school, at work and at Church are touched by the way we live our lives. We never know who is watching, or who might be hindered when we give in to the advice of our following our own heart and thereby walk away from God's best for our lives.

Remember though, that we will answer to God for touching others lives in a negative manner by our being out of fellowship with Him.

In vs. 8-12 we see that David did some things that were out of character for him. He murders, he lies, and he both sought help from and submitted himself to an enemy of God.

David lied to the king about who he attacked in order to keep living in the country in peace.

David went from feeling bad about cutting a corner of Saul's robe off to killing men, women and children just to shut them up and to cover up his actions before the Philistine King Achish! Whoa!

When we are away from God, we too, start to cover up what we've done and where we've been

The whole fabric of David's life was altered by the bad decisions he made to follow the counsel of his own heart.

Vs. 7 tells us that David stayed there in the camp of the enemy for 16 months. I am sure he was there longer than he intended to be.

Lastly, it is also worthy to note that there are no Psalms attributed to David during this period of his life. It seems as though the *"Sweet Psalmist of Israel"* has writers block...he's lost his song!

BOOK OF 1 SAMUEL
WHERE IS GOD IN ALL THIS?
1 SAMUEL 27:1-12

V. WHAT HAPPENED TO DAVID'S TEMPLE?

Remember what's going on here when David gets to the end of his life
...he has in his heart the desire to build a Temple for the LORD!
But the LORD says...NO!

1 Chronicles 22:6-8

David was not granted his desire to build a Temple unto the LORD!

Conclusion

So, where is God in all this?

He may not have been evident in David's THOUGHTS at this time!

He may not have been evident in David's TRUST at this time!

He may not have been evident in David's TEMPERAMENT at this time!

He may not have been evident in David's TESTIMONY at this time!

But that doesn't mean God was OK with what was going on!

God was still Sovereign and He was still there affecting David's life and bringing about His promises to David. And God had the final call on everything in David's life!