

BOOK OF 1 SAMUEL
JONATHAN LOVED DAVID
1 SAMUEL 18-20

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Introduction

Who can overestimate the value of friends?

A solid friendship is one of the sweetest gifts that God can give.

Proverbs 17:17—"A friend loveth at all times..."

Proverbs 18:24—"A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother."

Perhaps one of the best known friendships recorded in the Bible was the one that developed between David and Jonathan! **(Nothing perverse here!!!)**

I. THE CAUSE OF THEIR FRIENDSHIP. (18:1-4)

Jonathan saw the great victory that God had given David over Goliath and was so impressed that he wanted David as a friend.

David had shown that he knew how to trust God in times of crisis.

Jonathan saw in David a man of courage, humility, and faith in God.

He wanted to be David's friend because of the good and wholesome qualities David possessed! Good friendships should be built around being right and doing right!

Solomon warns against wicked friendships that are built around friends enticing friends to do evil in ***Proverbs 1:10-16***.

Proverbs 1:10 My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not.

A. Friendship Implies Loving. (vs 1)

Jonathan didn't love David for what he could get out of him.
David didn't love Jonathan for what he could get out of him.

No, this was a friendship forged by the LORD between these two!

B. Loving Demands Giving. (vs 3-4)

II. DAVID'S CONTINUED FAITHFULNESS TO SAUL. (18:5)

David had been anointed by Samuel to be the next king of Israel. But here we see that there was no hint of evil against Saul with David!

He was not working behind the scenes to undermine Saul or to bring down his kingdom so that he himself could ascend to the throne.

No, as a faithful servant under King Saul, David went wherever Saul sent him! All the while he was wise in his behavior.

He was put over the men of war by Saul.

III. SAUL'S JEALOUSY, RAGE, AND MURDEROUS INTENT. (18:6-11)

Its ironic that a song would cause Saul to begin looking at David with an evil eye bent on his destruction!

When the evil spirit troubled Saul in the past, it was David's music that had calmed him. However, the song of these women who had come out of all the cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet King Saul was NOT what he needed! It caused him to get wrath...very angry...and begin to get paranoid about losing his kingdom! **(Vs 6-9)**

He attempted to take the life of David even while David was playing music in his presence to calm the evil spirit troubling him! **(Vs 10-11)**

David twice dodged getting hit by Saul's javelin! **(Vs 11b)**

Saul was afraid of David because the LORD was now with David and had departed from Saul! He demoted him from being over the men of war to just being a captain over a thousand. **(Vs 12-13)**

IV. DAVID'S REACTION. (18:14-16)

David just keeps behaving in a very wise, and godly manner—the way he previously had done—and the LORD was with him which was obvious to Saul and only increased Saul's fear and paranoia!

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But it was also obvious to Israel and Judah and caused their love for David to only increase, which undoubtedly only fed the negative thoughts of Saul!

V. SAUL'S FIRST EVIL PLOT. (18:17-30)

Saul tricked David into fighting the Philistines for his elder daughter, Merab, but when she should have been given to David, he gave her hand in marriage to someone else. **(Vs 17-19)**

(Bait and switch that was reminiscent of Laban's dealings with Jacob)

He then offered David his daughter Michal to be a snare unto him. (Possibly thinking that if he had his mind on his new wife, he'd mess up in the battle and get himself killed by the Philistines!) **(Vs 20-21)**

He also required that instead of a dowry, David kill 100 Philistines and bring proof of it. **(Vs 22-25)**

So, David more than met the challenge by killing 200 and brought the proof! Boom! David is given Michal. **(Vs 26-27)**

Saul becomes even more paranoid and afraid of David and from that point forward Saul became David's enemy continually! **(Vs 28-29)**

David continues to behave himself more wisely than all the servants of Saul! **(Vs 30)**

VI. SAUL'S SECOND EVIL PLOT. (19:1)

Well if you can't get it done yourself, order a hit!

Saul did just that trying to get his son, Jonathan and all the rest of his servants to do his dirty work for him!

The problem he didn't anticipate was that his son Jonathan and David were best buddies!

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VII. JONATHAN'S FRIENDSHIP IN ADVERSITY. (19:2-17)

A. He Warned David! (vs 2-3)

B. He Interceded For David! (vs 4-6)

C. David Returned To Saul For A While! (vs 7-9a)

But then David went and killed some more Philistines (described as a great slaughter) and I'm sure the song of the women from chapter 18 reverberated in Saul's mind as we see the evil spirit returns to trouble him again!

D. Saul Attempted To Kill David Again. (vs 9b-10)

This third time he missed him again with his javelin! David flees and escapes out of his hand once again!

E. Saul Sent A Hit Squad To David's House! (Vs 11)

This is the occasion of the writing of Psalm 59!

F. His Wife, Michal, Helped Him Escape The Hit Squad!

(Vs 12-17)

She put an "image", Hebrew word "*teraphim*" meaning the image of a heathen "god", in David's bed.

F. David Sought Refuge With Samuel In Naioth in Ramah.

(vs18-24)

"*Nai-oth*" means "*dwellings*" think of it as college dorms for the prophecy students in Samuel's prophecy school.

Look at all the prophesying going on here!

The **company of the prophets** were prophesying with Saul.

The **first wave of Saul's messengers** began prophesying.

The **second wave of Saul's messengers** began prophesying.

The **third wave of Saul's messengers** began prophesying.

Saul himself began prophesying.

Obviously the Spirit of God was in complete control here preventing Saul from carrying out what he planned to do!

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VIII. DAVID COMMUNED WITH JONATHAN. (20:1-24)

Vs 1—We see a puzzled reaction from David questioning Jonathan about what he had done to cause Saul to be so intent on killing him.

Vs 2—Jonathan tries to convince David that he has it all wrong. Dear old dad wouldn't do something like that without talking to him first.

Vs 3—David is not convinced, but said Jonathan's dad knows that he and David are close so he's been holding back his plans from Jonathan. David concludes by telling Jonathan his perception, "*as thy soul liveth there is but a step between me and death.*"

Vs 4—So, Jonathan agreed to do whatever David wants him to do.

Vs 5-24—David devised a plan for Jonathan to determine if Saul's intentions to kill him had changed or not and a way to communicate to David if it was safe for him to return to Saul or if he needed to flee. In the midst of this plan there is a renewal and expansion of the covenant that was previously made between David and Jonathan.

(David's part of this covenant spoken about in **verses 14-15** will come into play in the future after we get to where both Saul and Jonathan are killed in battle at the end of this book. i.e. re: Mephibosheth)

IX. JONATHAN RETURNED TO SAUL. (vs 25-34)

Jonathan went with the plan He and David devised to find out if Saul was still angry with David. Which he was! So angry in fact that he got angry against his son and tried to kill him. (See **verses 30-33**)

X. JONATHAN WARNED DAVID AND THEN THEY PART WAYS. (vs 35-42)

Jonathan goes back to the city and David goes on the run from Saul!