

INTRODUCTION

- * The transitional nature of the book of 1 Samuel ... From the last judge (Samuel) to the death of the first king ... setting up the kingship of David
- * The relationship between Saul and David has transitioned from one of amity to one of animosity
- * We have watched David transition as well from a youth to a warrior. However, as a part of that transition David seemingly had lost his focus on God
- * Last week, we saw that as the weight of the battle grew heavier, David struggled with anxiety. Yet, God was faithful even as David wobbled in his faith.
- * Today, we see that David learned his lesson and regained his focus. As well, he demonstrates for us a key ingredient in the character of a godly leader - the willingness to accept responsibility. Too many people want the power but they do not want the responsibility that goes along with it!

INSTRUCTION

David accepted responsibility for ...

I. HIS PARENTS (22:1, 3-4) ... *Jesse was the grandson of Ruth the Moabitess.*

II. THE DISENFRANCHISED (22:2, 23:13-29)

A. Those Who Were In Distress (cf. Dty 28:52-57; Psalm 119:143; Matthew 11:28-29) ... *matsoq*

B. Those Who Were In Debt (cf. Exodus 22:25; Leviticus 25:35-38)

- * *nasha* - to lend on interest; to exact usury

C. Those Who Were Discontent (cf. Exodus 15:23-24; 1 Samuel 1:9-10; Proverbs 31:6; Numbers 5:12-29) ...

- * *marah nephesh* - bitter soul

III. ABIATHAR (22:6-23; cf. Psalm 52)

... David accepted the responsibility for what happened to Ahimelech and his relatives ... 85 priests!

IV. THE CITY OF KEILAH (23: 1-13)

A. David Inquired of God Whether To Go To Keilah (v. 1-4)

1. HIS FIRST INQUIRY

- a. The Basis of the Inquiry ... *David received word that the Philistines are fighting against Keilah and robbing the threshing floors*
- b. The Response to the Inquiry ... *Go, attack the Philistines and save Keilah*

2. HIS SECOND INQUIRY

- a. The Basis of the Inquiry ... *the fear of his followers*
- b. The Response to the Inquiry ... *Go, I will deliver the Philistines into your hand*

B. David Inquired of God Whether To Leave Keilah (v. 6-13)

1. HIS FIRST INQUIRY

- a. The Basis of the Inquiry ... *David heard that Saul was coming ... will he come?*
- b. The Response to the Inquiry ... *Saul will come down*

2. HIS SECOND INQUIRY

- a. The Basis of the Inquiry ... *The safety of himself and his men*
- b. The Response to the Inquiry ... *They will deliver you*

INTROSPECTION

- * HOW WELL DO YOU ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY?
- * WHAT DO YOU SEE AS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY IN RELATION TO THOSE AROUND YOU?
YOUR PARENTS? YOUR FAMILY? YOUR NEIGHBORS? YOUR COMMUNITY?
- * WHERE DO YOU TURN FOR WISDOM AND INSTRUCTION?
HOW DO YOU RESPOND TO THE DISCOURAGEMENT OF THOSE AROUND YOU?
- * IS THERE A NEED TO "CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK" ... AND ACT?

Deuteronomy 28:52-57 "They shall besiege you at all your gates until your high and fortified walls, in which you trust, come down throughout all your land; and they shall besiege you at all your gates throughout all your land which the LORD your God has given you. 53 You shall eat the fruit of your own body, the flesh of your sons and your daughters whom the LORD your God has given you, in the siege and **desperate straits (matsoq)** in which your enemy shall **distress (tsuq)** you. 54 The sensitive and very refined man among you will be hostile toward his brother, toward the wife of his bosom, and toward the rest of his children whom he leaves behind, 55 so that he will not give any of them the flesh of his children whom he will eat, because he has nothing left in the siege and **desperate straits (matsoq)** in which your enemy shall **distress (tsuq)** you at all your gates. 56 The tender and delicate woman among you, who would not venture to set the sole of her foot on the ground because of her delicateness and sensitivity, will refuse to the husband of her bosom, and to her son and her daughter, 57 her placenta which comes out from between her feet and her children whom she bears; for she will eat them secretly for lack of everything in the siege and **desperate straits (matsoq)** in which your enemy shall **distress (tsuq)** you at all your gates.

Psalms 119:143 Trouble and **anguish (matsoq)** have overtaken me, yet Your commandments are my delights.

Matthew 11:28-29 28 Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Exodus 22:25 "If you lend money to any of My people who are poor among you, you shall not be like **a moneylender (nashah - usurer)** to him; you shall not charge him **interest (nashek-usury)**.

Leviticus 25:35-38 'If one of your brethren becomes poor, and falls into poverty among you, then you shall help him, like a stranger or a sojourner, that he may live with you. 36 Take no **usury (nashek)** or interest from him; but fear your God, that your brother may live with you. 37 You shall not lend him your money for **usury (nashek)**, nor lend him your food at a profit. 38 I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, to give you the land of Canaan and to be your God.

Deuteronomy 23:19-20 "You shall not **charge interest (nashek)** to your brother--**interest (nashek)** on money or food or anything that is lent out at **interest (nashek)**. 20 To a foreigner you may charge **interest (nashak)**, but to your brother you shall not charge **interest (nashak)**, that the LORD your God may bless you in all to which you set your hand in the land which you are entering to possess.

Deuteronomy 24:10-11 "When you **lend (nashah)** your brother anything, you shall not go into his house to get his pledge. 11 You shall stand outside, and the man to whom you **lend (nashah)** shall bring the pledge out to you.

Exodus 15:23-24 Now when they came to Marah, they could not drink the waters of Marah, for they were **bitter**. Therefore the name of it was called Marah. 24 And the people complained against Moses, saying, "What shall we drink?"

1 Samuel 1:9-10 So Hannah arose after they had finished eating and drinking in Shiloh. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat by the doorpost of the tabernacle of the LORD. 10 And she was in **bitterness of soul**, and prayed to the LORD and wept in anguish.

Proverbs 31:6 Give strong drink to him who is perishing, And wine to those who are **bitter of heart**.