

The Jewish Kingdom - Lesson 18

David and Saul

David, now the national hero, is made part of Saul's court and the object of Saul's jealousy.

43. David in the court of Saul - I Samuel 18:1-5

- Saul couldn't let a national hero simply go back home, could he?
- vs. 2 - Saul had let David go home once and David reappeared to defeat Goliath.
- Jonathan and David's friendship is the most beautiful of friendships found in the Bible. They appear to be about the same age and of similar qualities.
- vs. 5 - this is key to David's character. He is anointed to be the next king, but still serves faithfully.

44. Saul's Jealousy - I Samuel 18:6-16

- It is unclear when this happens. Possibly it is after the face-off with Goliath but since David was over the army perhaps it is another campaign.
- vs. 7 - basically the #1 hit song of the day was "David is Better than Saul".
- vs. 8-9 - Saul's suspicious and jealous nature gets the better of him.
- vs. 10 - prophesied - What did say under influence from the "evil spirit from God"? I think perhaps in a fit of depression and jealousy he said that David would one day be king. That would help explain the action he takes in attempting to kill David.
- vs. 11 - Note that Saul attempted to kill David not once but twice!
- vs. 12 - Even Saul realizes what is going on
- vs. 13 - This would be a demotion from David's status in vs. 5
- vs. 16 - Saul seems to have secluded himself

45. David's Marriage to Michal - I Samuel 18:17-30

- As part of the stated reward for killing Goliath, David was entitled to marry Saul's daughter. The eldest available would have been customary.
- vs. 17 - Saul hopes that David will be slain in battle
- vs. 19 - this was a very public slight aimed at David
- vs. 20 - why did this please Saul? He had just slighted David over Merab. I think this marriage allowed him to save face before the people and as an opportunity to perhaps rid himself of David.
- vs. 21 - "one of of the twain" - Saul only had two daughters, Merab and Michal.
- vs. 23 - David's concern is that he would not be able to afford the dowry payment involved in marrying a daughter of a king. I don't know what the going rate for wives was at the time, but I'm sure this would have been the most expensive.
- vs. 27 - Note that David doubled the asking price.
- vs. 28 - Every one of Saul's plans backfires.

- vs. 29 - David is a war hero, highly respected, wonderfully behaved, married into the royal family. Saul is extremely wary of this upstart and tries to thwart him at every turn, but David only excels.