

## Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

### Part 45 – Saul Continues Pursuit Of David Through Saul And His Sons Deaths (I Samuel 26-31)

1. What does Saul do when he hears that David did hide himself in the hill of Hachilah, which is before Jeshimon?
  - Saul arose, and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, having three thousand chosen men of Israel with him, to seek David in the wilderness of Ziph And Saul pitched in the hill of Hachilah, which is before Jeshimon (**I Samuel 26:1-2**).
2. Was David ignorant of Saul's actions?
  - No: David abode in the wilderness, and he saw that Saul came after him into the wilderness. David therefore sent out spies, and understood that Saul was come in very deed (**I Samuel 26:3-4**).
3. What does David do when he has the opportunity to slay Saul?
  - Like he has before (**I Samuel 24:4-12**), he does not kill Saul but shows him he could have if that were his desire (**I Samuel 26:5-20**).
4. What reason does David give to Abishai for his decision discussed in question three?
  - *“And David said to Abishai, Destroy him not: for who can stretch forth his hand against the LORD'S anointed, and be guiltless? David said furthermore, As the LORD liveth, the LORD shall smite him; or his day shall come to die; or he shall descend into battle, and perish. The LORD forbid that I should stretch forth mine hand against the LORD'S anointed: but, I pray thee, take thou now the spear that is at his bolster, and the cruse of water, and let us go”* (**I Samuel 26:9-11**).
5. Did Saul admit any wrong doing in his pursuit against David?
  - Yes (**I Samuel 26:21**), but he has done so before too (**I Samuel 24:16-17**) and that did not keep him from pursuing David again to kill him THEN. Now will be different (**27:4**).
6. Does David become vindictive, or does he put things into the hands of the Lord?
  - He gives this to God: *“And David answered and said, Behold the king's spear! and let one of the young men come over and fetch it. The LORD render to every man his righteousness and his faithfulness: for the LORD delivered thee into my hand to day, but I would not stretch forth mine hand against the LORD'S anointed. And, behold, as thy life was much set by this day in mine eyes, so let my life be much set by in the eyes of the LORD, and let him deliver me out of all tribulation”* (**I Samuel 26:22-24**).
7. Why does David escape to the land of the Philistines with six hundred men?
  - *“And David said in his heart, I shall now perish one day by the hand of Saul: there is nothing better for me than that I should speedily escape into the land of the Philistines; and Saul shall despair of me, to seek me any more in any coast of Israel: so shall I escape out of his hand. And David arose, and he passed over with the six hundred men that were with him unto Achish, the son of Maoch, king of Gath”* (**I Samuel 27:1-2**).

8. What did David do to the Geshurites, and the Gezrites, and the Amalekites?
- *“And David and his men went up, and invaded the Geshurites, and the Gezrites, and the Amalekites: for those nations were of old the inhabitants of the land, as thou goest to Shur, even unto the land of Egypt. And David smote the land, and left neither man nor woman alive, and took away the sheep, and the oxen, and the asses, and the camels, and the apparel, and returned, and came to Achish” (I Samuel 27:8-9).*
  - The Geshurites, Gezrites, and Amalekites were not properly killed off as commanded in times past (**Joshua 13:13, Joshua 16:10, I Samuel 15:18-19**; cf. **Deuteronomy 7:1-2**).
9. Did David leave any witnesses to come to Gath and give a report to Achish?
- No, (**I Samuel 27:11**).
10. Even though Saul had put away those that had familiar spirits [one who evokes the dead] (I Samuel 28:3), how quickly was he willing to seek one out?
- As soon as God did not answer him (**I Samuel 28:6-7**).
11. Why would Saul go unto the woman that had a familiar spirit in disguise?
- *“And Saul disguised himself, and put on other raiment, and he went, and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night: and he said, I pray thee, divine unto me by the familiar spirit, and bring me him up, whom I shall name unto thee. And the woman said unto him, Behold, thou knowest what Saul hath done, how he hath cut off those that have familiar spirits, and the wizards, out of the land: wherefore then layest thou a snare for my life, to cause me to die” (I Samuel 28:8-9)?*
  - Additionally, Saul knew it was SINFUL (**Leviticus 19:31; 20:6; 20:27**, and **Deuteronomy 18:10-12**).
  - Consider this, God will judge Saul over this (**I Chronicles 10:13**).
12. Whom did Saul want to speak to from the dead?
- Samuel (**I Samuel 28:11**).
13. Was the woman able to bring Samuel, who is dead, before Saul?
- Yes, (**I Samuel 28:12-15**).
14. How is it that a woman, not of God, is able to do miraculous works?
- Those that are false could perform miracles too (**Matthew 24:24**; cf. **I John 4:1-5** and **I Corinthians 12:10**).
15. What message did Samuel give to Saul?
- *“And Samuel said to Saul, Why hast thou disquieted me, to bring me up? And Saul answered, I am sore distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God is departed from me, and answereth me no more, neither by prophets, nor by dreams: therefore I have called thee, that thou mayest make known unto me what I shall do. Then said Samuel, Wherefore then dost thou ask of me, seeing the LORD is departed from thee, and is become thine enemy? And the LORD hath done to him, as he spake by me: for the LORD hath rent the kingdom out of thine hand, and given it to thy neighbour, even to David: Because thou obeyedst not the voice of the LORD, nor executedst his fierce wrath*

upon Amalek, therefore hath the LORD done this thing unto thee this day. Moreover the LORD will also deliver Israel with thee into the hand of the Philistines: and to morrow shalt thou and thy sons be with me: the LORD also shall deliver the host of Israel into the hand of the Philistines” (I Samuel 28:15-19).

- Men speaking from the dead is not common (Luke 16:19-31), but has occurred more than just this time (Mark 9:4).

16. How did Saul react to Samuel’s words?

- “Then Saul fell straightway all along on the earth, and was sore afraid, because of the words of Samuel: and there was no strength in him; for he had eaten no bread all the day, nor all the night” (I Samuel 28:20).

17. What did the woman with the familiar spirit do for Saul and his servants?

- “And the woman came unto Saul, and saw that he was sore troubled, and said unto him, Behold, thine handmaid hath obeyed thy voice, and I have put my life in my hand, and have hearkened unto thy words which thou spakest unto me. Now therefore, I pray thee, hearken thou also unto the voice of thine handmaid, and let me set a morsel of bread before thee; and eat, that thou mayest have strength, when thou goest on thy way. But he refused, and said, I will not eat. But his servants, together with the woman, compelled him; and he hearkened unto their voice. So he arose from the earth, and sat upon the bed. And the woman had a fat calf in the house; and she hasted, and killed it, and took flour, and kneaded it, and did bake unleavened bread thereof: And she brought it before Saul, and before his servants; and they did eat. Then they rose up, and went away that night” (I Samuel 28:21-25).

18. Were the princes of the Philistines happy that David and his men were with them as they were going to battle against Israel?

- No, they thought they could change sides midway and fight against the Philistines (I Samuel 29:1-5).

19. What did Achish have David do because of the princes of the Philistines?

- “Then Achish called David, and said unto him, Surely, as the LORD liveth, thou hast been upright, and thy going out and thy coming in with me in the host is good in my sight: for I have not found evil in thee since the day of thy coming unto me unto this day: nevertheless the lords favour thee not. Wherefore now return, and go in peace, that thou displease not the lords of the Philistines. And David said unto Achish, But what have I done? and what hast thou found in thy servant so long as I have been with thee unto this day, that I may not go fight against the enemies of my lord the king? And Achish answered and said to David, I know that thou art good in my sight, as an angel of God: notwithstanding the princes of the Philistines have said, He shall not go up with us to the battle. Wherefore now rise up early in the morning with thy master's servants that are come with thee: and as soon as ye be up early in the morning, and have light, depart. So David and his men rose up early to depart in the morning, to return into the land of the Philistines. And the Philistines went up to Jezreel” (I Samuel 29:6-11).

20. What did David and his men find when they came home?

- “And it came to pass, when David and his men were come to Ziklag on the third day, that the Amalekites had invaded the south, and Ziklag, and smitten Ziklag, and burned it with fire; And had taken the women captives, that were therein: they slew not any, either great or small, but carried them away, and went on their way. So David and his men came to the city, and, behold, it was burned with fire; and their wives, and their sons, and their daughters, were taken captives. Then David and the people that were with him lifted up their voice and wept, until they had no more power to weep” (I Samuel 30:1-4).

21. What did David do when the people wanted to stone him for what had occurred?

- “And David was greatly distressed; for the people spake of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters: but David encouraged himself in the LORD his God” (I Samuel 30:6).

22. What happens as a result of David following the Lord’s instructions?

- “And David enquired at the LORD, saying, Shall I pursue after this troop? shall I overtake them? And he answered him, Pursue: for thou shalt surely overtake them, and without fail recover all. So David went, he and the six hundred men that were with him, and came to the brook Besor, where those that were left behind stayed. But David pursued, he and four hundred men: for two hundred abode behind, which were so faint that they could not go over the brook Besor. And they found an Egyptian in the field, and brought him to David, and gave him bread, and he did eat; and they made him drink water; And they gave him a piece of a cake of figs, and two clusters of raisins: and when he had eaten, his spirit came again to him: for he had eaten no bread, nor drunk any water, three days and three nights. And David said unto him, To whom belongest thou? and whence art thou? And he said, I am a young man of Egypt, servant to an Amalekite; and my master left me, because three days ago I fell sick. We made an invasion upon the south of the Cherethites, and upon the coast which belongeth to Judah, and upon the south of Caleb; and we burned Ziklag with fire. And David said to him, Canst thou bring me down to this company? And he said, Swear unto me by God, that thou wilt neither kill me, nor deliver me into the hands of my master, and I will bring thee down to this company. And when he had brought him down, behold, they were spread abroad upon all the earth, eating and drinking, and dancing, because of all the great spoil that they had taken out of the land of the Philistines, and out of the land of Judah. And David smote them from the twilight even unto the evening of the next day: and there escaped not a man of them, save four hundred young men, which rode upon camels, and fled. And David recovered all that the Amalekites had carried away: and David rescued his two wives. And there was nothing lacking to them, neither small nor great, neither sons nor daughters, neither spoil, nor any thing that they had taken to them: David recovered all. And David took all the flocks and the herds, which they drave before those other cattle, and said, This is David's spoil” (I Samuel 30:8-20).

23. What happens when David came to the two hundred men who were so faint that they could not go to battle with their brethren?

- “And David came to the two hundred men, which were so faint that they could not follow David, whom they had made also to abide at the brook Besor: and they went forth to meet David, and to meet the people that were with him: and when David came near to the

people, he saluted them. Then answered all the wicked men and men of Belial, of those that went with David, and said, Because they went not with us, we will not give them ought of the spoil that we have recovered, save to every man his wife and his children, that they may lead them away, and depart. Then said David, Ye shall not do so, my brethren, with that which the LORD hath given us, who hath preserved us, and delivered the company that came against us into our hand. For who will hearken unto you in this matter? but as his part is that goeth down to the battle, so shall his part be that tarrieth by the stuff: they shall part alike. And it was so from that day forward, that he made it a statute and an ordinance for Israel unto this day” (I Samuel 30:21-25).

24. What happened to Saul, his three sons, his armor bearer, and all his men?

- “Now the Philistines fought against Israel: and the men of Israel fled from before the Philistines, and fell down slain in mount Gilboa. And the Philistines followed hard upon Saul and upon his sons; and the Philistines slew Jonathan, and Abinadab, and Malchishua, Saul's sons. And the battle went sore against Saul, and the archers hit him; and he was sore wounded of the archers. Then said Saul unto his armourbearer, Draw thy sword, and thrust me through therewith; lest these uncircumcised come and thrust me through, and abuse me. But his armourbearer would not; for he was sore afraid. Therefore Saul took a sword, and fell upon it. And when his armourbearer saw that Saul was dead, he fell likewise upon his sword, and died with him. So Saul died, and his three sons, and his armourbearer, and all his men, that same day together” (I Samuel 31:1-6).

25. What happened when the men of Israel that were on the other side of the valley, saw that the men of Israel fled, and that Saul and his sons were dead?

- “...They forsook the cities, and fled; and the Philistines came and dwelt in them” (I Samuel 31:7).

26. What did the Philistines do when they came to strip the slain, having found Saul and his three sons fallen in mount Gilboa?

- “And they cut off his head, and stripped off his armour, and sent into the land of the Philistines round about, to publish it in the house of their idols, and among the people. And they put his armour in the house of Ashtaroth: and they fastened his body to the wall of Bethshan” (I Samuel 31:9-10).

27. What happened when the inhabitants of Jabeshgilead heard of what the Philistines had done to Saul?

- “All the valiant men arose, and went all night, and took the body of Saul and the bodies of his sons from the wall of Bethshan, and came to Jabesh, and burnt them there. And they took their bones, and buried them under a tree at Jabesh, and fasted seven days” (I Samuel 31:12-13).