

# Saul Became David's Enemy

1 Sam 18:10-30

## 1 Sam 18:10

Saul is prophesying in the midst of his house.

he is praying with his family while David is playing with his harp.

**He prophesied:** to feign or pretend to do it.

Saul is pretending to prophesy.

Going through the motions of worship while at same time plotting in heart to murder.

## 1 Sam 18:11

**Matt Hen:** *David's troubles not only immediately follow his triumphs, but arise from them; such is the vanity of that which seems greatest in this world. ...observe the sweetness and usefulness of God's persecuted people, and the barbarity of their persecutors. But David's safety must be ascribed to God's providence.*

**Ivor Powell:** *Saul uttered words of gratitude and praise to Jehovah, but his heart was not in tune with what he said...As a man bereft of his senses, the king threw his javelin, but alas, he failed to recognize the impossibility of killing what God was determined to preserve*

## Saul's problem?

1 Sam 18:12-13 *And Saul was afraid of David, ...*

- Anger
- Suspicion.
- Fear

These emotions led to Irrational Reactions:

- Rage
- Uncontrollable **desire** to do away with the person
- Attack with intent to maim and destroy.

Promotion with a desire to appease self-incrimination.

- Saul removes David from his presence
- Saul appoints him as commander of a thousand.

Hidden agenda: Promote him to place where killed by Philistines.

## 1 Sam 18:14

**Behave:** To conduct oneself in a specified way.

**Wisely:** to be circumspect and hence intelligent. To deal prudently

**In all his ways:** In his paths, choices, decisions

**The LORD was with him.** God's presence was manifest in his life.

1 Sam 16:18 2 Sam 5:10

Joseph: Gen 39:3

Moses: Exo 34:5

Samuel: 1 Sam 3:19

Hezekiah: 2 Ki 18:7 1 Chr 9:20

Solomon: 2 Chr 1:1

John the Baptist: Luke 1:66

### 1 Sam 18:15

**Afraid**: guwr, goor; to shrink, to gather for, stand in awe, to dread.

**Matt H:** *For a long time David was kept in continual apprehension of falling by the hand of Saul, yet he persevered in meek and respectful behaviour towards his persecutor. How uncommon is such prudence and discretion, especially under insults and provocations! Let us inquire if we imitate this part of the exemplary character before us. Are we behaving wisely in all our ways? Is there no sinful omission, no rashness of spirit, nothing wrong in our conduct? Opposition and perverseness in others will not excuse wrong tempers in us, but should increase our care and attention to the duties of our station. Consider Him that endured contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be weary and faint in your minds, Hebrews 12:3. If David magnified the honour of being son-in-law to king Saul, how should we magnify the honour of being sons to the King of kings!*

Saul *dreaded* him but both Israel and Judah loved David (18:15-16).

Saul knew God had taken his Spirit from him and given it to David.

He knew that he had lost the blessings of God.

The effects of jealousy.

Becomes paranoid.

Life becomes filled with worry, fear, hatred, hostility.

Loses sight of purpose in life.

Instead of being able to lead Israel on to greater things Saul becomes tunnel-visioned.

As I read through this I can't help but think, I know the future of David and he doesn't, at this point. I imagine David doesn't have a clue. He has already been enrolled in 4 classes:

- Killing Giants 101--How to kill Giants and cut their heads off
- Music 101--How to play music with a good spirit while watching for flying javelins.
- Attitudes 101--How to handle misjudged motives and innuendoes while at the same time smiling.

- What's wrong with this picture 201--How to serve a man who wants you and needs you while at the same time desires to kill you.

**G.K. Chesterfield:** *the Christian ideal has not been tried and found wanting; it has been found difficult and left untried.*

**Swindoll:** *It's a lot easier to punch your enemy's lights out...to devise ways to fight back, to get even, because that satisfies your flesh. It's a lot easier to keep than to give, because that comes naturally. It's a lot easier to work up your own suspicion, and when he's not looking, whomp, get in your stroke. But that's not God's way...and that's not best.*

**Luke 6:28-36** *Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you...*

**1 Sam 18: 17-19... Saul said to David, Behold my elder daughter Merab, her will I give thee to wife—**

Convenient to forget promise to David.

**Jamiesson...***But the fickle and perfidious monarch broke his pledge at the time when the marriage was on the eve of being celebrated, and bestowed Merab on another man; an indignity as well as a wrong, which was calculated deeply to wound the feelings and provoke the resentment of David. Perhaps it was intended to do so, that advantage might be taken of his indiscretion. But David was preserved from this snare.*

**1 Sam 18: 20 Michal Saul's daughter loved David--**This must have happened some time after.

**they told Saul, and the thing pleased him—**Saul had his spies. They reported back to him concerning Michal...and David

*Saul saw that it would be turned to the advancement of his malicious purposes, and the more so when, by the artful intrigues and flattery of his spies, the loyal sentiments of David were discovered.*

**1 Sam 18:21-25**

**25. Dowry--**In Eastern countries the husband *purchases* his wife either by gifts or services.

King intimated that he would be pleased to accept some great deed

**a hundred foreskins of the Philistines—**Common practice in war to mutilate bodies of prisoners of war.

Saul knew this assignment was very dangerous.

Saul was hiding his malice and hatred.

**1 Sam 18:26... the days were not expired—**

The period within which this exploit was to be achieved was not past.  
The period before the appointed time for the delivery of the dowry and marriage

**1 Sam 18:27 David . . . slew of the Philistines two hundred men**

Number doubled—

Show respect and attachment to princess

Oblige Saul to the fulfillment of his pledge

**Full Tale:** number.

**1 Sam 18:28- 29. Saul was yet the more afraid of David**

God had publicly shown him favor.

By overthrowing the conspiracy against him

By taking him to the next step to the throne (marriage to daughter)

**1 Sam 18:30 ...so that his name was much set by.**

Greatly esteemed. Great reputation. Everybody knew of his character.

How did Saul handle his Feelings of Jealousy?

1. Didn't face Real Issues.
2. Didn't Yield himself to God
3. Didn't let others Help.
4. Didn't Share Feelings of Jealousy with David.

How David handle Saul's Jealousy?

He didn't Seek God.

For those experiencing this kind of jealousy

1. Have you faced real issues?
2. Have you yielded yourself to God for His Help? James 1:5
3. Have you allowed another Christian friend to help you?
4. Have you shared your feelings of jealousy with person?

What if another is Jealous of You?

1. Reevaluate motives
2. Seek Advice from another Mature Christian.
3. Pray for this person. Mat 5:44
4. Face problem with God's point of view Mat 7:3-5