

Living for Christ in a Fallen World

August 18, 2024

Pastor Mark Turner

1 Samuel 23:1-14; 15-29

Oak Community Church (PCA)

A Contrast of Saul and David

- Saul was supposed to be defending king but slaughtered Nob
- David, the outlaw, is protecting Keilah and God's people

A Rejection of David

- Keilah should have been grateful to David for deliverance
- BUT they would give David over to protect themselves
- David foreshadows Jesus the Savior also rejected ^{Lk8:26,37; Jn1:11}

Rejected but Not Abandoned

- David flees to wilderness of Ziph to protect Keilah
- Saul pursued David every day¹⁴
- God sent David his covenant friend, Jonathan¹⁶⁻¹⁸
- Jonathan should have been threatened by David
- Jonathan rose & went – ministry of presence, touch
- Jonathan went despite danger – Saul likely was watching
- Jonathan declared God's truth: *do not fear*
 - Same as: Abram^{Gen15:1}; Mary^{Lk1:30}
 - Jonathan pointed David to God's plan and truths!
- Encourage others^{Rom10:17; Col3:16; Rom8:28-29}
- If you need encouragement and think but I don't have it... then be at a Church where God's Word is preached weekly^{WLCQ155,159,160}
- Beware of American False Gospel - believe in yourself... Saul did...
- Sad note: last time David & Jonathan together on this earth^{15:31:2}

Does it Ever End?

- David now faces betrayal from Ziphites - his own tribe
- Sold him out to Saul
- Saul's false benediction²¹
- BUT David turned to God... proof Psalm 54!

God Delivers His Own

- Great scene for movie - Saul and David circling the mountain...
- Saul's great army vs. David's ragtag band...
- But God delivers providentially – Saul is called away!

The Christ in the Wilderness

- David has no home to go to... Jesus had none^{Mt8:20}
- 1 Samuel informed early church of Jesus as Suffering Servant
- Why must Christ suffer?
- If Christ came the 1st time in power and glory to sweep away all His enemies... then we would have been His enemy!
- In His grace and mercy, Jesus came as Suffering Servant to redeem His own... Judgement fell at His 1st coming, but Jesus took it upon Himself! 2 Cor 5:21
- When Christ comes again in glory – we can joyfully look forward to His return and His reign rather than face judgment!

We Suffer Like Christ

- In the meantime how do we endure suffering?
- Remember we are called to suffer like Christ^{1Pet2:21; Jn 15:20-21}
- David mistreated for 20 years before glory in 1 Samuel
- Be like apostles *rejoicing that you are counted worthy to suffer*^{Act5:41}
- Don't suffer for sinning^{1Pet4:15} and being a jerk
- Entrust yourself to God's Hands^{1Pet4:19}
- Remember the Gospel - not by your works^{Titus3:5-7} by grace through faith^{Eph2:8-10} in Christ alone!