

Doing Things God's Way

August 25, 2024
1 Samuel 24:1-22

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Setting the Scene

- Saul called off pursuing David^{1S23:27}, but now has returned...
- David has to be getting weary of being pursued
- David is now in the wilderness of Engedi – shepherd's country

Everybody's Got to Go... Even Kings

- Saul had to relieve himself^{Egdon-Judge3:24} ... he chose David's cave
- David's men see this as providential
- Likely misapplied^{1S23:4}. Beware - many misapply God's word
- David stealthily cuts the corner off Saul's robe

What is the big deal?

- Robe is significant
 - Hannah made a robe for Samuel each year^{1S2:19}
 - Saul seized Samuel's robe after rejection and it tore^{1S15:28}
 - Jonathan stripped himself of robe and gave it to David^{1S18:4}
 - Cutting the robe was significant!
 - David couldn't take David's life - 'tore up'⁷ his men
- David refused to take what God had not yet given him
 - David's heart was convicted⁵ - he could have killed Saul
 - David respected God's anointed^{Ex22:28}, though rejected^{13:14;15:26}
 - David:sensitive conscience, Saul:seared conscience^{1Tim4:2}
 - Conscience given^{Rom2:14-15} so we might trust God's Word
- To have healthy conscience - trust Jesus^{Heb9:11-14}; use Word^{2Ti3:15}

David's Appeal

- David is gracious and respectful⁸. Prudent in speech^{1S16:18}
- Gives Saul an out... I also almost listened to bad advice⁶⁻⁷...
- Relational gentle words *my father*
- David makes Saul ask good questions¹¹⁻¹⁴

Saul's Confession

- Saul is undone¹⁶ by David's grace, gentleness and kindness^{Rom2:4}
- Saul admits before all that David was honorable, he wasn't
- Saul admits David will indeed be king²⁰ - truth
- Saul is passionate and superficial - worried about self (his house)
- David honors due to his previous covenant with Jonathan^{20:14-15}

God's Way or Our Way?

- The Cave of Engedi is one of David's spiritual pinnacles
- David trusted God's way, not his own way
- You are often given Cave of Engedi tests: God's way or your way?
- Will you cut their robe or their throat? Your way or God's way?
- David's experiences to point us to Jesus Christ the Anointed One
- Jesus tested^{Mt4:8-9} Take the crown & skip the pain of the cross!
- Similar result **except** Jesus would not have redeemed His elect!
- Beware of false gospels of this age...
- God saves us by faith alone in Christ alone by grace alone!
- David writes of the wonder of the Gospel of Grace^{Psalms37:1-9}