

FIRST SAMUEL STUDY

CHAPTER 18:1-30

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“FRIENDS AND FOES IN THE FAITH” – PART 1

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Loyalty, Friendship, Unity, Adversity

INTRODUCTION to the text:

1 Samuel 18:1-30

I cannot think of a better life to live than that of the Christian life. It is a life that is filled with friends and relationships. But out of them all, there are a few, maybe one or two relationships in life that God has specially ordained to bring out the best in a person.

When, however, our life relationships become so important, the type of relationships that are the direct opposite come against you as well. In ministry, there are great highs and deplorable lows.

Paul Knew This too Well

2 Timothy 4:10-11

for Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world, and has departed for Thessalonica-- Crescens for Galatia, Titus for Dalmatia. 11 Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me for ministry.

2 Timothy 4:16

At my first defense no one stood with me, but all forsook me. May it not be charged against them.

FRIENDS AND FOES IN THE FAITH

1.) *It's a matter of the Soul*

vv. 1-4

a.) *There will be a “Commonality of Pursuits”*

1 Now when he had finished speaking to Saul, the **soul** of Jonathan was knit to the **soul** of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.

“Knit”

Now when he, (David) had finished speaking to Saul,

Giving Saul a full report of how and why this battle turned...

It is no doubt that David gave God the glory
and Jonathan heard it.

“Philadelphia” Is the word in the Greek language.

A Deep and United Love, A Love that is Transcending!

It rises above the common things of life

The Love of True Friends

The Commonality of Pursuits

was a Life of Faith in God.

Both Jonathan and David “Loved God”,
That Was, He was, Their Common Pursuit.

b.) There will be a “Glad Commitment”

2 Saul took him that day, and would not let him go home to his father's house anymore. 3 Then Jonathan and David **made a covenant**, because he, (Jonathan) loved him, (David) as his own soul.

They Literally “Cut” a Covenant.

They took an animal and reverently placed their hands upon that animal and made a Covenant between them both...

- Jonathan was of a Royal Place and Position
 - David was a humble shepherd
 - Jonathan lived in a Palace
 - David dwelt in a Tent

But it was Their Relationship Toward God that Brought Them Together.

c.) There will be a “Willing Sacrifice”

4 And Jonathan took off **the robe** that was on him and gave it to David, with **his armor**, even to **his sword** and **his bow** and **his belt**.

The Magnitude of Jonathan's Act

Jonathan was the Heir to the Throne by Birth and by Right

THE Robe was the heirs robe

THE Armor / **THE** Sword / **THE** Bow / **THE** Belt

THESE WERE ITEMS ESPECIALLY CREATED FOR THE HEIR OF THE THRONE

FRIENDS AND FOES IN THE FAITH

2.) *It's an Issue of the Heart*

vv. 5-16

a.) *A Godly Heart is an Attractive Thing*

5 So David went out wherever Saul sent him, and **behaved wisely**. And Saul set him over the men of war, and he **was accepted in the sight of all the people** and also in the sight of **Saul's servants**. 6 Now it had happened as they were coming home, when David was returning from the slaughter of the Philistine, that the women had come out of all the cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet King Saul, with tambourines, with joy, and with musical instruments. 7 So the women sang as they danced, and said: "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands."

David behaved wisely.

He was under control in "thought" and "deed".

The Decisions You and I Make
Reveal what kind of people we really are.

Are they quick and off the cuff?

Or

Are they prayed over and well thought through?

Exodus 15:1-2

Then Moses and the children of Israel sang this song to the LORD, and spoke, saying: "I will sing to the LORD, for He has triumphed gloriously! The horse and its rider he has thrown into the sea! 2 The LORD is my strength and song, and He has become my salvation; he is my God, and I will praise Him; my father's God, and I will exalt Him.

b.) *A Godly Heart will Have its Enemies*

This Godly Character
Will Naturally Generate Enemies

8 Then Saul was **very angry**, and the saying **displeased him**; and he said, "They have ascribed to David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed only thousands. Now what more can he have but the kingdom?"

Saul's Hidden Nature Becomes Obvious

Problems and Difficulties will Always Reveal what a Man is Made of.

***You Don't Have a Real Friend
Until they have seen you at your worst.***

Saul's Fangs Begin to Show

9 So Saul eyed David from that day forward.

So Saul eyed (fixed with jealousy) David from that day forward.

When Your Eyes are Off of God and Onto Man
You will become grossly "Insecure".

10 And it happened on the next day that the distressing spirit from God came upon Saul, and he prophesied (a babbling rage) inside the house. So David played music with his hand, as at other times; but there was a spear in Saul's hand.

He went into a Rage, He Then Threw Accusations

A Humbling Moment for David

After the singing - David got the Point

11 And Saul cast the spear, for he said, "I will pin David to the wall!" But David escaped his presence - twice.

12 Now Saul was afraid of David, because the LORD was with him, but had departed from Saul.

A Man on the Way Up

Is a man growing in the Grace of God.

There will be an instrument of healing in your hands and mouth and heart like David.

A Man on the Way Down

Is a man who is insecure and throwing spears, words, and jealousy like Saul – Wielding An Instrument of War?

David Got the Point. He was Spear-it-led To get out of there.

c.) A Godly Heart will be Friendly

13 Therefore Saul removed him from his presence, and made him his captain over a thousand; and he went out and came in before the people. 14 And David behaved wisely in all his ways, and the LORD was with him. 15 Therefore, when Saul saw that he behaved very wisely, he was afraid of him. 16 But all Israel and Judah loved David, because he went out and came in before them.

He went out and came in before them.

David was a man who enjoyed being himself among the people.

No hypocrisy in him

He Trusted God. He Lived for God. He Sought God's Heart.
He was a Man of God.

Hey Man, Do you want to be a man of God?

Trust God / Live for God / Seek After God

(Don't be surprised if other people will want to be your friend)

Trust God / Live for God / Seek After God

I Want That Kind of Friend in my Life Because I want to become like them.

“he went out and came in before **them**”

He was with the people. They knew him. They loved him

Religious Circles are Dangerous:

- When church staff avoids the fellowship of the congregation.
- When the man who stands in the Pulpit is not a Pastor.

There are many teachers in the pulpit,

Who are not pastors. They're called pastors and they're paid like pastors,

“but being with “**them**” – the people, isn't going to happen.

In Your Life

Do you have ministry in common or do you have God's people in common?
God would have us have His People in Common.

FRIENDS AND FOES IN THE FAITH

3.) *It's Being of a Sound Mind*

vv. 17-30

a.) *Mindful of Who we Really are*

17 Then Saul said to David, "Here is my older daughter Merab; I will give her to you as a wife. Only be valiant for me, and fight the LORD'S battles." For Saul thought, "Let my hand not be against him, but let the hand of the Philistines be against him." 18 So David said to Saul, "**Who am I, and what is my life or my father's**

family in Israel, that I should be son-in-law to the king?" 19 But it happened at the time when Merab, Saul's daughter, should have been given to David, that she was given to Adriel the Me-ho-la-thite as a wife.

"Who am I, and what is my life or my father's family in Israel,

b.) *Mindful of the Things of God*

20 Now Michal, Saul's daughter, loved David. And they told Saul, and the thing pleased him. 21 So Saul said, "I will give her to him, that she may be a snare to him, and that the hand of the Philistines may be against him." Therefore Saul said to David a second time, "You shall be my son-in-law today." 22 And Saul commanded his servants, "Communicate with David secretly, and say, 'Look, the king has delight in you, and all his servants love you. Now therefore, become the king's son-in-law.'" 23 So Saul's servants spoke those words in the hearing of David. And David said, "Does it seem to you a light thing to be a king's son-in-law, seeing I am a poor and lightly esteemed man?" 24 And the servants of Saul told him, saying, "In this manner David spoke."

25 Then Saul said, "Thus you shall say to David: 'The king does not desire any dowry but one hundred foreskins of the Philistines, to take vengeance on the king's enemies.'" But Saul thought to make David fall by the hand of the Philistines. 26 So when his servants told David these words, it pleased David well to become the king's son-in-law. Now the days had not expired;

c.) *Mindful of the Power of God*

27 therefore David arose and went, he and his men, and killed two hundred men of the Philistines. And David brought their foreskins, and they gave them in full count to the king, that he might become the king's son-in-law. Then Saul gave him Michal his daughter as a wife. 28 Thus Saul saw and knew that the LORD was with David, and that Michal, Saul's daughter, loved him; 29 and Saul was still more afraid of David. So Saul became David's enemy continually. 30 Then the princes of the Philistines went out to war. And so it was, whenever they went out, that David behaved more wisely than all the servants of Saul, so that his name became highly esteemed.

Final Words on Friendship

I John 1:7

But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.