

1 Samuel Lesson 42 David Continues His Flight and Saul has the Priests Slain Part 2

Key Themes in 1 Samuel

- The connection between our obedience and our relationship to God
- God opposes the proud and exalts the humble
- Despite human evil, God is working out His purposes in history
- Kingship in Israel and God's plan to one day raise up an anointed divine king

Read 1 Samuel 22: 9-23

In the last lesson Saul was holding court under a tamarisk tree in Gibeah. When he heard that David had returned to Judah, he accused his men of siding with David and conspiring against him.

1. Upon hearing Saul's accusation, what did Doeg the Edomite say to Saul in 1 Samuel 22:9-10? According to 22:11 what did Doeg's words cause Saul to do?

2. According to 22:11:15 there followed a dialogue between Saul and the priest Ahimelech when the priest arrived. Compare the way Saul addressed and treated the priest with the way the priest addressed and treated Saul? What part of Saul's accusations were true and which were false? What sins are committed by Saul?

3. Saul first ordered his men to kill the priests and they refused. What did this show of their regard for Yahweh? In contrast how did Doeg's actions reveal his regard for Yahweh? We are told in scripture to submit to the authority that God has placed over us. When is it alright to disobey that authority? See Acts 5:29.

Application: What does Saul's order to attack and kill God's priests say about his true feelings and regard for the Lord? How does this order further reveal Saul's decline into sin and depravity? How can this serve as a warning for us?

4. In 22:20 we read that only one of the priests escaped? Who was it and where did he flee? How do you see God's providential hand working in this? What did David gain from this? What did Saul's murderous orders cause him to lose or forfeit?

5. According to 1 Samuel 22:22 how did David react to the killing of the priests? What does this reveal about David? In 22:23 what did David offer the priest?

6. **Application:** How can you relate any or all of the 4 key themes to this portion of scripture?