

God Helps the Godly, Always!

by Dan Jenkins

The account of David's flight from King Saul is filled with vivid description of just how much hate the king had for the son of Jesse. First Samuel chapters 22 and 23 give such great insight in the hearts of the first two kings of Israel. Had it not been for the friendship of Jonathan with David, the life David might have ended and the history of Israel would have been so different.

The evil King Saul called the priests of God to his side, and when he learned of how they had added David in his flight he killed eighty-five priests. He then entered Nob, one of the cities given to the priests by God and slaughtered men, women, children, infants and their animals. He was determined to kill David, no matter what was the cost.

David fled city to city and even foreign nations. He sought refuge in Keilah only to have Saul pursue him there. David left that city and thought he had found his place of refuge in forest near Ziph, but the people offered to deliver David to Saul. What hope could anyone have at a time like this?

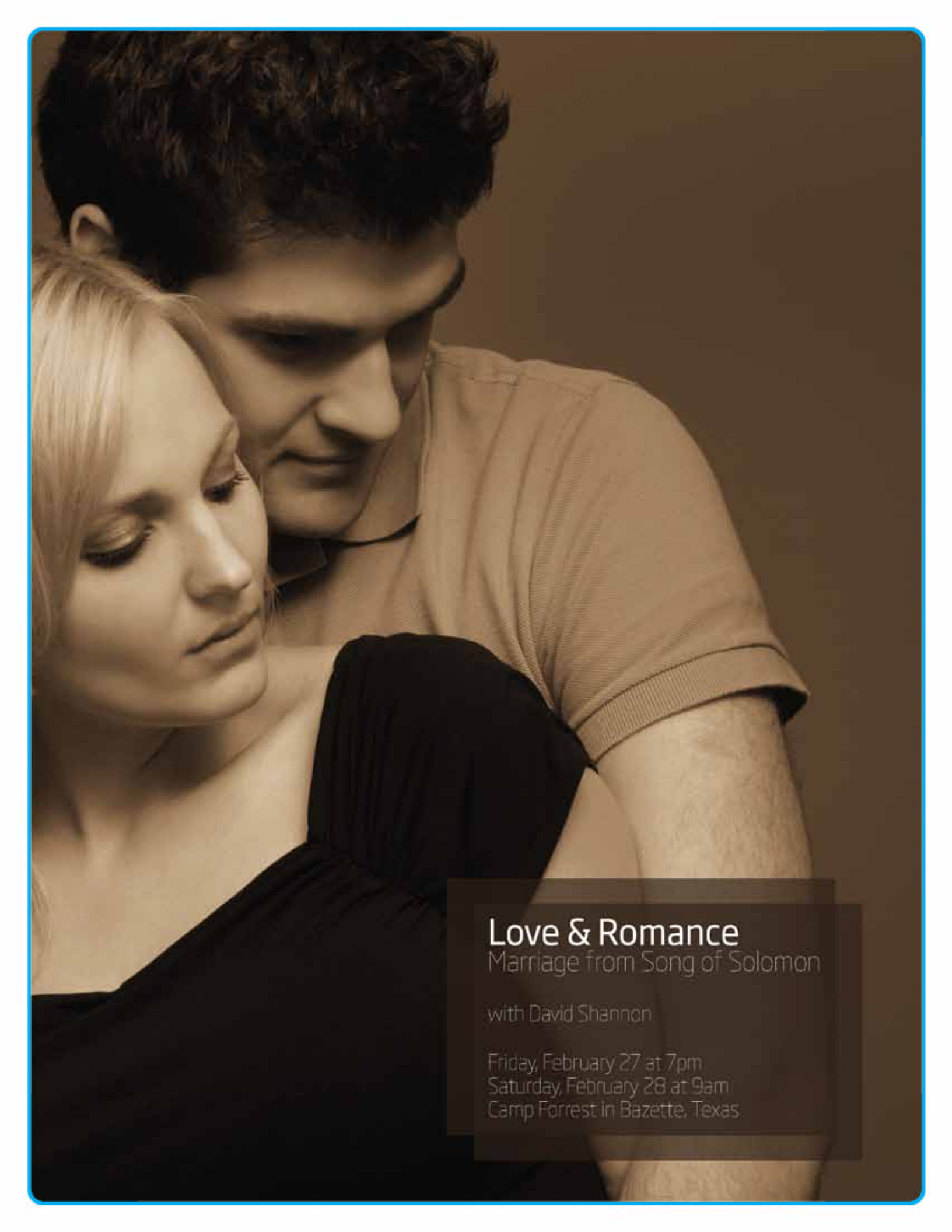
The answer lies in the psalm David penned as he fled from Ziph. Read those seven verses in Psalm 54 and learn from this man how God helps. See his faith. Read it again when life has crumbled around you. Let his words become your words.

Hear his words. He saw God as his Savior and the One who would vindicate him (v. 1). He saw God

as the One who would hear his prayers and answer them (v. 2). He understood his situation but knew there was no way his enemies would prevail, for God was not in the forefront of their lives (v. 3). God was his Helper and stood with those who stood with David (v. 4). He knew God would repay his enemies and separate them from Him (v. 5). He knew that his response to God's presence was a heart filled with the joy of worship and praise (v. 6). He looked at all the adversity he had just endured, and this gave him confidence that victory would belong to him.

What's happening in your life? I guarantee you that it is not nearly as bad as David's was when he wrote this psalm. Whatever it is, whether the adversity is one in your life or one that you may face in the future, rest assured that these words of David will help you. You may not need to memorize this psalm in its entirety, but let these words feed your soul. Let them become the expression of your heart. If we want to people after God's own heart, then the words of David need to become our words.

By the way, you do know the rest of this story, don't you? Saul was thwarted in his attempts to kill David. Saul's life ended in a most tragic way. The victory has never belonged to the ungodly, for our God never forsakes His children

A romantic close-up photograph of a man and a woman. The man, with dark curly hair, is leaning in and kissing the woman on the cheek. The woman has blonde hair and is looking down with a soft expression. They are both wearing simple, casual clothing. The lighting is warm and intimate, creating a soft glow around their faces.

Love & Romance

Marriage from Song of Solomon

with David Shannon

Friday, February 27 at 7pm

Saturday, February 28 at 9am

Camp Forrest in Bazette, Texas

Correspondence/Encouragement

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Mission Works

Westhill Works

Benevolence Program - Dickie Russell

Local Works

Cherokee Children's Home - Delton McGuire, Director
Preaching Students - Southwest School of Bible Studies
The Truth in Love - www.ttil.tv

Prison Works

La Poynor Prison Ministry - Steve & Carrie Handley

Foreign Works

New Zealand Harvest Missions - James & Emily Cammock

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Prayer List

Bill Abercrombie has been struggling with his health recently and needs our prayers.

Bud Moore will have an angioplasty this Wednesday, Feb. 18 at Baylor Heart Hospital.

Brenda Russell, Anita Hawkins' sister, will begin chemo treatments soon.

Meagan Gould's PET scan showed 2 areas of slight cancer. They are planning treatment.

Melissa Armstrong, Cecil & Pat Ellis' daughter, is improving. She has regained some movement.

Dalton McCullough, grandson of Roy & Sandra McCullough, will have serious brain surgery this Tuesday, February 17.

Continue to Remember: Don Bowen, Melba & Eleanor Bower, Jo Ann Chambers, Bobby Compton, Bonnie Ellison, Gayle Garner, Velma McDougald, Ruth Moore, Henry & Eula Parrish, Irene Ross, Jan Ross, Helen Strange, Robby Thomas, Pat Wheat, Alyce Barnes, Earlean Bailey.

Service Men: Clay Bayes, Jason Book, Alston Compton, Robert Johnson, Josh Moehring, Ryan Payne, Devin Peterson, Douglas Ramsey, Ryan Stewart, Morgan Weaver, Payton Weaver, and Kye White.

Announcements

"It is Such a Blessing to be part of the Westhill family! Thank all of you so much for your care and concern while I've been ailing. The food was great; cards and calls uplifting; and, most of all, your prayers worked! Hopefully I'm through with doctors for a while." Love you, Billie Thomas

"Thank You for the cards, visits, food and expressions of sympathy during the brief illness and passing of my Mother, May Dell Cypert. It was so comforting to our family to have our friends from Westhill attend her services in Hillsboro. Thank you." The family of May Dell Cypert, Carl Max & Carolyn Bennett

Our Love & Sympathy are extended to Cecil & Pat Ellis at the passing of Cecil's father, Odis Ellis. Please, keep their family in your prayers.

Gospel Singing Saturday February 21 at 7:00 pm at the Shiloh Church of Christ in Mexia. Bring your voice and favorite request and join us.

Our Annual Couple's Retreat is Feb. 27-28. Any married couples interested in driving out for these lessons (the rooms are all booked), see Brent or Lanette Stewart.

Colleyville Ladies' Day Saturday, February 28. Lieh Brumback will be speaking on "Wait Upon the Lord." Breakfast and registration begin at 8:30 and lunch will be provided. Summer Haffner will speak in a special session for the Jr. High & High School girls. RSVP at 817.281.1681

Birthdays This Week:

- February 15 - Don Ivy, Ann Massey
- February 17 - Shirley Bowen, Justin Williams
- February 18 - Ovie Mahoney (102)
- February 20 - Roy McCullough, Cory Tackett
- February 21 - Myrna Haufe, Lanette Stewart

Next Week's Bible Class

Judges 6-8
Gideon: Mighty Man of Valor

Records for February 8, 2015

Bible Class	169
AM Worship	251
PM Worship	136
Wednesday	152
Contribution	\$8,458.25

Privileged to Serve

Song Leader	David Baumgartner
Opening Prayer	Darwin Thomas
Communion Leader	Don Ivy
Communion Servers	
Bryan Bearden	Dan Gibson
Wade Hall	Zack Lewis
David Mahoney	Gene McDougald
Buck Murphy	Rick Newton
Aubrey Parrish	Wayne Prater
Austin Roughton	Robby Thomas
Bronny Watson	
Closing Prayer	David Shastid
Nursery	Kerri Barham & Sheri Bayes
PM Song Leader	Mark Blaylock
PM Opening Prayer	James Olsen
PM Closing Prayer	James Welch
Wed. Song Leader	David Dilbeck
Wed. Devo	Percell Milton
February Contact Elder	Percell Milton - 903.673.1819