

Cat and Mouse, part one
1 Samuel 23-24
Pastor Ben Tacoma

Historical Narrative

Who, what, where, and why?

Save the city of Keilah, betrayed by Keilah
Hide in Ziph, betrayed by Ziph
Visit from Jonathan!
Hide in Maon, almost die in Maon
Hide in En-gedi, chance to kill Saul in En-gedi!
Show Saul mercy, Saul gives up the chase! (for now)

The Will of God

David *seeks* God's will through prayer and priest.
Saul *assumes* God's will based on circumstances.

When do circumstances reveal God's will?

*Are they confirmed by God's Holy Word, God's Holy people, and/or
God's Holy Spirit?*

If 1 of those- eh, maybe. If 2 of those- probably. If 3 of those- yes!

AVOID ASSUMING GOD'S WILL based on superstitious, romantic, or sentimental notions. More often than not, that's just our own inner desires (fantasies) seeing what we want to see- not God.

AVOID ASSUMING GOD'S WILL based on appearances. Appearances can be deceiving- if you think something is God's will
DOUBLE CHECK (Go to the Word/Church/Spirit)

Fiery Coals **Deut. 32:35; Romans 12:19-21**

David's men judge God's will based on circumstances...
And David rushed in and made an error (Exodus 22:28)
But he recovered splendidly!

David disavows revenge against Saul.
Saul, as God's anointed, is not David's to remove.
David leaves Saul for God to deal with (!!!)
David waits on God's timing, on God's will

David's mercy pours fiery coals of shame on Saul, giving Saul a moment of perfect clarity and ending the chase (for now)

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The Samuel Challenge

During the week read 1 Samuel 25 and answer these questions:

Historical Narrative:

What are the time, place, people, and circumstance?

Has it changed from the previous section?

Is it connected to the previous passage?

Theological Revelations:

What does God say in this text?

What does God do in this text?

What is God like based on this text?

Models of faithfulness:

Are there models of faithfulness in this text?

What do they say?

What do they do?

What are they like?

Are there any New Testament passages that affirm that we should also say, act, or be like this as Christians?

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