

Life of David

A Man After God's Own Heart

Jonathan Chooses David

- David fled from Samuel's school at Naioth in Ramah [1 Sam 20:1].
 - Saul's attempts to kill David had been thwarted, but he was still trying.
 - David contacted Jonathan and asked him to explain why Saul was trying to kill him.
 - He specifically wanted to know what charge Saul could possibly have against him.
- Jonathan knew of no such plan to kill David, so he denied its existence [1 Sam 20:2].
- David assured Jonathan on no uncertain terms that Saul was trying to kill him [1 Sam 20:3].
- Jonathan made the conscious choice to side with David and help him in whatever way he needed [1 Sam 20:4].
- David devised a plan to help reveal Saul's intentions [1 Sam 20:5-7].
 - David would hide himself in the field [v. 5].
 - When Saul asked about David's absence, Jonathan would tell Saul that David had asked to go to Bethlehem for the yearly sacrifice [v. 6].
 - Saul's reaction would show Jonathan where Saul's heart truly was [v. 7].
- David reminded Jonathan of their previous covenant and asked Jonathan to personally carry out his execution (if called for) rather than turn him over to his father [1 Sam 20:8].
- Jonathan was outraged at David's suggestion and assured him that he would reveal any evil intent of his father [1 Sam 20:9].
- David was not sure how he would be notified, so Jonathan devised a plan [1 Sam 20:10-23].
 - Whatever the outcome, Jonathan wanted the Lord to be with David [v. 13].
 - In this discussion, Jonathan made a covenant with the house of David [vv. 15-17].
 - Jonathan declared that the Lord would be between him and David forever [v. 23 cf. v. 42].
- When Saul became aware of Jonathan's involvement in David's absence, he was moved to attack Jonathan [1 Sam 20:24-33].
 - Saul became angry with Jonathan [v. 30].
 - His anger invoked disdain for his wife [v. 30].
 - Saul demanded David be brought to him [v. 31].
 - Jonathan stated David's innocence [v. 32].
 - This prompted Saul to try to kill Jonathan [v. 33].
- Jonathan became fiercely angry with his father because of his complete disrespect for David [1 Sam 20:34].
- Jonathan then notified David of his father's intent according to the plan [1 Sam 20:35-40].
- Before David departed, he and Jonathan said their tearful goodbyes [1 Sam 20:41-42].