

I. INTRO. 19:1-30:31, Saul pursues David.

TEXT

II. 19:1-27:4, SAUL PURSUES DAVID. 25:1-27:4, FROM PURSUIT TO QUITTING

- A. 25:1, Samuel dies
- B. 25:2-44, Saul's momentary lapse of reasoning
1. 2-11, David protects Nabal but Nabal spurns David
 2. 12-13, David prepares to take vengeance
 3. 14-31, Abigail reasons with David. N.B.: 31, *this will not cause grief...having avenged himself*
 4. 32-35, David repents
 5. 36-38, The Lord repays Nabal for his evil
 6. 39-44, David marries Abigail
- C. 26:1-25, Saul pursues David but, upon David mercifully sparing Saul's life again, Saul repents
1. 1-2, Saul pursues David in Ziph
 2. 3-13, David spares Saul's life
 - a) 3-11, David refuses to kill the Lord's anointed. N.B.: 10, *The Lord will strike him...*
 - b) 12-13, David takes Saul's spear and water jug and leaves
 3. 14-25, David and Saul speak
 - a) 14, David calls
 - b) 15-16, David chastises Abner
 - c) 17a, Saul recognizes David's voice
 - d) 17b-20, David urges Saul to quit pursuing David. N.B.:
 - e) 19, *If The Lord...but if it is men...*
 - f) 19, *Go, serve other gods*
 - g) 20, *Do not let my blood fall to the ground away from the presence of The Lord*
 4. 21-25, Saul repents and they both go their way
- D. 27:1-4, David realizes that Saul is not going to stop pursuing him, and "retires" to the land of the Philistines, when Saul quits pursuing David

- Re. ch. 25: Mistreated everywhere David goes! But David never gives up on God ill. Teflon: nothing sticks to David to pull him down!
- Re. ...26:21-27:1: **Never trust someone who is obsessed/unreasonable.** (Re. "Love hopes/believes all things" until something is proven/someone proves themselves unworthy of trust: Innocent as doves, but wise as serpents.)
- Re. chs. 24, 26: **Always completely trust God!**
 - N.B.: 24:4, open to interpretation so not explicit and David was not sure.
 - N.B.: 23:...27-28!
 - Cf. 24:6-7, 26:9-10. Cf. ...31:1-6. Also. 25:...36-38.
 - N.B.: At times, not taking matters into your own hands may be the demonstration of ultimate stupidity —eg. when God has told you to act and you do not, at other times not taking matters into your own hands is the ultimate demonstration of faith —when re. some seeming blessing God has not specifically told you specifically to act!
- **Always be aware that we tend to be inconsistent!** Cf. Chs. 24 and 26 w. 25! Environment might have something to do with it: years of "the same old same old" from Saul ct. one moment from Nabal. Pt. Don't look at the person/persecutor, look at the persecution.
- Re. ch. 25, ct. Ruth: This is a real romance. ;-).
 - Observation: **The Bible is great literature!** So is Tolstoy, etc.!
 - Pt. The Bible is not just great literature, it is God's power to save!
 - Cf. Kirsten Powers to her mother upon her mother saying "That's nice. Learn about another culture, etc.", "I believe it."
 - Pt.: Let them know [a] it's more than just great literature and [b] you believe it!
- Re. Nabal: Who wants that rep.? Maybe some already have it: wife is wiser, more compassionate, more in tune with the Lord's will (30), etc.? Re. Nabal dying and Abigail going to someone more worthy, cf. Amy S.?
- Re. *Samuel died* (25:1): What was Israel/David to do? Some pack it in. Cf. The Army Of The Lord (#16)

III. 27:5-12, DAVID IN THE LAND OF THE PHILISTINES

- A. 5-6, David receives Ziklag
- B. 7-12, David raids the Philistines.
 - 1. 8-9, *Geshurites...Girzites...Amalekites* (south, toward E. border, cf. ESVSB).
 - 2. 10, *...Jerahmeelites...Kenites*

IV. 28:1-31:13, SAUL'S FINAL DAYS

- A. 28:1-25, Saul's depravity and despondency
 - 1. 1-2, the Philistines prepare to war against Israel... and David prepares to go with them
 - 2. 3-6, Saul seeks The Lord but is not answered
 - 3. 7-25, Saul goes to a medium
 - a) 7-14, the medium brings up Samuel
 - b) 15-19, Samuel tells Saul he and his family would die and the Philistines would conquer Israel
 - c) 20-25, Saul is despondent
- B. 29:1-30:31, David providential care, success, and politics
 - a) 29:1-11, the Philistines reject David from "helping" them. Re. 29:5 (21:11), *Is this not David, of whom they sing...: Interaction between nations: And if know about David, could know about LOM.*
 - N.B.: Later when David becomes king!
 - 2. 30:1-2, the Amalekites attack Ziklag
 - 3. 30:3-8, David seeks instruction from The Lord
 - 4. 30:9-20, David rescues all
 - 5. 30:21-31, David's politics
 - a) 21-25, diplomacy among his own ranks
 - b) 26-31, diplomacy within Israel
- C. 31:1-13, Saul and Jonathan die. N.B.: Parallel account: 1 Chron. 10:13-14. (Re. *did not inquire of the Lord*, seems to refer to insincerity, cf. 1 Sm. 14:18 w. 1 Chron. 13:3. Also 1 Chron. 28:9. Also, in 1 Sm. 28:6, #7592, while in 1 Chron. 10:15, #1875, "two different words of diverse meaning." Haley.

- Re. 27:...8-9: **Never let someone else stop you from doing God's work** —even if you have to do it some place else!
 - (Eg. 3 Jn 10.)
 - Cf. 29:1-30:20. N.B.: A worker will always find work. Or should we say, God will always find work for workers.
- Re. ...29:6-9: **How easily we can be duped!** A check to our confidence.
 - So should we never "judge" another? Eg. "You are judging X, but you never know for sure what Y himself might be doing (eg. Saul, 28:3 w. 8)." Ans. 1 Tm. 5:24-25, cf. "hidden reefs" (Jd. 12).
 - N.B.: Achish might not have known David, but God did!
- Re. 30:6a (cf. ...27:2): **People are fickle!**
 - Don't put your trust in people; *The Lord your God is the one that goes with you. He will not fail you for forsake you*, cf. Dt. 31:6, 8!
 - When your person turns fickle... *David strengthened himself in the Lord his God* (30:6b), cf. Ps. 4 (Reese).

- Re. the witch at Endor (ch. 28):
 - **Even if someone has the power to communicate with the dead...**
 - **Nothing changes for me:** Gal. 5:20 (φαρμακεία); 2 Tm. 3:16-17 (2 Pe. 1:3; Dt. 29:29ab)
 - The issue in going to them is (1) sin and (2) lack of faith.
 - The issue is, did this woman do what she did by her own power or someone/thing else's power?
 - Nothing seems to indicate it was by her own power.
 - She was shocked at something.
 - At first she did not know who Saul was; only after the experience did she know: it was revealed to her; she didn't discover it by her own power.
 - She didn't even really know who/what Samuel was.
 - Totally passive in all this!
 - N.B.: What did Saul expect Samuel to say?
 - Samuel, beyond temptation, could only say what God allowed him to say (like Balaam, but even more).
 - N.B.: Samuel only repeated what Saul already knew. What was new was "bad" news. N.B.: That Saul never repented emphasizes his depravity/that he deserved to die.
 - **N.B.: There is the compliance of convenience and the compliance of obedience:**
 - "Comply": "act in accordance with a wish or command" (OAD)
 - Saul complied... until he needed one.
- Re. Saul's death: David was right (26:10). **Trust God!**
- Re. Saul's death and Israel's captivity: Cf. 8:8: **Be content with God's plan!**
- N.B.: What a sad ending. Did it have to end this way? Thanks to God's grace, **only we decide what our ending will be!**