

1 SAMUEL 20; April 4; Jonathan's Covenant With David

ANALYSIS:

1. Who said these words: "As thy soul liveth, there is but a step between me and death," and why did he say it? _____

2. What excuse did David ask Jonathan to give to Saul to explain why David was absent from a feast? _____

3. How did Saul receive this explanation of David's absence?

4. What was the means Jonathan used to signal to David that Saul was still planning to kill David and that he should leave?

5. What were the final parting words Jonathan spoke to David?

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

Jonathan, as the heir to the throne being King Saul's son, however, is neither jealous nor envious of David. In fact, his selfless love of David proves his noble character worthy of being the king. But he had learned to accept God's choice of David as the next king instead of himself. He risked receiving his father's fierce wrath and endangered himself by trying to reason with his father about David's innocence. Saul shamefully rebuked Jonathan for his sterling efforts to turn his father back to righteousness. Jonathan's righteous indignation is expressed at his father's unjust and shameful treatment of David.

"If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified." 1 Pet 4:14.

HELP:

1. David (v 3). Because Saul had been hunting David to kill him (19:11-22; 20:1)

2. David had asked permission of Jonathan to run to Bethlehem for a yearly sacrifice with his family (v 6).

3. Saul's anger was kindled against Jonathan and he cast a javelin at Jonathan (vs 30-33).

4. Jonathan would shoot an arrow near where David was hiding, and tell the lad who went after the arrow, "Is not the arrow beyond thee?" (20-22; 36-37).

5. Go in peace ... The LORD be between me and thee, and between my seed and thy seed for ever (v 42).