

SERIES: PROPHETS, PRIESTS AND KINGS

Godly leadership in the house of God and the heart of the believer

TITLE: David: The Heart of the Matter is that the Heart Matters

TEXT: 1 SAMUEL 15-31; Psalms, 1 Chronicles

David: The Heart of the Matter is that the Heart Matters

1 Samuel 13:14; Acts 13:22

¹⁴ But now your kingdom will not endure; the LORD has sought out a man after his own heart and appointed him ruler of his people, because you have not kept the LORD's command."

Tribe of Judah

Great grandmother - Ruth and Boaz

Obed

Jesse

David

The faithful shepherd

— 16:11; 17:34-36

- *"There is still the youngest," Jesse answered. "He is tending the sheep."*
- *³⁴ But David said to Saul, "Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, ³⁵ I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. ³⁶ Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. ³⁷ The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine."*

The favored anointed

- 16:8-13

- *¹³ So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came powerfully upon David.*

The healing musician

– 16:14-23; Psalms

- ²³ Whenever the spirit from God came on Saul, David would take up his lyre and play. Then relief would come to Saul; he would feel better,

The fearless warrior

– 17:37-43; 18:5, 13-15, 17, 30; 27:5-12; 30:

- *“You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.*
- ⁵ *Whatever mission Saul sent him on, David was so successful that Saul gave him a high rank in the army. This pleased all the troops, and Saul’s officers as well.*
- ¹³ *So he sent David away from him and gave him command over a thousand men, and David led the troops in their campaigns. ¹⁴ In everything he did he had great success, because the LORD was with him. ¹⁵ When Saul saw how successful he was, he was afraid of him.*
- ³⁰ *The Philistine commanders continued to go out to battle, and as often as they did, David met with more success than the rest of Saul’s officers, and his name became well known.*
- Destroys Amalekites and rescues his wives

The fruitful husband

– 18:17-28; 25:1-41

- *Then Saul gave him his daughter Michal in marriage.*
- ⁴⁰ *His servants went to Carmel and said to Abigail, “David has sent us to you to take you to become his wife.”*
- ⁴³ *David had also married Ahinoam of Jezreel*

The friendship maker

18:1-4; 20; 29:1-11

- Jonathan
 - ³ And Jonathan made a covenant with David because he loved him as himself.
 - ⁴ Jonathan took off the robe he was wearing and gave it to David, along with his tunic, and even his sword, his bow and his belt.
 - ¹⁷ And Jonathan had David reaffirm his oath out of love for him, because he loved him as he loved himself.
- Achish
 - *From the day you came to me until today, I have found no fault in you,*
 - *“I know that you have been as pleasing in my eyes as an angel of God*

The favored Citizen –

18:7

- ⁶ *When the men were returning home after David had killed the Philistine, the women came out from all the towns of Israel to meet King Saul with singing and dancing, with joyful songs and with timbrels and lyres.*
- ⁷ *As they danced, they sang: “Saul has slain his thousands, and David his tens of thousands.”* Repeated three times

The fugitive King

– 19:12 20-31

- ¹² *So Michal let David down through a window, and he fled and escaped.*
- At Nob with Ahimelek the priest– 21:1-9 Gets Goliath’s sword
 - ⁹ *The priest replied, “The sword of Goliath the Philistine, whom you killed in the Valley of Elah, is here; it is wrapped in a cloth behind the ephod. If you want it, take it; there is no sword here but that one.”*
- At Gath with king Achish -21:13 pretends to be insane to
- At Adullam and Mizpah – 22:1-5 – gathers army and warned not to stay in stronghold by the prophet Gad
- Saul through Doeg kills priests
- Takes Keilah and leaves because he is Pursued by Saul – 23:7-
- In the wilderness of Ziph and desert of Maon 23:14-26
- **Psalm 11** – When advised to flee to the mountains - ⁷ For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright.
 - **Psalms 34, 35, 52, 54, 56, 109, 140, 141, 142** – on the run
- Opportunity to kill Saul but spares him – 24:1-22; 26:1-
 - “The LORD forbid that I should do such a thing to my master, the LORD’s anointed, or lay my hand on him; for he is the anointed of the LORD.”
 - Spear in the ground - “Don’t destroy him! Who can lay a hand on the LORD’s anointed and be guiltless?” Saul cries and gives David the spear
- **Psalm 57** – His refusal to kill Saul - ⁷ My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise. ¹¹ Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens: let thy glory be above all the earth.
- Settles in Gath and Saul stops pursuing him – 27:1-4

Six Commitments to Help You Become a Person after God's Own Heart

1. To Give your Heart Totally to God

Throughout his life and through the Psalms we see David speaking with a pure heart and singing with a pure heart for God and praying with a pure heart for God

Psalm 57 – His refusal to kill Saul - ⁷ My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise. ¹¹ Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens: let thy glory be above all the earth.

2. To Know, Meditate on, and Obey God's Word

David recognized the importance of knowing and doing God's Word. He wrote:

*More to be desired are they than gold,
Yea, than much fine gold;
Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.
Moreover by them Your servant is warned,
And in keeping them there is great reward
([Psalm 19:10-11](#)).*

Jesus also was committed to living according to God's Word. When He was tempted by Satan he demonstrated this commitment:

"It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God'" ([Matthew 4:4](#)).

Jesus also said the wise person is the person who hears His words and obeys them ([Matthew 7:24](#)).

Every day of your life, live life with a commitment to knowing, meditating on, and doing God's Word.

3. To Sacrificially Love and Show Compassion

David demonstrates love and compassion in various ways throughout his life. Certainly this is true as he serves Jonathan's son Mephibosheth. David's desire:

“Is there still anyone who is left of the house of Saul, that I may show him kindness for Jonathan’s sake? ... Is there not still someone of the house of Saul, to whom I may show the kindness of God?” (2 Samuel 9:1, 3).

David wanted to show the kindness of God to those who didn’t deserve it.

David spared Saul’s life

Jesus, the Son of David, exemplifies in every way the meaning of sacrificial love and compassion. Isaiah described it so well when he wrote:

*Surely He has borne our griefs
And carried our sorrows;...
But He was wounded for our transgressions,
He was bruised for our iniquities;
The chastisement for our peace was upon Him,
And by His stripes we are healed...
He was oppressed and He was afflicted, ...
He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, ... (Isaiah 53:4-7).*

4. To Fearlessly Live for the Glory of God

David often sang and reflected on the glory of God.

At Goliath

“but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty,” ...

Psalm 19:1, 14 *“The heavens declare the glory of God...” and concludes, “Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer” (Psalm 19:1, 14).*

He desired to live His life consistent with the glory of God.

Jesus of course demonstrated a commitment to live for the glory of God perfectly. He prayed to His Father,

“I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do” (John 17:4).

As you live the moments of your life, live committed to doing all things to the glory of God. Paul wrote,

“Whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God” (1 Corinthians 10:31).

5. To Pray Regularly

We know David prayed. Practically every psalm he offered is a prayer, a reflection of his heart before God. He communicated his thinking, emotions, desires, sorrows, disappointments, and so much more through prayer. He repented, sought forgiveness, and expressed the joy of forgiveness (Psalm 32, 51). David prayed.

Psalm 32:6-7

*Therefore let all the faithful pray to you
while you may be found;
surely the rising of the mighty waters
will not reach them.*

*⁷You are my hiding place;
you will protect me from trouble
and surround me with songs of deliverance.*

Jesus also prayed throughout His entire earthly ministry. He demonstrated prayer to the disciples (Matthew 6:5-13), got alone to pray often (Luke 5:16), prayed for His disciples (John 17), and prayed in His greatest moment of need (Matthew 26:36-46). Jesus was a man of prayer.

Likewise, as people who have a heart like God and desire to live out His purpose in our lives, we must be committed to prayer.

6. To Serve Your Generation Well

David served his generation well

(Acts 13:36).

³⁶“Now when David had served God’s purpose in his own generation, he fell asleep; he was buried with his ancestors and his body decayed.

Certainly Jesus served His generation well – and every generation who have ever lived. Jesus provided salvation, the forgiveness of sins, to all generations.

We should be eager to commit ourselves to serving our generation well too.

Live every day choosing to love God and others before we do ourselves (Matthew 22:37-38).

Seek to creatively serve those around you with love and kindness.

I Commit...

To Give my Heart Totally to God

To Know, Meditate on, and Obey God's Word

To Sacrificially Love and Show Compassion

Fearlessly Live for the Glory of God

To Pray Regularly

To Serve my Generation Well