

I. Introduction: David, Jesus and us.

II. The LORD provides for David at Nob. 21:1-9

- A. David arrives in Nob. 21:1-2
 - 1. Why is Ahimelech the priest afraid? 21:1b 16:4
 - 2. Why does David claim to be on a secret mission from the king? 21:2 14:3
- B. The LORD provides food. 21:3-6
 - 1. All Ahimelech has is consecrated bread. 21:4a Ex. 25:30 Lev. 24:5-9
 - 2. Ahimelech says that David can have the bread so long as he and his men have remained ceremonially clean. 21:4b-5 II Sam. 11:8-13
 - 3. What right does Ahimelech have to go against the ceremonial law by allowing non-priests to eat the consecrated bread? 21:6 Lev. 22:10 Ex. 29:32 Mk. 2:25-28
- C. The LORD provides a weapon. 21:8-9 17:51,54 Ps. 18:34
- D. Apparently, the LORD also provides guidance as David inquires of Him. 22:10,15
- E. There is an ominous observer – Saul’s servant, Doeg the Edomite. 21:7 22:9-10,18ff
- F. There is more here than meets the eye -- Jesus applies the example of David eating the consecrated bread to Himself against the Pharisees. Mark 2:23-28 Luke 6:1-11
 - 1. Human need is more important than external ceremonial scrupulosity. Luke 14:5 13:15-17 John 5:10-17 Num. 28:9 Mk. 2:23ff Mt. 12:1-7 15:8 Is. 29:13
 - 2. The Pharisees were so caught up in the details of their ceremonial regulations and traditions that they missed what matters most: mercy and the Messiah.
 - 3. Jesus is the new and greater David who feeds His people and has authority to interpret the law. 21:3-6 Mark 2:23-28 Luke 6:1-11 John 5:17-18

III. The LORD protects David at Gath. 21:10-15

- A. David flees to Gath in Philistia. 21:10 17:4
 - 1. Why would David go to Gath (Goliath’s home)? 17:4 18:27,30 19:8 I Ki. 11:40
 - 2. It appears that David is looking to foreign kings rather than the LORD to protect him. Ps. 118:9
- B. King Achish’s servants don’t like having David around. 21:11 28:1-2 29:6
Why do they call David the king? John 11:49
- C. David gets away by pretending to be insane. 21:12-15 19:24 Jer. 25:16 51:7 Ecc. 7:7
- D. There is more going on than meets the eye -- David writes Psalms 56 and 34 about his narrow escape in Gath.
 - 1. Psalm 56 is written as David’s plea to God when he is in trouble.
 - 2. Psalm 34 reflects upon the LORD’s deliverance.
 - 3. Psalm 34:20 is fulfilled in the crucifixion of Jesus. John 19:33,36
- E. Application: Is lying and deceit ever justified?
 - 1. Is the law flexible about lying in certain situations? 19:14 Josh. 2:4 Ex. 1:15ff
 - 2. When you lie, you are treating the other person as an enemy.

IV. The LORD guides David as he goes from Adullam to Moab to Herith. 22:1-5

- A. David gathers followers among society's outcasts while he is at the cave of Adullam. v. 1-2 He. 11:38 (out of which arises David's mighty men) II Sa. 23:8ff I Chr. 11:10ff**
- B. David secures the safety of his family in Moab. 22:3-4 16:11 17:28**
 - 1. Why did David take them to Moab? 14:47 Ruth 4:18ff Mt. 1:5 Dt. 23:3 II Sa. 8:2**
 - 2. David's care for his parents reminds us of Jesus caring for His mother in His hour of distress. John 19:26-27 Josh. 2:13**
 - 3. David is trusting in God for the outcome of his ordeal. 22:3b**
- C. David receives guidance from the LORD and relocates to Hereth. 22:5 II Sa. 24:11ff**
 - 1. The prophet Gad plays an important role in David's life. I Chr. 21:9 29:29**
 - 2. David seeks and submits to the LORD's direction. 23:1ff 25:32 26:11,23**
- D. Yet again there is more going on than meets the eye – David writes Psalms 57 and 142 from the cave.**

V. Conclusions: David's experiences are reflected in the life of Jesus and in our lives.

- A. The Father protected, provided for and guided Jesus when He had to flee from enemies who sought His life. Luke 9:58 8:3 Is. 53:3 Mt. 27:46 Mark 15:34 Ps. 22:6,8**
- B. The LORD protects, feeds and guides us. John 6:33,35,48,51**
 - 1. We face hardship and opposition. Ps. 56:1-2 57:4,6 Mt. 5:11 10:4-5 Luke 14:25fff John 16:1ff I Pe. 4:12-19 II Tim. 3:12**
 - 2. Often the LORD rescues us, in spite of ourselves. Ps. 103:10**
 - 3. PRAY THE PSALMS. 34,56,57,142**
 - a. Cry out to the LORD for help. Ps. 142:1-7**
 - b. Trust Him to protect and deliver you. Ps. 57:1-3 34:15-22**
 - c. Giving praise to God will lift you out of your sorrow. Ps. 57:5,7-11**
 - d. Tell others what God has done for you. Ps. 34**
- C. Jesus is the King temporarily living in exile Who invites the poor outcasts of the world to Himself. 22:2 Mk. 1:32-34 Mt. 9:10-13 11:28ff 19:23f I Co. 1:26ff Lu. 7:34 II Cor. 8:9 Ro. 5:6**
- D. Jesus glorifies Himself by taking the world's rejects and conquering the earth. Acts 17:6 I Cor. 1:27ff Ro. 8:37**

Discussion questions

- 1. Were David's lies to Ahimelech and his deceit of Achish justified?**
- 2. What do the Psalms teach us about David's spiritual life during this period of time?**
- 3. What do the Psalms teach us about how we should face our trials?**
- 4. How does Jesus apply the story of David receiving the consecrated bread?**
- 5. In what ways can we be overly scrupulous about rules and regulations, while neglecting what matters most?**
- 6. What is someone saying about his relationship to you if he lies to you?**
- 7. How are we like David's band of outcasts and misfits?**
- 8. How does Jesus' experience mirror that of David when he was running from Saul?**
- 9. Why shouldn't the Jews have been surprised that the Messiah suffered before His glory?**
- 10. When in trouble do you pray the Psalms?**
If not, give it a try starting with 34,56,57, and 142.