

I. Introduction.

II. A House Divided: Fleshly Michal versus spiritual David. v. 16,20-23

- A. Michal despises David for his zeal in worshiping the LORD. v. 16,20**
1. David's marriage to Saul's daughter Michal was already turbulent. 3:13ff
I Sa. 18:20-28 19:11-17 25:44
 2. Michal looks upon David's joyous dancing with contempt in her heart. v. 16
 3. David comes home to bless his family. v.20a
 4. Michal accuses David of acting shamefully and foolishly. v. 20b Mt. 12:34
 5. Michal shows herself to be her father's daughter. I Sam. 15:12,30
 6. Michal's rejection of David is a rejection of the LORD Himself. Ps. 2:12
 7. This is the first of several problems David will have with his family. 13:1-18:33
- B. David forcefully defends his zeal for the LORD. v. 21-22**
1. What matters to David is not Michal's opinion but what the LORD thinks. v. 21
 2. Her contempt will not stop him from celebrating in worship. v. 21b
 3. David is glad to be humble and to associate with the lowly. Isa. 57:15 Ps. 84:10
I Sam. 2:7ff Pr. 16:19
- C. Michal remains childless. v. 23**
1. The implication is that her barrenness is the consequence of her ungodliness.
 2. The importance of childbearing for Hebrew women. Gen. 3:15 30:1 Ex. 23:26
Deut. 28:11 7:14 I Sa. 2:30
 3. This means that there will be no merging of David's kingly line with that of Saul.
- D. David again is a picture of Jesus Christ.**
1. Jesus is zealous for God. John 2:17 Ps. 69:9
 2. Jesus clothes Himself with humility. v. 14b,20,22 Phil. 2:5ff Mk. 10:45 Jo. 13:1ff
 3. Jesus associates with the lowly. Mt. 9:11ff Lu. 15:1ff 19:7 I Co. 1:26ff He.
2:11,17
 4. Jesus is rejected by those who are of the flesh - even His own kin. John 1:11 7:5
 5. Jesus stands up to those who belittle the things of God. Mt. 23:1ff 12:1ff 15:2ff
 6. Jesus is rewarded for His humility and faithfulness. Phil. 2:9-11

III. Learn practical lessons from David's domestic situation.

- A. Don't be like Michal. Pr. 14:1**
1. Looking down upon the sincere worship of others.
 2. Tearing others down with your words – sarcasm, exaggeration, condemnation, quarreling. Eph. 4:29 Pr. 11:9 12:18
 3. Pride. Js. 4:6 Luke 14:11 18:14 17:10 I Co. 4:7
 4. Michal's ultimate problem was that she didn't value the things of the LORD.
- B. Don't marry someone like Michal! II Co. 6:14ff I Co. 7:39 9:5 Pr. 31:30 21:9 25:24**
- C. Christian marriage, by contrast, is a great blessing. Pr. 18:22**

IV. What happened to David continues to happen to us today.

- A. Jesus warned us that following Him would put us at odds with the world.
John 18:36 15:18-20 17:14 Heb. 10:34 Mt. 5:10-12 I Pe. 4:14-15
- B. Jesus also warned that the gospel would divide families. Mt. 10:21-22,34-36
- C. Why do those of the world hate us? I Pe. 4:12 John. 16:1,4 II Ti. 3:12
1. They can't understand why we would be so excited about something so unimportant as religion. Mark 8:34ff Mt. 6:24
 2. They think we are fools. I Co. 2:14 1:18ff
 3. They reject us because of the lowly company we keep. I Co. 1:26ff
 4. Our light exposes their darkness. John 3:19ff Ro. 1:32 I Pe. 4:4 Pr. 29:27
 5. They are as committed to their system of belief as we are to ours.
 6. Ultimately they hate us because they are alienated from God. Ro. 8:7 Jo. 15:21
- D. We must, like David, overcome the fear of man.
1. Don't be controlled by what others think and say about you. v. 21-22 Pr. 29:25
Ro. 1:16f Ga. 1:10 I Th. 2:3-6
 2. You may face some tough choices. Luke 14:26-27 Mark 10:29-31 Acts 5:29
 3. It would be wrong to give in for the sake of 'peace'. Mt. 10:37-38 I Sa. 2:29
 4. Don't let the world's contempt take away your joy and enthusiasm for the Lord or stop you from worshiping and serving Christ. Heb. 10:25
 5. Don't be ashamed of your brothers and sisters in Christ even though we are not the great and mighty in the world. I Co. 1:26ff II Ti. 1:8
 6. Don't allow the 'peer pressure' of the world push you into their mold of thinking and living.
- E. Sometimes you will be forced to defend your faith. v. 20-21 Mk. 8:38 II Ti. 2:24-26
One day, like David, we will be vindicated. Mark 10:29-31

V. Concluding application.

Discussion questions

1. Why does Michal despise David?
2. Why do unbelievers, including family members, look down upon us?
What does Jesus have to say about this problem?
Can we ensure the salvation of our kids by following the right formula?
3. Was David's response to Michal appropriate?
4. How should we respond when we are attacked by those who have contempt for our faith?
In what situations are we compelled to speak out?
Why is it tempting to remain silent?
5. How does this text illustrate the importance of choosing a believing spouse?
Why would any Christian even consider marrying an unbeliever?
What are some of the problems one may encounter in a 'mixed marriage'?
6. How can Christian couples successfully deal with their conflicts?
7. What kinds of persecution should we expect to encounter?