

1 Samuel 19:1–7

¹ Now Saul spoke to Jonathan his son and to all his servants, that they should kill David; but Jonathan, Saul’s son, delighted greatly in David.

² So Jonathan told David, saying, “My father Saul seeks to kill you. Therefore please be on your guard until morning, and stay in a secret place and hide.

³ And I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where you are, and I will speak with my father about you. Then what I observe, I will tell you.”

⁴ Thus Jonathan spoke well of David to Saul his father, and said to him, “Let not the king sin against his servant, against David, because he has not sinned against you, and because his works have been very good toward you.

⁵ For he took his life in his hands and killed the Philistine, and the LORD brought about a great deliverance for all Israel. You saw it and rejoiced. Why then will you sin against innocent blood, to kill David without a cause?”

⁶ So Saul heeded the voice of Jonathan, and Saul swore, “As the LORD lives, he shall not be killed.”

⁷ Then Jonathan called David, and Jonathan told him all these things. So Jonathan brought David to Saul, and he was in his presence as in times past.

Four Attacks and Four Deliverances 1 Samuel 19:1-24

INTRO:

When we left David, future king of Israel, he was basking in the afterglow of the colossal victory over Goliath and the Philistines. Meanwhile, we find Saul, Israel’s king and a man who has rejected the LORD and who lived under the judgment of God, becoming increasingly jealous and malicious toward David. Saul knew the LORD had rejected him as king. He also began to recognize God’s hand on David. He knew somehow David was the man Samuel told him would come and replace him as king. So Saul began to hate David. His resentment simmered inside him until finally in Chapter 19 it burst forth in murderous action.

I. The First Attack and Deliverance (v. 1-7)

II. The Second Attack and Deliverance (v. 8-10)

III. Deliverance Three (v. 11-17)

IV. Deliverance Four (v. 18-24)

I. The First Attack and Deliverance (v. 1-7)

A. **Chapter 19** opens with a secret staff meeting. King Saul consumed with fear and jealousy, orders the murder of David. (v.1)

“Now Saul spoke to Jonathan his son and to all his servants, that they should kill David.”

B. David's peril was real and urgent, but God delivered David through the intercession of Johnathan (**v.2-5**). Jonathan simply pointed out that David did not do anything against Saul. The fact is that he willingly risked his life for Saul and Israel against Goliath. Saul responded with an oath that he would not try to kill David because David was innocent.

C. Our God also delivers us in the perils of life as we try to serve Him. God can deliver us through others who see the purity of our motives and seek to remind those who hate us that we are not really against them.

II. The Second Attack and Deliverance (v. 8-10)

A. King Saul's oath did not last long (**v.8**). The Philistines attacked Israel again and David, who had become an important soldier, led Israel's forces against them and had a great victory (because the LORD gave it to David). This again ignited Saul's hostility and when David attempted to sooth him through his music, Saul attempted to kill David with his spear. This is the third time Saul tried this (Saul tried twice in chapter 18 to pin David to the wall) and the LORD delivered him each time.

B. We too may have enemies who sometimes look like friends and sometimes enemies. They may try different ways to hurt us, but God protects and keeps us. We do not know how many times God has spared us through His providence. God's providential protection is around and with in every believer.

III. Deliverance Three (v. 11-17)

A. When David flees from Saul's attempt on his life he goes to his home, but Saul has already prepared for folks to take him in the morning. This time delivery comes through Michal, Saul's daughter and David's wife. (**vs.11-12**)

“Michal, David's wife, told him, saying, ‘If you do not save your life tonight, tomorrow you will be killed.’ So Michal let David down through a window. And he went and fled and escaped.”

B. Michal then cooks up a deception to give him time to escape and spins a tale for her father to escape problems. Where these things sinful? It could be argued they were. Here we see how God can overrule sin to use it for His glory.

IV. Deliverance Four (v. 18-24)

A. David's fourth supernatural deliverance from Saul's murderous plot involves his fleeing to Samuel the Prophet. Saul learned from his ever present spies where David was and sent three different strike forces to get him. The LORD stopped all three in a unique way. (**vs.20-21**)

“Then Saul sent messengers to take David. And when they saw the group of prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing as leader over them, the Spirit of God came upon the messengers of Saul, and they also prophesied. And when Saul was told, he sent other messengers, and they prophesied likewise. Then Saul sent messengers again the third time, and they prophesied also.”

This reminds me of when later King Ahaziah son of Ahab sent for Elijah. He sent three companies of fifty and their captains. Two were consumed with fire until the third approached Elijah and basically begged for his life. With Saul the LORD overwhelmed his army by making them helpless in prophesying.

B. Saul decided he needed to go himself and God stopped him in the same way. **“So [King Saul] went there to Naioth in Ramah. Then the Spirit of God was upon him also, and he went on and prophesied until he came to Naioth in Ramah. And he also stripped off his clothes and prophesied before Samuel in like manner, and lay down naked all that day and all that night. Therefore they say, ‘Is Saul also among the prophets?’” (vs.23-24)**

C. I am not sure what the significance there is in this. Yet, this is the second time Saul ended up prophesying. **1 Samuel 10:11**, right after his anointing as king, Saul prophesied.

“And it happened, when all who knew him formerly saw that he indeed prophesied among the prophets, that the people said to one another, ‘What is this that has come upon the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?’”

Now Saul has degenerated to being a kingly bully against God’s anointed, he is prophesying again.

What can we learn from this survey? We might rightly say David lived in a different category of God saints than we do today. True we are not a king who was the covenant king of Israel. David was protected because His greater Son would be the Messiah our Savior. So, does that mean we cannot expect God’s deliverances in our lives like David enjoyed?

Do you remember the verse I keep repeating from **Romans 8**?

“And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.” (Romans 8:28)

This promise belongs to each one of us who know Christ as our Savior. The God who delivered David, is the God who has pledged to deliver us.

Do we live in awareness and thankfulness for God’s constant care and provision in our lives? We must realize God is always there and He is not silent.