

### Introduction

We've been looking in the last three messages from this book how that David, the next anointed king of Israel, is on the run from Saul, the present occupier of Israel's throne. Saul is obsessed with hunting David down and killing him.

This chapter should encourage all of God's servants who, like David, may feel vulnerable to attacks by people who don't fear the Lord.

#### I. WE SEE HOW GOD DELIVERED DAVID.

A. **By Giving Him Information He Needed.**  
(1 Samuel 23:2, 4, 11-12, 25)

B. **By Distracting David's Enemy.**  
(1 Samuel 23:27-28)

#### II. WE SEE WHAT DAVID DID WHILE HE TRUSTED GOD.

He did not become anxious and just wait.

A. **He Sought God In Prayer.**  
(1 Samuel 23:2, 4, 11-12; later we'll see this in Psalm 54)

*Philippians 4:6-7 – “Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. 7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”*

B. **He Served God In Practice.**  
(1 Samuel 23:2, 5)

*1 Corinthians 16:13-14 13 Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong. 14 Let all your things be done with charity.*

*Galatians 6:9-10 – 9 “And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. 10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.”*

#### III. WE SEE HOW DAVID RECEIVED STRENGTH IN HIS TRIALS!

A. **God Answered His Prayers! (1 Samuel 23:2, 4, 11-12)**  
Compare that with Saul who did not seek the LORD!

B. **Other Godly People Encouraged David.**

1. **Abiathar the priest, who helped him in prayer!**  
(1 Samuel 23:6)

2. **Jonathan the prince, who reminded him of God's promises!** (1 Samuel 23:16-18)

#### IV. WE SEE THE PSALM DAVID WROTE DURING THIS TRIAL! (Psalm 54 – The song of a man betrayed!)

A. **David's First Reaction To Being Betrayed. (Vs 1-3)**  
*(Anyone who has ever been betrayed by a friend or by someone you've done a kindness too can feel the pain of David here! e.g. Julius Caesar by Brutus. e.g. Jesus by Judas Iscariot)*

##### **We See His Threefold Plea:**

1. **Based On God's Name. (Vs 1)**

David may have been implying that God would intervene because **His name was at stake here.**

God had entered into a covenant relationship with David! He had promised David the throne of Israel, promised him a son, the very Messiah to be his heir and to sit upon his throne, promised to establish His covenant with David for ever.

**God = “Elohim” the name associated with Creation.**  
**God of creation (God...Elohim)**  
**God of covenant (LORD or Jehovah...YAWEH)**  
**God of control (Lord... Adonai)**

*“Judge me” means “to vindicate me.”*

**BOOK OF 1 SAMUEL**  
**DAVID ON THE RUN!—PART 4**  
**1 SAMUEL 23:1-29; PSALM 54:1-7**

God is the One Who could and would judge that David had done right and was doing right and vindicate him in the end!

**2. Based On David's Need. (Vs 2)**

Grab a hold of this thought: Our **needs** have a way of putting God **back into our thoughts** and have us **reaching out to Him**, which in turn **glorifies Him!**

Saul knew his days were numbered and his campaign against David made those days desperate ones! He was all-in to try to have David caught and killed.

Remember this in these last days in which we live as we approach the end and Satan sees that his days are numbered and he goes all-in in his campaign against believers!

**3. Based On His Foes' Nature. (Vs 3)**

**a. They Were Foreign To Him.**

David found the nature of his foes hard to understand because their nature wasn't like his!  
**"Strangers" to grace and to God!**

**b. They Were Friendless To Him.**

**"Oppressors" = "fearful or ruthless ones"**

*1 Samuel 23:20 Now therefore, O king, come down according to all the desire of thy soul to come down; and our part shall be to deliver him into the king's hand.*

**c. They Were Foolish To Him.**

*"They have not set God before them. Selah."*  
In the Ziphites not knowing or seeking God's will they were literally fighting against God!

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**B. David's Further Reaction To Being Betrayed. (Vs 4-5)**

**1. I Have A Reliable God. (Vs 4)**

**2. I Have A Righteous God. (Vs 5)**

**C. David's Final Reaction To Being Betrayed. (Vs 6-8)**

**1. Worship! (Vs 6-7)**

**a. I Will Freely Sacrifice Unto Thee! (Vs 6)**

**b. I Will Praise Thy Name O LORD: For It Is Good! (Vs 7)**

**2. Why? (Vs 8)**

**a. The LORD Gave Him His Deliverance.**

**b. The LORD Gave Him His Desire.**