

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE DESTINY OF HUMANITY

RLJ-1690

JOHN S. TORELL

FEBRUARY 10, 2019

PART 23: DAVID THE TURNCOAT

Following his departure from Saul and successive marriages to Abigail and Ahinoam, things went downhill for David as he entered the darkest period of his life.

BETRAYED BY THE PEOPLE OF ZIPH

Due to the poor decisions in his life, David was not in God's perfect will, and this opened the door for evil spirits to take over in David's life and bring him into a backslidden state.

David and his band of misfits had been living in the wilderness close to the city of Ziph, relying upon the people in the area to furnish them with food and clothing in return for protecting them from the Philistines. For some reason the people of Ziph decided that they wanted to get rid of David and so they sent word to King Saul of David's whereabouts. **1 Samuel 26:1**

Saul was more than happy to receive the news and he took an army of 3,000 of his best soldiers to deal with David once and for all. **verse 2**

By this time David had become a seasoned fighter and he sent spies to find out exactly where Saul was located. **verses 3-4**

The wilderness area in Judah at this time was covered with forests and David used the terrain to his advantage, sneaking up on Saul and his soldiers. **verse 5**

THE FEAR OF GOD

David still had the fear of God in his heart even in his backslidden condition. He knew that he could not kill Saul; only God could remove him from the earth. The Lord caused a deep sleep to come upon Saul and his men, making it possible for David and two of his men to get close to Saul and take his spear and water container. **verses 6-12**

SECOND CONFRONTATION WITH SAUL

David wanted to confront General Abner and suggested that he be put to death for not adequately protecting the king. **verses 13-16**

When Saul recognized the voice of David, a dialogue began that ended with Saul repenting again and recognizing his sins. The two went their separate ways but Saul returned to his old ways upon returning home. **verses 17-25**

DAVID BETRAYED ISRAEL

After having been on the run for several years, David called it quits and decided to go over to the enemy of Israel in order to get away from Saul. Not only did he defect with his soldiers, but they also brought their wives and children. Mankind has a free will and God let David go deeper into sin. **1 Samuel 27:1-4**

David planned to permanently stay with the Philistines and asked King Achish to give him a portion of land where he could settle with his men and their families. **verse 5**



David was given the city of Ziklag, located in the Negev region, southwest of Judah. Ziklag was a provincial town within the Philistine kingdom of Gath. This meant that the Philistines who lived in this city suddenly found themselves under the rule of David and his men. David would remain at Ziklag for a year and four months. **verse 6**

DAVID THE MARAUDER

David went from being a defender of the people of Israel to a marauder who would pillage, rob and kill people. David and his men attacked the Geshurites, the Gezrites and the Amalekites. In order to cover up his heinous crimes, David told his men to murder every man, woman and child in order to make sure there were no witnesses who could tell King Achish what had taken place. David went to Achish and told him a completely different story, how he had attacked the enemies of the Philistines. David was an accomplished liar and king Achish believed him. **verses 7-12**

ATTACKING ISRAEL AND KING SAUL

David had lost a lot of decency by this time, and when the Philistine princes gathered an army to attack Israel and kill Saul, David was eager to join them and fight against God's own people. **1 Samuel 28:1-2**

The Philistine princes did not want David and his men joining them. **1 Samuel 29:1-2**

King Achish defended David, believing that he had truly rejected Israel and embraced the Philistines. **verse 3**

The princes were angry with Achish and told him in no uncertain terms that David and his men would not be integrated with the Philistine army. **verses 4-5**

King Achish had been deceived by David into believing that he was not an evil man and a friend of the Philistines. The truth of the matter was that David was a murderer, thief and a terror to the people he attacked. **verse 6-7**

David was so backslidden that he believed his own lies. **verses 8-11**

SOWING AND REAPING

The law of sowing and reaping is a spiritual law that has been in effect since creation. Lucifer and his fallen angels will for eternity reap what they have sown. The same holds true for Devil's followers. **Revelation 20:10**

It was the apostle Paul, some 1,000 years after David, who penned this law in his letter to the Galatians. **Galatians 6:7-8**

The Amalekites struck the city of Ziklag when David and his men were absent but they were more merciful and did not kill the women and children as David had done. The Amalekites burned the city and took its inhabitants captive. **1 Samuel 30:1-2**

When David and his marauders returned home to find the city burned and their people gone, they began to cry and grieved for two days. They got to experience a dose of their own evil deeds. **verses 3-5**

David's men remembered what they had done to the Amalekites, and now that they had taken revenge, the men blamed David for this disaster. **verse 6**

TURNING TO GOD

David realized his men were about to stone him and the only thing that could save him was God so he turned to Abiathar and asked for the ephod so he could use this object to pray and ask God for advice. It is not recorded whether David repented of his sins, but we do know that God heard him and promised victory. **verses 7-8**

David's men knew he was a fierce fighter but they also knew that God heard his prayers, so they must have decided stoning David would not bring their families back, but if they followed him, they had a chance of recovering their loved ones. Only 400 men had the strength to keep going. **verses 9-10**

They ran into a young Egyptian slave of the Amalekites who was willing to betray the raiding party, and since the Amalekites had stopped to drink and dance, it was easy for David and his men to sweep down upon the camp and kill everyone with the exception of 400 camel riders. **verses 11- 17**

THE POLITICIAN

David and his men recovered everything the Amalekites had taken from Ziklag along with more spoils taken from the Philistines and people in Judah.

David had some wicked men among his soldiers, including men of Belial, and when they saw the great spoil, they did not want to share it with the 200 men who were too tired to go with them into battle. **verses 18-22**

David ruled against them and made a policy that all men would share in the spoil regardless if they guarded the back of the army or been part of the attacking force. **verses 23-25**

David was a shrewd tactician and politician and knew that if he ever was going to become king of Israel, he would need the support of the people, so instead of keeping the livestock, he returned it to the people who had lost it. **verses 26-31**

DEATH OF KING SAUL

While David and his men were rescuing their families, Saul and the army of Israel fought with the Philistines and this time Saul, his sons and many Israelite soldiers died in a massacre. **1 Samuel 31:1-7**

A young Amalekite man brought the news of Saul's death to David. **2 Samuel 1:1-10**

In reading the text describing the emotional response of David and his men, it is hard to believe that David and his men grieved over Saul's death because the king had been trying to kill them for many years but I believe their grief was genuine over the deaths of Jonathan and the men of Israel. **verses 11-12**

David had a great fear of touching any man that was anointed by God. When the young Amalekite told how he had killed Saul, after the latter begged him to kill him, David became angry and ordered the young man's death. **verses 13-16**

David then wrote down a lamentation over Saul and Jonathan which was taught to the children of Judah. **verses 17-27**

FUGITIVE TO KING OF JUDAH

With Saul dead and the army of Israel defeated, there was no one left to harm David and the Lord told him to return to Judah and dwell in the city of Hebron. **2 Samuel 2:1-3**

God did not make David king of Israel at this time, but had him become the King of Judah first. **verses 4**

When David was told that the men of Jabesh-Gilead had buried the body of King Saul, he sent messengers thanking them for their kindness and stated that he wanted to repay this kind deed in the future. **verses 5-7**

Abner, the general of Saul's army, refused to recognize David as the next king and took Saul's son, Ishbosheth, and made him the next king over Israel. **verses 8-10**

SUMMARY

When we examine what took place some 3,000 years ago, it is obvious that Satan did all that he could to derail God's plan for Israel. God anointed Saul and Satan turned him into a rebel so that God discarded him because he could not be used in the Kingdom of God.

Satan worked diligently to corrupt David, and at one time converted him to become a mass murderer with no regard for human life, but God was able to bring David back from the brink, restore his sinful soul and turn David into the man He wanted him to be. In time David was able to write his declaration of loyalty to God. **Psalm 1:1-6**

If God had mercy upon David, He will also have mercy on anyone who calls out for salvation and forgiveness. **Isaiah 55:6-7**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?