

## **Discussion points 1 Samuel 24**

17 July 2022.

### ***Questions on the theme of Love Your Enemies and Pray for Those Who Persecute You!:***

“All scriptures (including the Old Testament) point to Jesus Christ”, how does 1 Samuel 24 point to Christ?

What is the biggest take away message from this account in and at the cave of En-Gedi of the relationship and encounters between Saul and David?

### **Verses 1-7**

David’s men recognized the vulnerability of the king. They urged David to take advantage of the situation. David crawled to Saul’s location and cut off the corner of Saul’s robe. This act was more than benign aggression. It signified the transfer of power from Saul to David. By removing the corner of the robe, David also put Saul in violation of the law. In essence, David symbolically declared Saul’s claim to kingship was null and void.

#### ***Questions:***

What was the source of the pressure on David to take matters into his own hands and kill Saul?

What are some ways that type of pressure looks like in our lives today?

What do we learn about David’s character from these verses?

### **Verses 8-15**

David’s addressing Saul as “my father” indicates his sincere respect for Saul as both his king and his father-in-law. He offered the scrap cut from Saul’s robe as evidence of his innocence. That he did not kill Saul when a golden opportunity to do so was available proved he had no desire to assassinate the king. David protested his innocence to Saul and declared he would let God judge between them. David trusted God to exact vengeance if such was needed. So he promised he would never attempt to kill Saul.

#### ***Questions:***

Are you as content as David seems to be to simply let God effect His will, His way, in His time, or are you likely to “help God out” in some way? Have we recent examples of how we act?

What is the implication of David’s words to Saul for us today??

### **Verses 16-22**

Saul recognized the role of providence in what had occurred. He concluded the Lord handed him over to David. In reaching this conclusion, Saul acknowledged God’s sovereignty over the monarchy of Israel and specifically over him.

#### ***Questions:***

Saul pointed out in verse 19 that David modelled doing good to those who mistreated him, a point the New Testament also emphasizes. Matthew 5:43-45 and Romans 12:14-21.

- What qualities from the Matthew, Romans, and 1 Samuel 24 passages illustrate godly character?
- How do we measure up?

David eventually does become king, just the way the Lord wanted him to. David had to endure a miserable life for many years and likely questioned God’s plan on many occasions, do you think he looked back to that moment in the cave of En-Gedi and was glad he chose the uncomfortable right over the comfortable wrong?