**A Tale Of Two Kings: David vs. Saul**

Prepared by Nathan L Morrison for Sunday March 7th, 2021

Text: I Samuel 13:14

Intro

1. The World (under the power of Satan) acts differently than those in Christ; two different spirits (or attitudes).
2. I Corinthians 2:12: The spirit of the world vs. the Spirit of God
   1. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God, which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words. But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised. But he who is spiritual appraises all things, yet he himself is appraised by no one.
3. Ephesians 2:1-3: The world = Death
   1. Those in the world walk “according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience.”
4. Ephesians 2:4-10: Saints = Life
   1. Saints are saved by grace through faith and “created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.”
5. A way to see the difference between the spirit of the world and the Spirit of the child of God is a contrast of the lives of King Saul and King David!
6. **Godly King**
   * 1. Acts 13:22: “After He had removed him, He raised up David to be their king, concerning whom He also testified and said, 'I HAVE FOUND DAVID the son of Jesse, A MAN AFTER MY HEART, who will do all My will.’”
        1. ‘I have found David the son of Jesse to be a man after my heart, who will accomplish everything I want him to do’ (NET).
        2. The mark of a godly king was obedience to God!
     2. **King David – God’s kind of king**
        + 1. I Samuel 16:6-7, 12-13: When Samuel was told by God to anoint a new king he thought physical stature made a king but God informed him that He judges the heart, and when David was brought in God said, “Arise, anoint him; for this is he.”
          2. II Samuel 7:8-16: To David, God promised an eternal kingdom, “Your house and your kingdom shall endure before Me forever; your throne shall be established forever.”
     3. **King Saul – Man’s kind of king**
        + 1. I Samuel 10:21-24; 16:6-7: Saul looked the part of king as far as physical stature went, handsome, head and shoulders taller than any man in Israel!
          2. I Samuel 15:11: God said, “I regret that I have made Saul king, for he has turned back from following Me and has not carried out My commands.”
          3. He looked the part but didn’t act the part!
     4. **You**
        1. Colossians 1:9-10: Paul’s prayer for the saints at Colosse was that they would “be filled with the knowledge of His will” and “walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God.”
        2. Hebrews 5:9: And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation.
     5. Obedience is the identifying mark of a child of God! *(What’s inside the heart!)*
7. **Godly Heart**
8. Acts 13:22: “After He had removed him, He raised up David to be their king, concerning whom He also testified and said, 'I HAVE FOUND DAVID the son of Jesse, A MAN AFTER MY HEART, who will do all My will.’”
   1. David was called a man after God’s own heart and was later said to be better than Saul when Saul was told he would no longer be king (I Samuel 15:28).
9. **King David – A man after God’s own heart**
   1. I Samuel 13:14; Acts 13:22: David called a man after God’s own heart.
   2. *How could David be a man after God’s heart when he sinned?*
   3. After he sinned, David was truly repentant…(Not just a “sorry,” or “My bad!”)
   4. II Samuel 12:13: “I have sinned against the LORD”
   5. Psalm 38:18: David wrote, “For I will declare my iniquity; I will be in anguish over my sin.”
   6. Psalm 51:1-4, 11: “My sin is ever before me.” He asks God not to cast him away or remove the Holy Spirit from him, but to have mercy on him and cleanse him from his sin.
10. **King Saul – A man after people’s praise**
    1. I Samuel 18:6-9: Saul liked the praise ascribed him in battle, but was jealous of the accolades David received, and viewed him with suspicion from that time forward.
    2. I Samuel 15:12-26: Saul was so pleased with himself after fighting the Amalekites, who he was commanded by God to utterly wipe out, that he set up a monument to himself! (15:12)
       1. When confronted with disobedience to the command, he blamed the people who he said wanted to keep the best things to sacrifice to “the Lord your God.” (15:15)
       2. When Samuel pressed harder, Saul said the right things; he said he sinned and listened to the voice of the people but still wanted Samuel to return with him to worship God, which would vindicate him in the eyes of the people. (15:24-26)
    3. Saul said the right things but his heart was not in the right (15:11, 26).
11. **You**
    * + 1. I Timothy 1:5: We are to love from a pure heart, free of hypocrisy! *(No lies or coverups)*
        2. Galatians 1:10: Do we strive to please men or to please God?
    1. II Corinthians 7:9-10: Have godly sorrow & repent, not worldly sorrow (“Sorry!”)
12. Saints today are required to have a godly and sincere heart to please God!
13. **Godly Kingdom**
14. Acts 2:29-32: Peter said that God fulfilled His promise to David to seat a man on his throne forever in Jesus Christ (Psalm 132:11; II Samuel 7:12-13)
15. **King David – Eternal Kingship through Jesus**
    1. II Samuel 7:16, 29: God promised to David an eternal kingdom.
    2. Luke 1:31-33: The throne of David would be eternal in Jesus, “He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end”
    3. Jesus, the son of David, is the Eternal King over an Eternal Kingdom!
16. **King Saul – Kingship rejected**
    1. I Samuel 13:13-14: His kingdom was given to David, the “man after God’s own heart.”
    2. I Samuel 15:11, 23, 26, 28: God said, “I regret that I have made Saul king” and later, Samuel told Saul that God rejected him from being king and had torn his kingdom away.
17. **You**
    * + 1. Mark 9:1: Jesus promised His kingdom would come in power in the lifetime of His listeners, and the apostles were part of that fulfillment on the day of Pentecost in Acts 2.
    1. Colossians 1:13-14: Those who obey the gospel (Acts 2:47) are transferred “from the domain of darkness” & “transferred to the kingdom of His beloved Son” where there is forgiveness!
    2. II Peter 1:5-11: “Entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ” is abundantly supplied to those who add to their faith the Christian virtues!
    3. II Peter 3:3-7: The kingdom of the world will be destroyed and its citizens punished!
18. Obedience to the gospel transfers us from the domain of darkness to the Kingdom of Jesus!
19. **Godly Attitude**
20. Colossians 3:12-14: So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. Beyond all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity.
    1. When we “put on” these traits of God we clothe ourselves with Christ (Gal. 3:27)!
21. **King David – Kind & Benevolent**
    1. David was chosen by God to succeed King Saul. Many ancient kings wiped out the king’s family before them (Jonathan understood this – I Samuel 20:13-15, 42).
    2. David could have done so but he made a promise to Jonathan *(I Samuel 20:13-15, 42).*
    3. II Samuel 9:1-13: David sought out Jonathan’s son, Mephibosheth, and showed him compassion, and thus had mercy on the house of Saul.
22. **King Saul – Cruel**
    1. I Samuel 20:30-32: Saul attempted to kill his son, Jonathan, over his friendship with David!
    2. I Samuel 22:11-29: Saul killed the priests of God at Nob for helping David!
23. **You**
    1. Ephesians 4:32: Be kind and tenderhearted to one another!
    2. Galatians 6:10: Do good to all people, especially to those of the household of faith.
24. To put on a heart of compassion and love is to have the traits of God!
25. **Godly Mercy**
26. Colossians 3:13: …bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.
    * + 1. Mercy and forgiveness are the loving response of compassion that relieves the hurt, assists the downtrodden, and forgives the sinner.
           1. Trait of God – Ex. 33:19; Rom. 9:15: God revealed Himself to Moses as compassionate.
           2. Trait of Jesus – Heb. 2:17-18: Merciful and faithful High Priest
27. **King David – Forgiving** 
    * + 1. I Samuel 24: After all Saul did to David, Saul enters a cave where David and his men are hiding and David spares Saul’s life, and even feels bad for cutting off the edge of his robe.
        2. I Samuel 26: David finds Saul and his men sleeping with no one on watch! He again spares Saul’s life!
        3. While these two events happened while David was on the run, he was anointed king – I Samuel 16:13. He extended forgiveness to Abner & Amasa as well *(II Sam. 3; 19).*
28. **King Saul – Unforgiving**
    * + 1. I Samuel 14:44: God delivered Israel by the hand of Jonathan from the Philistines (14:23, 31, 45), but because of a rash vow to not eat until victory, Saul promised to kill Jonathan!
        2. I Samuel 18:28-29: Saul’s jealousy over God being with David made him David’s enemy!
        3. I Samuel 22:16-18: Saul ordered the death of the priests of Nob after they helped David.
29. **You**
    * + 1. I Peter 2:10: As children of God we have received mercy
        2. Jude 21-23: We are to show mercy to the lost and weak in faith!
        3. James 2:13: If we are merciful, we shall obtain mercy. But if not show mercy, will not receive mercy! *(Jesus said this in Mt. 18:21-35)*
30. To obtain mercy on the Judgment Day we need to show mercy to others!
31. **Godly Sorrow**
32. II Corinthians 7:9-10: I now rejoice, not that you were made sorrowful, but that you were made sorrowful to the point of repentance; for you were made sorrowful according to the will of God, so that you might not suffer loss in anything through us. For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.
    1. Godly sorrow produces repentance while worldly sorrow produces death!
33. **King David – Penitent** 
    1. II Samuel 12:13: Then David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the LORD.” And Nathan said to David, “The LORD also has taken away your sin; you shall not die.”
    2. II Samuel 24:10: Now David's heart troubled him after he had numbered the people. So David said to the LORD, “I have sinned greatly in what I have done. But now, O LORD, please take away the iniquity of Your servant, for I have acted very foolishly.”
34. **King Saul – Shifted blame & Lied** 
    1. I Samuel 13:11-14: When Saul didn’t wait for Samuel and offered the sacrifice at Gilgal, Saul blamed the people, Samuel, the Philistines, and said, “So I forced myself and offered the burnt offering.” He acted foolishly and didn’t trust in God, and he lost everything!
    2. I Samuel 15:10-31: When confronted over his sin of not obeying God’s command to utterly wipe out the Amalekites, Saul blamed the people, even in his “apology.”
35. **You** 
    * + 1. Acts 3:19: Peter preached, “Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.”
    1. Acts 17:30: Paul preached, “Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent,”
    2. Acts 26:19-20: Paul told King Agrippa that he was obedient to Jesus in telling people in Damascus, Jerusalem, Judea, and the Gentiles, “that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds appropriate to repentance.” *Actions = turning from sin and to God!*
    3. I John 1:9: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
36. When you sin, don’t blame or lie to cover up, but confess your sins to be forgiven!
37. **Godly Courage**
38. II Timothy 1:7: For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline
39. Romans 1:16: For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.
40. **King David – Courageous**
41. I Chronicles 18: All the enemies that plagued the Israelites during the conquest of Canaan, the period of the Judges (except Mesopotamia), and Saul’s reign were defeated by David because of his faith in God!
42. Edom, Moab, Ammon, Philistines, Amalekites, and Syria, and David extended his kingdom all the way to the Euphrates River! (I Chronicles 18:3, 6, 11)
43. **King Saul – Fearful** 
    1. I Samuel 17:11: Goliath, the Philistine giant champion, challenged Israel, it says, “When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid.”
    2. I Samuel chapters 18-22: Saul looked at David with suspicion (18:9) and fear (18:12) and with dread (18:15) and ordered David’s death (19:1), and then chased David (ch. 19-22).
44. **You**
    * + 1. I Corinthians 16:13: Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong.
    1. Philippians 1:12-14: Paul’s imprisonment for the cause of Christ became well known and instead of causing fear among the brethren, they “have far more courage to speak the word of God without fear.” *(Rom. 1:16: Not ashamed to preach the gospel!)*
45. Have the courage to do what is right, trust in God, and don’t be ashamed of the gospel of Christ!
46. **Godly Peace**
47. Romans 8:6: For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace,
48. Again, the spirit of the world is contrasted with the Spirit of God: Death vs. Peace.
49. **King David – At Peace with God**
    1. Psalm 4:8: In peace I will both lie down and sleep, For You alone, O LORD, make me to dwell in safety.
    2. Psalm 23: David had the peace of God to say, “The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want” (23:1) and to say, “Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me” (23:4).
50. **King Saul – Separated from God**
    1. I Samuel 16:14: Now the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD terrorized him.
51. **You**
    1. Romans 5:1: Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.
    2. Ephesians 2:13-16: Of Jesus it says that “He Himself is our peace” and he broke down the barrier wall of Jew and Gentile, destroyed the enmity and established peace!
    3. Philippians 4:7: And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
52. Through Christ and our faith in Him we have the peace of God and should, like David, say, “I will fear no evil!”

**Conclusion**

* + 1. Paul says that the spirit of the world that produces sin and separation is at war with the Spirit of God and seeks control over our minds – Romans 7:23
       1. James 4:1: James recognizes this war when he asks, “What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members?”
       2. I Peter 2:11: Peter recognizes this war when he says, “Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul.”

1. In looking at the contrast between King David & King Saul we can see those two differing spirits manifest and the rewards and consequences it brings!
   1. Matthew 25:46: Their eternal destinations are different too: Eternal Punishment for the wicked (citizens of the worldly kingdom) and Eternal Life for the righteous (citizens of the Eternal Kingdom)
2. Let us always strive to trust in God and have a heart of godly character so that we find peace even in times of trouble!
3. If not a Christian, you need to be! As Ananias told Saul of Tarsus: “And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord” (NKJ: Acts 22:16).
4. If a Christian in error…repent of your sins and be renewed! Seek the Lord with our whole heart!
5. Whatever your requests, let them be known by coming forward ***NOW*** while we stand and sing!

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| **Attributes** | **King David** | **King Saul** | **You** |
| **Godly King**  (Acts 13:22) | God’s kind of king  (I Samuel 16:6-7, 12-13; II Samuel 7:8-16) | Man’s kind of king  (I Samuel 10:21-24; 16:6-7; 15:11) | Have knowledge of God’s will and obey Him! (Colossians 1:19-10; Hebrews 5:9) |
| **Godly Heart**  (Acts 13:22) | A man after God’s own heart  (I Samuel 13:14; Acts 13:22) | Man after people’s praise  (I Samuel 18:6-9; 15:12-26) | Have a pure heart and be willing to repent  (I Timothy 1:5; Galatians 1:10; II Corinthians 7:9-10) |
| **Godly Kingdom**  (Acts 2:29-32) | Kingship was eternal through Christ  (II Samuel 7:16, 29; Luke 1:31-33) | Kingship was rejected  (I Samuel 13:13-14; 15:11, 23, 26, 28) | Enter into the eternal kingdom of Jesus  (Mark 9:1; Colossians 1:13-14; II Peter 1:5-11; 3:3-7) |
| **Godly Attitude**  (Colossians 3:12-14) | Kind & Benevolent  (II Samuel 9:1-13) | Cruel  (I Samuel 20:30-32; 22:11-29) | Be kind, tenderhearted, and do good to all people  (Ephesians 4:32; Galatians 6:10) |
| **Godly Mercy**  (Colossians 3:13) | Forgiving  (I Samuel 24; 26) | Unforgiving  (I Samuel 14:44; 18:9; 22:16-18) | Show mercy to obtain mercy  (Jude 21-23; James 2:13) |
| **Godly Sorrow**  (II Corinthians 7:9-10) | Penitent  (II Samuel 12:13; 24:10) | Shifted Blame & Lied  (I Samuel 13:11-14; 15:10-31) | Confess sins and repent  (Acts 3:19; 17:30; 26:19-20; I John 1:9) |
| **Godly Courage**  (II Timothy 1:7; Romans 1:16) | Courageous  (I Chronicles 18) | Fearful  (I Samuel 17:11; ch. 18-22) | Trust in God, have courage, & don’t be ashamed of the gospel of Christ  (I Corinthians 16:13; Philippians 1:12-14) |
| **Godly Peace**  (Romans 8:6) | At peace with God  (Psalm 4:8; 23) | Separated from God  (I Samuel 16:14) | The peace of Christ  (Romans 5:1; Ephesians 2:13-16; Philippians 4:7) |