

What David reveals about
the Heart of God in
Psalms...

Sunday, September 23, 2018



A Man After God's Own Heart

- Question: "How could David be considered a man after God's own heart?"

- **"Give us a king":**

- ⁴ All the elders of Israel met at Ramah to discuss the matter with Samuel. ⁵ "Look," they told him, "you are now old, and your sons are not like you. ***Give us a king to judge us like all the other nations have.***" ⁶ Samuel was displeased with their request and went to the LORD for guidance. ⁷ "Do everything they say to you," the LORD replied, "for ***they are rejecting me, not you. They don't want me to be their king any longer.***" ⁸ Ever since I brought them from Egypt they have continually abandoned me and followed other gods. And now they are giving you the same treatment. ⁹ Do as they ask, but solemnly warn them about the way a king will reign over them." (1 Sam 8:4–9 NLT-SE)

- **Saul's Disobedience:**

- ⁵ The Philistines mustered a mighty army of 3,000 chariots, 6,000 charioteers, and as many warriors as the grains of sand on the seashore! They camped at Micmash east of Beth-aven. ⁶ The men of Israel saw what a tight spot they were in; and because they were hard pressed by the enemy, they tried to hide in caves, thickets, rocks, holes, and cisterns.
- ⁷ Some of them crossed the Jordan River and escaped into the land of Gad and Gilead. Meanwhile, Saul stayed at Gilgal, and his men were trembling with fear. ⁸ Saul waited there seven days for Samuel, as Samuel had instructed him earlier, but Samuel still didn't come. Saul realized that his troops were rapidly slipping away. ⁹ So he demanded, "Bring me the burnt offering and the peace offerings!" And Saul sacrificed the burnt offering himself.
- ¹⁰ Just as Saul was finishing with the burnt offering, Samuel arrived. Saul went out to meet and welcome him,
- ¹¹ but Samuel said, "What is this you have done?" Saul replied, "I saw my men scattering from me, and you didn't arrive when you said you would, and the Philistines are at Micmash ready for battle. ¹² So I said, 'The

Philistines are ready to march against us at Gilgal, and I haven't even asked for the LORD's help!' So I felt compelled to offer the burnt offering myself before you came."

- ¹³ "How foolish!" Samuel exclaimed. "You have not kept the command the LORD your God gave you. Had you kept it, the LORD would have established your kingdom over Israel forever. ¹⁴ But now your kingdom must end, for **the LORD has sought out a man after his own heart. The LORD has already appointed him to be the leader of his people, because you have not kept the LORD's command.**" (1 Sam 13:5–14 NLT-SE)

- **The Final Straw for Saul:**

- ²⁰ "But I did obey the LORD," Saul insisted. "I carried out the mission he gave me. I brought back King Agag, but I destroyed everyone else. ²¹ Then my troops brought in the best of the sheep, goats, cattle, and plunder to sacrifice to the LORD your God in Gilgal."
- ²² But Samuel replied, "What is more pleasing to the LORD: your burnt offerings and sacrifices or your obedience to his voice? Listen! Obedience is better than sacrifice, and submission is better than offering the fat of rams."
- ²³ Rebellion is as sinful as witchcraft, and stubbornness as bad as worshiping idols. So because you have rejected the command of the LORD, he has rejected you as king."
- ²⁴ Then Saul admitted to Samuel, "Yes, I have sinned. I have disobeyed your instructions and the LORD's command, for I was afraid of the people and did what they demanded. ²⁵ But now, please forgive my sin and come back with me so that I may worship the LORD."
- ²⁶ But Samuel replied, "I will not go back with you! **Since you have rejected the LORD's command, he has rejected you as king of Israel.**"
- ²⁷ As Samuel turned to go, Saul tried to hold him back and tore the hem of his robe. ²⁸ And Samuel said to him, **"The LORD has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today and has given it to someone else—one who is better than you.** ²⁹ And he who is the Glory of Israel will not lie, nor will he change his mind, for he is not human that he should change his mind!" (1 Sam 15:17–29 NLT-SE)

- **David's Anointing:**

- Now the LORD said to Samuel, "You have mourned long enough for Saul. I have rejected him as king of Israel, so fill your flask with olive oil and go to Bethlehem. **Find a man named Jesse who lives there, for I have selected one of his sons to be my king.**" (1 Sam 16:1 NLT-SE)
- ¹⁰ All seven of Jesse's sons were presented to Samuel. But Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." ¹¹ Then Samuel asked, "Are these all the sons you have?" "There is still the youngest," Jesse replied. "But he's out in the fields watching the sheep and goats." **"Send for him at once,"** Samuel said. "We will not sit down to eat until he arrives." ¹² So Jesse sent for him. He was dark and handsome, with beautiful eyes. And the LORD said, **"This is the one; anoint him."** (1 Sam 16:10–12 NLT-SE)

- **David's Legacy:**

- In the book of Acts, the apostle Paul speaks of God's feelings about King David: **"God removed Saul and replaced him with David, a man about whom God said, 'I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my**

own heart. He will do everything I want him to do.' (Acts 13:22 NLT-SE). The answer to why David was considered a man after God's own heart is found right in the verse: **David did whatever God wanted him to do.**

- David's life was a portrait of success and failure, but what made David stand out to the Father was that **the affections of his heart consistently pointed toward God**. He had a deep desire to follow God's will and do "everything" God wanted him to do.
 - ²¹ The people craved for a king, so God gave them one from the tribe of Benjamin: Saul, the son of Kish, who ruled for forty years. ²² After removing him, God raised up David to be king, for God said of him, 'I have found in David, son of Jesse, **a man who always pursues my heart and will accomplish all that I have destined him to do.'** (Acts 13:21-22 PASSION)
- Part of why David is called a man after God's own heart is that **he had absolute faith in God** (1 Sam 17). David was fully aware that God was in control of his life, and he had faith that God would deliver him from impending danger. How else would one venture into a potentially fatal situation with such calm and confidence? David knew early on in life that God was to be trusted and obeyed. As we see in Scripture, **David's faith pleased God, and God rewards David for his faithfulness.**
- Another reason David was a man after God's own heart is that **he absolutely loved God's Law**. Of the 150 psalms in the Bible, David is credited for writing over half of them. It is not hard to see his complete adoration for God's Word (Psalm 119:47-48). **David "meditates" on God's statutes** and God granted him understanding and wisdom through daily meditation.
- David was a man after God's own heart in that **he was truly thankful** (Psalm 26:6-7). His life was marked by seasons of great peace and prosperity as well as times of fear and despair. But through all of the seasons in his life, he never forgot to thank the Lord for everything that he had.
- After he sinned, **David was truly repentant**. David's sin with Bathsheba is recorded in 2 Samuel 11:2-5. The mighty fall hard, and David's fall included adultery, lying, and murder. Admitting our sin and asking for forgiveness is only half of the equation. The other half is repentance, and David did that as well. Psalm 51 is David's prayer of repentance to God.
- David was a man after God's own heart because **he demonstrated his faith and was committed to following the Lord.**
- **David revealed the heart of the God** he was pursuing through what He wrote about God in the Book of Psalms. Through the Fall of 2018, we are going to look at what David wrote, embrace what he wrote, and allow what he Wrote to activate us to do the work of the Gospel in this next season. Here's a smattering of what David revealed in Psalms:

~ You are my God (Ps 31:14)	~ You are my Strength (Ps 18:1)	~ You are my Glory (Ps 3:3)
~ You are Faithful (Ps 31:5)	~ You are Merciful (Ps 25:7)	~ You are Holy (Ps 22:3)
~ You are my Refuge (Ps 61:3)	~ You Rescue me (Ps 25:5)	~ You help me See (Ps 36:9)
~ You are my Master (Ps 16:2)		

- **As we look at what motivated David to pursue God and obey his commands**, here's a great place to start walking this out personally...
- **Let go** of everything that holds you back from your destiny in God.
 - ¹ Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, **let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.** ² We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne. ³ Think of all the hostility he endured from sinful people; then you won't become weary and give up. ⁴ After all, you have not yet given your lives in your struggle against sin. (Heb 12:1-4 NLT-SE)
- **Love and pursue God** above everything and everyone else in life.
 - ¹ And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. ² Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but **let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think.** Then you will learn to know **God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.** (Rom 12:1-2 NLT-SE)
 - Now seek the LORD your God **with all your heart and soul.** (1 Chr 22:19 NLT-SE)
 - ¹ Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, **set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits** in the place of honor at God's right hand. ² Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth. (Col 3:1-2 NLT-SE)
- **GO ALL IN...** Do only those things that you are willing to **give your 100% for!**