

SEEKING WISDOM

30th September 2018

Welcome Catechumens! (From Greek: οἱ κατηχούμενοι "the ones who are being taught the faith")

I. WHAT IS WISDOM?

A. Growing old ≠ Growing wise

¹³ Better is a poor and wise youth than an old and foolish king, who will no longer take advice. (Ecclesiastes 4:13)

B. What is wisdom?

- 1) the art of living well
- 2) the skillful application of knowledge to everyday life situations
- 3) an awareness of how things really are; the nature of the world in which we live.

C. What is the foundation of wisdom?

¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight. ¹¹ For by me [says wisdom] your days will be multiplied, and years will be added to your life. (Proverbs 9:10-11)

II. HOW IS WISDOM ACQUIRED?

¹⁰ A rebuke goes deeper into a man of understanding than a hundred blows into a fool. (Proverbs 17:10)

⁴ "Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!" To him who lacks sense she says, ⁵ "Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed. ⁶ Leave your simple ways, and live, and walk in the way of insight." (Proverbs 9:1-6)

III. A YOUNG MAN, FULL OF WISDOM: The Early Years of David

"I have found in David the son of Jesse a man after my heart, who will do all my will." (Acts 13:22)

A. His life shows:

1) Wisdom is gained by a heart set to love and fear God, the Maker of all things.

"For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?" (1 Samuel 17:26)

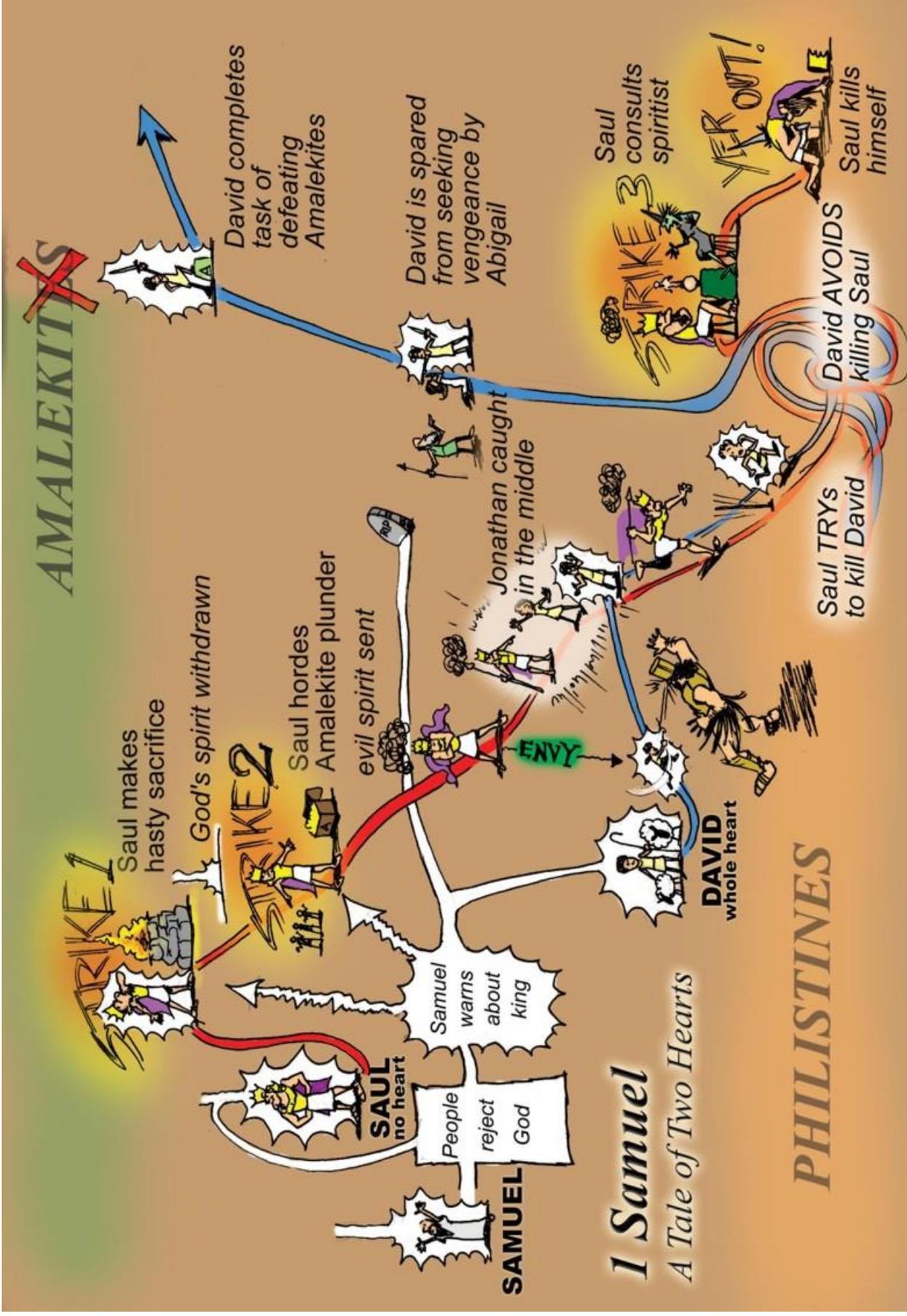
⁵ Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword and with a spear and with a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. ⁴⁶ This day the LORD will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you down and cut off your head ⁴⁷ ... For the battle is the LORD's, and he will give you into our hand." (1 Samuel 17:45-47)

2) Wisdom can be gained by all who seek for her - whether young or old.

⁴ In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches. ¹⁵ I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways. ¹⁶ I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word. (Psalm 119:14-16)

B. We can learn from his adventures that:

3) Those who fear God and love wisdom are attracted to those who fear God and love wisdom.



The Response of Saul to God's wisdom in David
VS.
The Response of Jonathan to God's wisdom in David

Using Wisdom/Learning Wisdom in the midst of Unjust Treatment

Index of Psalms written by David when Saul Hunted him between 1018-1010 BC		
Psalm 7	The LORD Implored to Defend the Psalmist against the Wicked. A <u>Shiggaion</u> of David, which he sang to the LORD concerning Cush, a Benjamite.	Protection from Saul: Cush the <u>Benjaminite</u> refers to Saul the son of Kish
Psalm 59	Prayer for Deliverance from Enemies. For the choir director; set to Al-tashheth. A <u>Mikhtam</u> of David, when Saul sent men and they watched the house in order to kill him.	1 Sam 19 when Michal let David escape from the house out the window.
Psalm 56	Supplication for Deliverance and Grateful Trust in God. For the choir director; according to <u>Jonath elem rehokim</u> . A <u>Mikhtam</u> of David, when the Philistines seized him in Gath. (Psalm 56 title)	Captured by Philistines, when David had to resort to faking insanity to escape <u>Achish</u> , king of Gath. (56&57 are considered twin psalms)
Psalm 34	The LORD, a Provider and Deliverer. A Psalm of David when he feigned madness before Abimelech [Achish] , who drove him away and he departed. (Psalm 34 title)	Faked madness to <u>Achish</u>
Psalm 52	Futility of Boastful Wickedness. For the choir director. A <u>Maskil</u> of David, when Doeg the Edomite came and told Saul and said to him, "David has come to the house of Ahimelech."	<u>Doeg</u> the Edomite kills the 85 priests of Nob.
Psalm 63	The Thirsting Soul Satisfied in God. A Psalm of David, when he was in the wilderness of Judah.	1 Samuel 22:5 when Gad the prophet ordered David back to Judah to rely upon God.
Psalm 54	Prayer for Defense against Enemies. For the choir director; on stringed instruments. A <u>Maskil</u> of David, when the <u>Ziphites</u> came and said to Saul, "Is not David hiding himself among us?"	<u>Ziphites</u> betray David 3 times
Psalm 18	The LORD Praised for Giving Deliverance. For the choir director. A Psalm of David the servant of the LORD, who spoke to the LORD the words of this song in the day that the LORD delivered him from the hand of all his enemies and from the hand of Saul.	When Saul surrounded David but was recalled to fight the Philistines: "Saul went on one side of the mountain, and David and his men on the other side of the mountain; and David was hurrying to get away from Saul, for Saul and his men were surrounding David and his men to seize them. But a messenger came to Saul, saying, "Hurry and come, for the Philistines have made a raid on the land." So Saul returned from pursuing David and went to meet the Philistines; therefore they called that place the Rock of Escape." (1 Samuel 23:26-28)
Psalm 57	Prayer for Rescue from Persecutors. For the choir director; set to Al-tashheth. A <u>Mikhtam</u> of David, when he fled from Saul in the cave. (Psalm 57 title)	When David was in the cave at <u>En Gedi</u> and cut the robe of Saul. (56&57 are considered twin psalms)
Psalm 142	" <u>Maskil</u> of David, when he was in the cave. A Prayer." (Psalm 142:title)	When David was in the cave at <u>En Gedi</u> and cut the robe of Saul.

IV. LEADERSHIP IN THE CHURCH

¹² Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. (1 Timothy 4:12)

Summary overview of 1 Samuel chapters 21-31:

1. David flees from Saul's Palace at Gibeah to Samuel in Ramah.
2. David flees to Nob where he eats the bread of Presence.
3. David seeks refuge with Achish, king of Gath, but fakes insanity.
4. David flees to Adullam & 400 disaffected men join him.
5. David seeks refuge in Kir-Hareseth in Moab from Saul for his parents but Gad, the prophet, orders David back home to Judah.
6. David returns from Moab to Hereth forest, starts writing Psalms.
7. Saul kills 85 priests at Nob, Abiathar flees to David later at Keilah.
8. Saul kills the gentile Gibeonites (2 Sam 21) & banishes mediums in preparation for Tabernacle being moved from Nob to Gibeon.
9. David liberates Keilah from the Philistines but the city betrays David to Saul and he flees.
10. David lives in the hill country of the wilderness of Ziph in the "Horesh" (forest).
11. The city of Ziph travel up the Saul's palace in Gibeah and betray David to Saul.
12. Saul hunts David in the wilderness of Maon in the Arabah south of the Jeshimon desert beside the Salt Sea.
13. David is surrounded but Saul suddenly retreats to fight Philistines.
14. David moves to Engedi & Saul hunts him down with 3000 men.
15. God delivers Saul into David's hand while Saul sleeps in the same cave at Engedi that David is hiding in & cuts Saul's robe.
16. Saul returns to Gibeah after being spared by the grace of David.
17. David mourns Samuel's death by visiting the wilderness of Paran. (likely to Kadesh Barnea located at Sela/Petra)
18. David returns to Maon & Carmel where Saul's self praise monument is located after sparing Agag: 1 Sam 15:12
19. In Carmel, Nabal is shearing the sheep that David has protected in the wilderness without reward from Nabel.
20. David marries Abigail after she intercedes for Nabal, who dies after he refused to give David a bit of food.
21. Ziphites betray David a second time by informing Saul he is in the wilderness of Ziph.
22. God sends a sleep on Saul's camp so David takes Saul's water jug and spear but spares him a second time.
23. Saul returns to Gibeah. David & his 600 men move to Goliath's home town of Gath under the protection of Achish and Saul quits hunting David.
24. David and his 600 men are given Ziklag as a city to live in.
25. David defeats the Transjordan nations of the Geshurites, Girzites and Amalekites but lies to Achish that the war booty was from Negev Israelites.
26. Achish makes David his personal bodyguard & says he is an angel of God.
27. The Philistines gather for war at Aphek and Saul at Jezreel.
28. Saul consults the witch of Endor and Samuel tells Saul that he will die.
29. David joins Achish and the 4 other Philistine lords to battle Saul.
30. The 4 other Philistine lords mistrust David and Achish sends him back to Ziklag while the Philistines proceed to Saul's camp at Jezreel.
31. When David returns to Ziklag, the Amalekites had burned the city and kidnapped the women, children and flocks.
32. David crosses the Besor river, defeats the Amalekites and rescues the women, children, flocks and plunders their riches.
33. David offers gifts to the cities of Bethel, Ramoth, Jattir, Aroer, Siphmoth, Eshtemoa, Racal, Hormah, Bor-ashan, Athach, Hebron.
34. Saul and Jonathan are killed on Mt. Gilboa & decapitated. The Philistines display the heads in their cities and hang the bodies on the Beth-shan wall.
35. The men of Jabesh-gilead steal the headless bodies, burn them and bury the bones in their town of Jabesh-gilead. David reburies in Zela.