
Sermon Text Discussion Notes 1/3/2019

I Samuel 27 & 28 “Where Every Sin Wants to Take You”

by Drew Hunter

Overview

Maintaining a weighty view of sin helps us to better understand ourselves and leads us to enjoy Christ and His grace more deeply. As we trace King Saul’s decisions in a desperate situation, these chapters reveal where sin takes a person. It answers the question, ‘What is the end of sin?’

1. Act of Sin When God does not speak to Saul through any of the typical channels, he disobediendly consults a medium.
2. Tragedy of Sin When we turn *away* from God and *against* him, he turns *away* from us and *against* us.
3. The Momentum of Sin No sin wants to remain an isolated incident. Every sin wants to grow. Every sin wants to push us further. Every sin creates momentum.
4. Disappointment of Sin Neither Saul nor David are heroes of this story
5. Hope for Sinners Saul’s last supper is despairing - eating at the table of a witch; God is silent; and he refuses to call out to God and repent. Jesus at his last supper became the story’s only hero – and he wants our disappointment in ourselves and others to turn to joyful faith in him.

Quotations

“All sin has first and finally a Godward force. Let us say that a sin is any act—any thought, desire, emotion, word, or deed—or it’s particular absence, that displeases God and deserves blame... Sin is a culpable and personal affront to a personal God”
Cornelius Plantinga, *Not the Way It’s Supposed to Be*,

“...the power of Evil in the world is *not* finally resistible by incarnate creatures, however ‘good.’”
J.R.R. Tolkien

Understanding & Application

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- 1) Have you observed in someone’s life the “tragedy of sin” – a person who turned away from God and then the Lord turned away from him? Have you ever experienced this personally?
 - 2) Why does sin create momentum? What in the nature of sin causes it to grow and intensify?
 - 3) What do you think Cornelius Plantinga means when he writes that “sin is a personal affront to a personal God”? How could this realization aid you in your fight against sin?
 - 4) Have you ever been disappointed in human leadership and realized in a deeper way that all people are flawed? What effect has that had on your spiritual life? On your relational life?
 - 5) Can you share a meaningful disappointment in your life – either in yourself or someone else. How has the Lord met you in this and eventually deepened your faith and hope?
 - 6) How do you find practical hope when viewing the despairing final scene of chapter 28?