

Admiration & Pain for David *in Waiting for God* *The King and the People Series*

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What We Will Learn

- Growing recognition and admiration of David
 - Started with his victory over Goliath
 - Successful in everything he did
 - Reputation for good leadership
- Growing pains: enmity and envy from Saul
- Married Saul's daughter Michal despite strong indication marriage was not of God
- Reality of temptation while waiting for God
- 1 Samuel 18

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Unknown Before Encounter with Goliath

- Before his encounter with Goliath
- David was not known
- Except among family and close relations
- Saul did not know him, though he was his harp player and armorbearer
- 1 Samuel 17:55–58

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1 Samuel 17 (NIV)

55 As Saul watched David going out to meet the Philistine, he said to Abner, commander of the army, "Abner, whose son is that young man?"

Abner replied, "As surely as you live, Your Majesty, I don't know."

56 The king said, "Find out whose son this young man is."

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1 Samuel 17 (NIV)

57 As soon as David returned from killing the Philistine, Abner took him and brought him before Saul, with David still holding the Philistine's head.

58 "Whose son are you, young man?" Saul asked him.

David said, "I am the son of your servant Jesse of Bethlehem."

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Growing Admiration

- Admiration of David grew among the people
- Highly admired for victory over Goliath
- Reputation for being effective in everything
- Admired as battalion commander
- People associated him with excellence
- Developed strong friendship with Jonathan
- Saul loved and admired David initially
- 1 Samuel 18:1–7, 12–16, and 30

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1 Samuel 18 (NIV)

1 After David had finished talking with Saul, Jonathan became one in spirit with David, and he loved him as himself.

2 From that day Saul kept David with him and did not let him return home to his family.

3 And Jonathan made a covenant with David because he loved him as himself.

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1 Samuel 18 (NIV)

4 Jonathan took off the robe he was wearing and gave it to David, along with his tunic, and even his sword, his bow and his belt.

5 Whatever mission Saul sent him on, David was so successful that Saul gave him a high rank in the army. This pleased all the troops, and Saul's officers as well.

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1 Samuel 18 (NIV)

6 When the men were returning home after David had killed the Philistine, the women came out from all the towns of Israel to meet King Saul with singing and dancing, with joyful songs and with timbrels and lyres.

7 As they danced, they sang:
"Saul has slain his thousands,
and David his tens of thousands."

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1 Samuel 18 (NIV)

12 Saul was afraid of David, because the Lord was with David but had departed from Saul.

13 So he sent David away from him and gave him command over a thousand men, and David led the troops in their campaigns.

- Saul's feelings for David changed from love and admiration to envy, fear, and hatred

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1 Samuel 18 (NIV)

14 In everything he did he had great success, because the Lord was with him.

15 When Saul saw how successful he was, he was afraid of him.

16 But all Israel and Judah loved David, because he led them in their campaigns.

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1 Samuel 18 (NIV)

30 The Philistine commanders continued to go out to battle, and as often as they did, David met with more success than the rest of Saul's officers, and his name became well known.

- Growing reputation as an effective leader and army commander

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Growing Pains

- Increasing attack from the devil
- Saul increasingly angry with David
- Declared David his enemy
- Attempted to kill David
- Grew afraid of David
- Promoted him to keep him out, expose him to danger, and in recognition of his valor
- 1 Samuel 18:10–15 and 28–29

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1 Samuel 18 (NIV)

10 The next day an evil spirit from God came forcefully on Saul. He was prophesying in his house, while David was playing the lyre, as he usually did. Saul had a spear in his hand

11 and he hurled it, saying to himself, "I'll pin David to the wall." But David eluded him twice.

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1 Samuel 18 (NIV)

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1 Samuel 18 (NIV)

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1 Samuel 18 (NIV)

28 When Saul realized that the Lord was with David and that his daughter Michal loved David,

29 Saul became still more afraid of him, and he remained his enemy the rest of his days.

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A Misstep by David

- Married Saul's daughter Michal
- Despite indication the marriage is not of God
- Saul offered daughter to snare David
- Dodged first attempt but fell for the second
- God's warning to David—a gruesome demand by Saul
- God will warn but leaves freedom to choose
- 1 Samuel 18:17–27 [selected verses]

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1 Samuel 18 (NIV)

17 Saul said to David, "Here is my older daughter Merab. I will give her to you in marriage; only serve me bravely and fight the battles of the Lord." For Saul said to himself, "I will not raise a hand against him. Let the Philistines do that!"

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1 Samuel 18 (NIV)

18 But David said to Saul, "Who am I, and what is my family or my clan in Israel, that I should become the king's son-in-law?"

19 So when the time came for Merab, Saul's daughter, to be given to David, she was given in marriage to Adriel of Meholah.

- David dodged first attempt at snaring him with marriage

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1 Samuel 18 (NIV)

20 Now Saul's daughter Michal was in love with David, and when they told Saul about it, he was pleased.

21 "I will give her to him," he thought, "so that she may be a snare to him and so that the hand of the Philistines may be against him." So Saul said to David, "Now you have a second opportunity to become my son-in-law."

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1 Samuel 18 (NIV)

- David initially did not accept the offer

24 When Saul's servants told him what David had said,

25 Saul replied, "Say to David, 'The king wants no other price for the bride than a hundred Philistine foreskins, to take revenge on his enemies.'" Saul's plan was to have David fall by the hands of the Philistines.

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1 Samuel 18 (NIV)

27 David took his men with him and went out and killed two hundred Philistines and brought back their foreskins. They counted out the full number to the king so that David might become the king's son-in-law. Then Saul gave him his daughter Michal in marriage.

- Despite strong indication that this marriage was not of God

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What We Learned

- While *working with God* in *waiting for God*
- He guides you incrementally toward his goal
- Exemplified by growing admiration for David
- But the devil will inject temptations
- Exemplified by growing pains for David
- Recognize temptation by focusing on principles of *living in the image of God*

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