

What would God have done if David had not run?

1Sam 16 Samuel anointed David to be the next king of Israel. He was not told when or the circumstances involved but were made certain by the word of God. David didn't know what life as king would be, but he did know that God had willed it.

He began with nothing, a shepherd keeping sheep. After his anointing, he was promoted quickly and got a life. He was given a career, success, financial prosperity, and a princess for his wife and his own home. He attached his heart to this life as his happiness, especially to Michal, his wife (1Sam 25:44; 2Sam 3:13). The book of 1Sam tells the story of David reacting to the loss of this life, wanting it back and running from fear of Saul. God was willing to give Him a life without fear or running, it was there for him, but he believed what his anger and fear told him rather than the Lord.

- 1Sam 16 Samuel anoints David to be king (1, 12-13)
- 1Sam 17 David kills Goliath; inquires about reward (25-27); refuses king's daughter
- 1Sam 18 Military career & success; Jonathon; Saul is jealous; marries Michal
- 1Sam 19 Saul seeks to kill him & David escapes & runs to Samuel
- 1Sam 19:11-17 Sent men to his house to kill him; Michal protects him; climbs out the window
- 1Sam 19:18-24 Runs to Samuel - God refuses to allow Saul to kill him - what God would do
- 1Sam 20 Jonathon determines that Saul will not relent - David runs, not trust God
- 1Sam 21 David lies to Ahimelech - causes the death of 85 priests & town of Nob
- 1Sam 21:10-15 Flees to Gath & pretends to be crazy to avoid being killed
- 1Sam 22 Flees to cave of Adullam - there all alone with the Lord; his family, the malcontents and the criminals of the land formed an army.
- 1Sam 23-26 David's encounters with Saul
- 1Sam 25 Marries Ahinoam & Abigail - Deut 17:14-17 contrary to God's command
- 1Sam 27 One day Saul will kill me, I will escape to the land of the Philistines; pretends to be loyal to king of Gath; pretends to attack Israel; 8-11 - attacked other people, told Achish he was attacking Israel; killed everyone to avoid exposure; led 600 men and their families into this terrible deception with him because he refused to believe God

1. The question: What would God have done for David, to Saul, if instead of fleeing, he had stayed and confronted the situation because he trusted God?

- What would his life been like? What would God have done with Saul?
- God enabled him to defeat the lion, bear and then Goliath - why not Saul?
- At Ramah with Samuel, God protected him from the soldiers and even Saul
- Even on the run, marrying multiple wives, performing his misdeeds, God protected him and provided for him.

2. God gave him numerous wake-up calls along the way as well as his terrible behavior that could have sounded an alarm in his soul.

- 1Sam 19:18-24 With Samuel, God transforms all of his enemies
- 1Sam 21 At Nob he lies to Ahimelech - sees Doeg the Edomite the enemy of God
- 1Sam 22 Saul has the priests killed & city of Nob – wake-up call for David

- 1Sam 23:15-17 Jonathon: my father won't kill you, you will be king...
 - 1Sam 24 & 26 Encounters with Saul, spares his life
 - 1Sam 27 When he has to kill men and women to protect his secret life – hello
- What in your life do you need to confront yet you are avoiding or running?
 - David trusted his own efforts to protect him from Saul, in spite of God's promise
 - He would have told you that he was using common sense - sight = faith in human logic & common sense cp faith = faith in God's promise.

3. David was fearful, imagining scenarios that couldn't occur or God would fix.

- 1Sam 20:3 There is only one step between me and death... devises a lie to tell Saul
 - 1 Sam 27:1 Then David said to himself, "Now I will die one day by the hand of Saul...."
- In spite of the anointing & promise that he would be king, he thinks Saul can kill him
 - He tells himself (inner dialogue) "one day this guy is going to get me"
 - If Saul was allowed to kill David, God would have brought him back to life.
 - He faced death with lion, bear, Goliath, military but feared for his life with Saul

4. David was angry over losing the life he had built & thought he deserved.

- 1Sam 20:1 What have I done? What is my crime? How have I wronged your father?
 - 2Sam 3:13 I demand one thing of you, namely, you shall not see my face unless you first bring Michal, Saul's daughter, when you come to see me."
- He is looking at his life from his human agenda - wants his life back
 - God offered him another giant to face but now he had more to gain & lose
 - Human view looks at circumstances wanting to always improve them
 - Divine view looks at opportunities to trust, to grow and to honor God

5. God allows nothing in believer's life for which He has not provided principles of truth that when believed for life, will allow us to face it with faith

- Heb 11:17-19 Abraham offered Isaac, knowing he was the heir, believing God would raise him
 - David had this history lesson as an example for facing his own death
- Heb 11:22 Joseph believed the prophetic promise of the land - take my bones
- 1Cor 10:13 No adversity we can't bear, provides a way of escape to endure it
 - Way of escape - biblical rationales to think it through to victory with divine viewpoint

6. Our refusal to face the challenges God allows impacts those associated with us.

- 1Sam 21 David's avoidance and lies caused many to die
- 1Sam 27 His fear/flee strategy led his men to kill innocents to protect their lies
- 2Sam 12 David's adultery, lies & murder resulted in the Absalom revolution
 - Marriage - personal baggage & refusal to face it hinders the marital relationship
 - Parents - marital shortcomings produce parental shortcomings hindering children