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Way Point 69

Knitted Souls

Story of the David and Jonathan's Friendship

Saul, as we saw last Way Point, has become jealous of David because the women were attributing greater military feats to him than to Saul. As we come to our stop now at this Way Point we are going to explore a relationship that in some ways defies logic but that is what makes it special.

I- Knitted Souls- The Beginning of the Friendship:

After David killed Goliath, Saul inquired as to who he was. I Samuel 17:57-58 And as David returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, Abner took him, and brought him before Saul with the head of the Philistine in his hand. 58 And Saul said to him, Whose son art thou, thou young man? And David answered, I am the son of thy servant Jesse the Bethlehemite.

Now, as I previously pointed out the David had already played his harp for Saul. Saul obviously was absorbed in his own world and did not notice those who were serving him.

The thing that came out of this however was a friendship that as I previously stated defied logic. I Samuel 18:1 And it came to pass, when he had made an end of speaking unto Saul, that the soul of Jonathan was knit with the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul. ... 3 Then Jonathan and David made a covenant, because he loved him as his own soul. 4 And Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was upon him, and gave it to David, and his garments, even to his sword, and to his bow, and to his girdle.

Why do I say it defied logic? Jonathan was the son of Saul and would have been the next in line for the throne. It was not logically, especially in the culture that they were in for this friendship to happen. Jonathan very easily could have seen David as a threat or adversary but it tells us a lot about Jonathan when he did not.

Notice that Jonathan and David's bond was strong from the beginning. Jonathan presented him with clothing from his own wardrobe that would have been more fitting than the shepherd's garb. The giving of these items were the giving of some of the honor of Jonathan as the son of the king to David.

We see friendship practiced here. The scriptures talk about friendship in many places. One is *Proverbs 27:6 Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.* Another is *Proverbs 18:24 A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly...*

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David and Jonathan's souls were knit together in a strong bond from the beginning.

II- Saul Attempts to Kill David:

David is now living in the house of Saul to play his harp when Saul was troubled. Saul has already began to develop a hate and jealousy toward David because of the women's song. On one of these occasions, we see the attempt of Saul to take the life of David.

1 Samuel 18:10-11 And it came to pass on the morrow, that the evil spirit from God came upon Saul, and he prophesied in the midst of the house: and David played with his hand, as at other times: and there was a javelin in Saul's hand. 11 And Saul cast the javelin; for he said, I will smite David even to the wall with it. And David avoided out of his presence twice.

Twice David avoided the javelin of Saul as he threw it at him. Along with jealousy we see from the Word of God that it was also born of fear.

1 Samuel 18:12-15 And Saul was afraid of David, because the LORD was with him, and was departed from Saul. 13 Therefore Saul removed him from him, and made him his captain over a thousand; and he went out and came in before the people. 14 And David behaved himself wisely in all his ways; and the LORD was with him. 15 Wherefore when Saul saw that he behaved himself very wisely, he was afraid of him.

III- Murderous Plots:

The promise of the king to the one that killed Goliath was a daughter of Saul for a wife. David did not consider himself worthy so the first plot of Saul to kill David was to demand he kill a hundred Philistines. Saul hoped David would be killed. 1 Samuel 18:25 And Saul said, Thus shall ye say to David, The king desireth not any dowry, but an hundred foreskins of the Philistines, to be avenged of the king's enemies. But Saul thought to make David fall by the hand of the Philistines.

When this failed he then makes David a wanted man by his servants. 1 Samuel 19:1 And Saul spake to Jonathan his son, and to all his servants, that they should kill David.

This is where the friendship of David and Jonathan comes into play in a great way. Jonathan warns David of the plot and tells him he will find out if it is true and if David can return safely.



1 Samuel 18:

Sights to See:

- 1- Friendships can come about in an instant.
- 2- Friendships are also built over time and often lifetimes.
- 3- Jonathan was willing to give up his rights for the best for Israel and his friend David.
- Saul allowed his own suspicions to run wild in his imagination and made enemy out of someone who meant him no harm and only good.
- 5- We all should be very careful how we allow our emotions develop to in relationship to people that we do not necessarily have an instant liking towards. made enemies of some this way.
- 6- Anger, jealousy and fear can cause men to do some atrocious things.
- 7- Friends should do all within their power to protect others.
- 8- Will you be my friend?

1 Samuel 19:2-3 But Jonathan Saul's son delighted much in David: and Jonathan told David, saying, Saul my father seeketh to kill thee: now therefore, I pray thee, take heed to thyself until the morning, and abide in a secret place, and hide thyself: 3 And I will go out and stand beside my

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father in the field where thou art, and I will commune with my father of thee; and what I see, that I will tell thee.

IV- Saul Attempts to Kill Jonathan:

Saul has allowed his own feeling to get the best of him. He had made an enemy David who mean him no harm but only good. I Samuel 19:4-7 And Jonathan spake good of David unto Saul his father, and said unto him, Let not the king sin against his servant, against David; because he hath not sinned against thee, and because his works have been to thee-ward very good: 5 For he did put his life in his hand, and slew the Philistine, and the LORD wrought a great salvation for all Israel: thou sawest it, and didst rejoice: wherefore then wilt thou sin against innocent blood, to slay David without a cause? 6 And Saul hearkened unto the voice of Jonathan: and Saul sware, As the LORD liveth, he shall not be slain. 7 And Jonathan called David, and Jonathan shewed him all those things. And Jonathan brought David to Saul, and he was in his presence, as in times past.

Still Saul allowed the monsters to grow in his mind. We see in 1 Samuel 19:10 And Saul sought to smite David even to the wall with the javelin; but he slipped away out of Saul's presence, and he smote the javelin into the wall: and David fled, and escaped that night.

David's wife, Saul daughter, helped him escape a plot then to kill him that night. David will spend time fleeing. He returns to Jonathan and asks what he had done that made Saul hate him and kept trying to kill him.

Jonathan and David develop a plan that would allow Jonathan to tell David if it was safe to return or if he must flee. If David was to flee Jonathan would signal him to go by a prearranged signal concerning arrows he would shoot into the field where David was hiding.

Jonathan goes into his father to ascertain if David was in danger still. It is at a meal when David's place was empty for the third day that the heart of Saul was revealed.

1 Samuel 20:27 And it came to pass on the morrow, which was the second day of the month, that David's place was empty: and Saul said unto Jonathan his son, Wherefore cometh not the son of Jesse to meat, neither yesterday, nor to day? Jonathan tried to explain to no avail.

1 Samuel 20:30 Then Saul's anger was kindled against Jonathan, and he said unto him, Thou son of the perverse rebellious woman, do not I know that thou hast chosen the son of Jesse to thine own confusion, and unto the confusion of thy mother's nakedness? 31 For as long as the son of Jesse liveth upon the ground, thou shalt not be established, nor thy kingdom. Wherefore now send and fetch him unto me, for he shall surely die. 32 And Jonathan answered Saul his father, and said unto him, Wherefore shall he be slain? what hath he done? 33 And Saul cast a javelin at him to smite him: whereby Jonathan knew that it was determined of his father to slay David.

Jonathan goes into the field the next day as planned and warned David that Saul would try to kill him and that he should flee. Jonathan gave up any hope he had ever entrained of being king by this act of friendship. But, in addition to this I suggest to you that Jonathan knew that it was the will of God that David be the next king and that he simply was acting accordingly as well.

Jonathan solicits a promise from David concerning the future. 1 Samuel 20:15 But also thou shalt not cut off thy kindness from my house for ever: no, not when the LORD hath cut off the enemies of David every one from the face of the earth. This was one friendship that would play out over the years and separation. It remained a friendship knitted together at the heart.