

# HEART OF DAVID

## Drawing Strength from God

### *God Sees and Responds*

Romans 15:4 For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope. NIV

#### **Overview of 1 Samuel 20-22**

Saul is consumed with rage and acknowledges that David is God's intended heir to the throne rather than Saul's son, Jonathan (1 Samuel 20:31).

Jonathan warns David that Saul wants to kill him (1 Samuel 20:32-42).

David flees and goes through Nob (1 Samuel 21:1-8).

- Jesus mentions this in Matthew 12:4, Mark 2:26, and Luke 6:4.
- Some of David's servants were with him, but most of his men joined him later (1 Samuel 22:1-2).
- The priest, Ahimelech, gives him some bread and Goliath's sword.
- Doeg the Edomite, who was in charge of Saul's shepherds, happened to be there.

David goes to Gath (1 Samuel 21:9-21:14) among the Philistines and pretends to be insane.

David writes Psalm 34.

David flees to the cave of Adullam where he is joined by his family and about 400 men (1 Samuel 22:1-2).

David flees to Mizpah in Moab and has his parents stay there (1 Samuel 22:3-4).

A prophet warns him to flee to Judah and he flees to the Judean mountains (forest of Hereth) (1 Samuel 22:5).

Saul has Doeg execute eighty-five priests at Nob as well as men, women, children and infants, oxen, donkeys, and sheep (1 Samuel 22:6-23).

David recognizes that in one sense, he is guilty of all their deaths (1 Samuel 22:22).

David writes Psalm 52.

## Psalm 34

*Of David. When he pretended to be insane before Abimelek, who drove him away, and he left.*

- <sup>1</sup> I will extol the Lord at all times;  
his praise will always be on my lips.
- <sup>2</sup> I will glory in the Lord;  
let the afflicted hear and rejoice.
- <sup>3</sup> Glorify the Lord with me;  
let us exalt his name together.
- <sup>4</sup> I sought the Lord, and he answered me;  
he delivered me from all my fears.
- <sup>5</sup> Those who look to him are radiant;  
their faces are never covered with shame.
- <sup>6</sup> This poor man called, and the Lord heard him;  
he saved him out of all his troubles.
- <sup>7</sup> The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear  
him,  
and he delivers them.
- <sup>8</sup> Taste and see that the Lord is good;  
blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.
- <sup>9</sup> Fear the Lord, you his holy people,  
for those who fear him lack nothing.
- <sup>10</sup> The lions may grow weak and hungry,  
but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.
- <sup>11</sup> Come, my children, listen to me;  
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.
- <sup>12</sup> Whoever of you loves life  
and desires to see many good days,  
<sup>13</sup> keep your tongue from evil  
and your lips from telling lies.
- <sup>14</sup> Turn from evil and do good;  
seek peace and pursue it.
- <sup>15</sup> The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,  
and his ears are attentive to their cry;
- <sup>16</sup> but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil,  
to blot out their name from the earth.
- <sup>17</sup> The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them;  
he delivers them from all their troubles.
- <sup>18</sup> The Lord is close to the brokenhearted  
and saves those who are crushed in spirit.
- <sup>19</sup> The righteous person may have many troubles,  
but the Lord delivers him from them all;
- <sup>20</sup> he protects all his bones,  
not one of them will be broken.

- <sup>21</sup> Evil will slay the wicked;  
the foes of the righteous will be condemned.
- <sup>22</sup> The Lord will rescue his servants;  
no one who takes refuge in him will be condemned.
- NIV

## Psalm 52

*A maskil of David. When Doeg the Edomite had gone to Saul and told him: "David has gone to the house of Ahimelek."*

- <sup>1</sup> Why do you boast of evil, you mighty hero?  
Why do you boast all day long,  
you who are a disgrace in the eyes of God?
- <sup>2</sup> You who practice deceit,  
your tongue plots destruction;  
it is like a sharpened razor.
- <sup>3</sup> You love evil rather than good,  
falsehood rather than speaking the truth.
- <sup>4</sup> You love every harmful word,  
you deceitful tongue!
- <sup>5</sup> Surely God will bring you down to everlasting ruin:  
He will snatch you up and pluck you from your tent;  
he will uproot you from the land of the living.
- <sup>6</sup> The righteous will see and fear;  
they will laugh at you, saying,
- <sup>7</sup> "Here now is the man  
who did not make God his stronghold  
but trusted in his great wealth  
and grew strong by destroying others!"
- <sup>8</sup> But I am like an olive tree  
flourishing in the house of God;  
I trust in God's unfailing love  
for ever and ever.
- <sup>9</sup> For what you have done I will always praise you  
in the presence of your faithful people.  
And I will hope in your name,  
for your name is good. NIV

## Observations on Psalms 34 (After David Pretended to be Insane):

**David takes a situation that was completely humiliating and instead of blaming God, credits God with his miraculous deliverance.**

God answers and delivers.

Psalm 34:4-5 I sought the Lord, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears.

<sup>5</sup> Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame. NIV

God listens and saves.

Psalm 34:6 This poor man called, and the Lord heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles. NIV

God is with me.

Psalm 34:7 The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them. NIV

God is good.

Psalm 34:8 Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him. NIV

**David sees the fear of the Lord as key to his deliverance, encourages others to fear the Lord, and then teaches what the fear of the Lord is.**

Psalm 34:7 The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them. NIV

Psalm 34:9 Fear the Lord, you his holy people, for those who fear him lack nothing. NIV

Psalm 34:11-16 Come, my children, listen to me;

I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

<sup>12</sup> Whoever of you loves life

and desires to see many good days,

<sup>13</sup> keep your tongue from evil

and your lips from telling lies.

<sup>14</sup> Turn from evil and do good;

seek peace and pursue it.

<sup>15</sup> The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,

and his ears are attentive to their cry;

<sup>16</sup> but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil,

to blot out their name from the earth. NIV

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## Observations on Psalms 52 (After Doeg Killed the Priests at Nob):

In a time of intense persecution, shameful humiliation, and immense guilt, David leaned on God's loyal love.

Psalm 52:1b The steadfast love of God endures all the day. ESV

Psalm 52:8 But I am like an olive tree flourishing in the house of God;  
I trust in God's unfailing love for ever and ever. NIV

David trusts that Doeg/Saul will get what is coming him.

Psalm 52:5-7 Surely God will bring you down to everlasting ruin:

He will snatch you up and pluck you from your tent;

he will uproot you from the land of the living.

<sup>6</sup> The righteous will see and fear; they will laugh at you, saying,

<sup>7</sup> "Here now is the man who did not make God his stronghold  
but trusted in his great wealth and grew strong by destroying others!" NIV

Instead of being angry at God, David praises God and continues to hope in him.

Psalm 52:9 For what you have done I will always praise you  
in the presence of your faithful people.

And I will hope in your name, for your name is good. NIV

## Observations on Psalms 34 & 52:

David's response was the outflow of years of being a man after God's own heart, not just some "Five Steps to Peace in Times of Trouble" program.