

Week of July 8, 2018

<u>This Week's Focus</u>: Jesus, the only sinless one, suffered the judgement we deserved so that we could be saved from sin and find refuge from our troubles in the shadow of his wings.

This Week's Text: 1 Samuel 24

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written," You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve." **Matthew 4:8-10**

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- What has the Holy Spirit impressed on your heart and mind from this week's sermon/text?
- Why do you think the narrator leaves out the details of Saul's battle with the Philistines (1 Samuel 23:26-24:1)? What's been his obsession since Goliath's defeat in chapter 17?
- What brought Saul to the very cave where David was hiding out? What did David's men urge him to do, and what was their reasoning?
- Why did David choose to spare Saul's life? What did the act of cutting Saul's robe symbolize (reference 1 Samuel 15:27-28, 1 Samuel 18:4), and why did it trouble David's conscience?
- What's wrong with relying on your desires and circumstances to determine God's will? Discuss
 how we can ascertain God's will in Scripture, through prayer, and in gospel-centered
 community.
- Why did David not only spare Saul's life, but pay him homage? Discuss how David vindicated himself of wrongdoing while also submitting to God's righteous judgement. How does David's treatment of Saul and his refusal to shortcut God's will demonstrate his faith in God?
- What's the difference between justice and human vengeance?
- How should we speak about and treat those who are in authority over you such as bosses, parents, and elected officials (1 Peter 2:13-14,17; Romans 13:1-4; 1 Timothy 2:2)? What does your treatment of human authorities evidence about your faith in and submission to God and to his sovereign plans and purposes?

- Read Psalm 57 and reflect on the reality of God's steadfast love and care for his people in the midst of their troubles.
- Why do you think Saul wept? Discuss the difference between worldly sorrow/remorse and genuine repentance. What does God reveal through Saul's words?
- How is David's temptation in the cave reminiscent of the garden of Eden. Discuss how Jesus,
 the only sinless one, suffered the judgement we deserved so that we could be saved from sin
 and find refuge from our troubles in the shadow of his wings (Psalm 57:1).
- How does this passage propel you to live on mission to demonstrate and declare the gospel to those within your spheres of influence?