

**Walking Through The Problems of This Life**  
**1 Samuel 26**

Saul comes out to HUNT David again! 1 Sam. 26:1-4

The Israelites put faith in double testimony (Dt. 19:15), and here for the second time David resisted temptation and refused to harm *the LORD's anointed* (9); also for the second time, Saul admitted his own wrong-doing (21) and acknowledged that David would have a great future (25). So once again the writer emphasizes David's refusal to do any harm to Saul, and the fact that (in his better moments) Saul took all the blame on himself

There are people who will not stop their  
HARRASSMENT.

David responds to GOD'S WORD, not the situation.  
1 Sam. 26:5-9

The word "trench" in v. 7 indicates a barricade of baggage and wagons. Once again, Satan used others to tempt David to slay Saul (v. 8, and see 24:4), but David resisted the temptation.

Do you respond first to God's Word or to the situation?

David responds to his belief that God is ALIVE.  
1 Sam. 26:10-12

Accordingly, he commanded Abishai to take Saul's "spear"—symbol of his power in society—and "water jug"—symbol of his life-sustaining resources. Having thus symbolically stripped Saul of both his social standing and life, they left

Who do you SERVE?

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Abner is GUILTY of not guarding the King.  
1 Sam. 26:13-16

Saul admits his sinfulness and that David would PREVAIL.

1 Sam. 26:17-25

Before permitting Saul to respond, David asked the king to listen as he uttered a solemn two-part prayer designed to put an end to the conflict that had created so much grief for David. In the first part of his prayer David assumed the possibility that the trouble in his life was of his own making; perhaps because of some sin he committed "the LORD has incited" Saul to pursue David (v. 19). If that was the case, David prayerfully requested that the Lord accept a freewill offering to restore the broken relationship and end the strife.

In the second part of his prayer David expressed the possibility that "men"—not God—were the source of his problem. In such a case, David prayed that God would judge them for their sin—that they "be cursed before the LORD." The sin of such men was to seek to drive David from the Lord and the blessings that accompanied a relationship with the true God.

The idea implied in the closing words was, that Jehovah could only be worshipped in Canaan, at the sanctuary consecrated to Him, because it was only there that He manifested himself to His people, and revealed His face or gracious presence

**Erred exceedingly**: literally "gone astray [or, done wrong] to make great very." The Hebrew verb implies that Saul behaved from ignorance or without intending to do wrong

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The king of Israel is pursuing something very trivial, and altogether unworthy of his pursuit, just as if one were hunting a partridge upon the mountains. “No one would think it worth his while to hunt a single partridge that had flown to the mountains, when they may be found in coveys in the fields” (Winer, *Bibl. R. W.* ii. p. 307).

Do you believe that God will REPAY? (2 Tim. 4:14;  
Rom 12:19-21)

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