

MY STORY IN HIS-STORY: FAITH

Dublin Baptist Church January 30, 2022

1 Samuel 30:1-8

“Now when David and his men came to Ziklag on the third day, the Amalekites had made a raid against the Negeb and against Ziklag. They had overcome Ziklag and burned it with fire and taken captive the women and all who were in it, both small and great. They killed no one, but carried them off and went their way. And when David and his men came to the city, they found it burned with fire, and their wives and sons and daughters taken captive. Then David and the people who were with him raised their voices and wept until they had no more strength to weep. David’s two wives also had been taken captive, Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail, the widow of Nabal of Carmel. And David was greatly distressed, for the people spoke of stoning him because all the people were bitter in soul, each for his sons and daughters. But David strengthened himself in the LORD his God.

And David said to Abiathar the priest, the son of Ahimelech, ‘Bring me the ephod.’ So Abiathar brought the ephod to David. And David inquired of the LORD, ‘Shall I pursue after this band? Shall I overtake them?’ He answered him, ‘Pursue, for you shall surely overtake and shall surely rescue.’”

Strength: How You Handle Difficulty is the Best Witness

v.4 “They had no more strength to weep”

koach: physical power or might

v.6 “all the people were bitter in soul”

marah: bitter

The people focused on what they had lost. It caused such distress that it caused them to lose their strength

and become bitter in soul. Their answer is to punish David. They call for his stoning.

“Blessed are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.”

Psalm 84:5

v.6 “David was greatly distressed”

tsara: bound up or under pressure, highly stressed

V.6: “David strengthened himself in the LORD his God.”

David focused on who he had in the LORD his God and it gave him strength and comfort.

Sin in you and sin in the world will wound you and you need Jesus to be the Great Physician for you.

If you are wounded, belittling and discrediting others is an attempt to make yourself seem better and confirms that something is wrong.

Faith does not remove the problems, but it does comfort and carry you through the problems. It will give strength and hope.

Summons: Who You Turn To Reveals Your Faith

v.7 “Bring the ephod”

nagash: to draw close in physical or intimate manner

David wants to be in God’s presence and is seeking God for comfort and direction.

When you are under pressure what is inside you comes out and your source of strength is seen by everyone.

Seek: Do You Pursue and Overtake Things and People or Do You Pursue God and Have Him Overtake You?

v. 8: “Shall I pursue”

radap: to pursue, gain, chase, possess

v.8: “Shall I overtake”

naseg: to collect, to reach, be sufficient

The question of David is our question, should we go after it and are we going to be successful in what we pursue?

The outward physical battle for stuff is secondary to the inner spiritual battle for a relationship with God.

Do you focus on that which you can lose?

Do you engage in blame and vengeance?

Do you pursue the outward physical?

Do you focus on what you have in Jesus?

Do you desire to draw closer to Jesus?

Do you pursue the inward relationship?

The world watches us and sees it all. We cannot tell them that our faith is important if we seek strength from anything other than Jesus.

“O LORD, my Lord, the strength of my salvation, You have covered my head in the day of battle.”

Psalm 140:7

Notes