

DEEPER TEACHINGS
(MEAT OF THE WORD)

#55

DAVID'S BOW

By Sam Fife



According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.

1Co 3:10

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For this study we find our scripture text in the book of 1Sa 31:1 Now the Philistines fought against Israel: and the men of Israel fled from before the Philistines, and fell down slain in mount Gilboa. 2 And the Philistines followed hard upon Saul and upon his sons; and the Philistines slew Jonathan, and Abinadab, and Malchi-shua, Saul's sons. 3 And the battle went sore against Saul, and the archers hit him; and he was sore wounded of the archers. 4 Then said Saul unto his armorbearer, Draw thy sword, and thrust me through therewith; lest these uncircumcised come and thrust me through, and abuse me. But his armorbearer would not; for he was sore afraid. Therefore Saul took a sword, and fell upon it. 5 And when his armorbearer saw that Saul was dead, he fell likewise upon his sword, and died with him. 6 So Saul died, and his three sons, and his armorbearer, and all his men, that same day together. 7 And when the men of Israel that *were* on the other side of the valley, and *they* that *were* on the other side Jordan, saw that the men of Israel fled, and that Saul and his sons were dead, they forsook the cities, and fled; and the Philistines came and dwelt in them. 8 And it came to pass on the morrow, when the Philistines came to strip the slain, that they found Saul and his three sons fallen in mount Gilboa. 9 And they cut off his head, and stripped off his armor, and sent into the land of the Philistines round about, to publish *it in* the house of their idols, and among the people. 10 And they put his armor in the house of Ashtaroth: and they fastened his body to the wall of Beth-shan. 11 And when the inhabitants of Jabesh-gilead heard of that which the Philistines had done to Saul; 12 All the valiant men arose, and went all night, and took the body of Saul and the bodies of his sons from the wall of Beth-shan, and came to Jabesh, and burnt them there. 13 And they took their bones, and buried *them* under a tree at Jabesh, and fasted seven days.

There are many dangers that we face as we travel along the road to the great calling that we have in Christ Jesus. One of the greatest dangers that we face is to be taken by the spirit which presents itself to people as soon as God gives them a further revelation, is the idea that they are singled out by God for some particular blessing from God to be God's peculiarly chosen people.

Beloved, we want above all things to escape being taken by that spirit. For there are no particularly chosen people to the heart of God in this hour. The whole foreknown elect Body of Christ are His chosen ones, chosen before the foundation of the world. And no particular sect or no one particular group, no matter how high they have grown in God, are more dear to the heart of God than any of the other members of the Body, even those who are further away from the Father's house at any given hour.

We recognize the fact there are those who are chosen especially of God to do a particular job, and in that sense, I believe we are particularly chosen of God here. But not for God to love any more than any of the rest, but only chosen perhaps to give ourselves a little more than others that the love of God might reach down and touch those that are the most uncomely parts of the Body. I suppose maybe it is this danger which has burdened the Spirit of God to burden my heart to share this particular truth with you from the Scripture.

In 11 Samuel 1, we continue on with the record. I want you to notice something here briefly, lest I pass by it as we minister on this subject. Here we find Saul completely defeated, and David just returning from victory. We find one leader of God's people gone down to ignominious defeat, and another leader that God is raising up. One that not too much had been said about, and yet he had just come back from great victory over the Amalekites. Here we find Saul gone down into defeat, and David rising up in glorious victory. Let us go on to 11 Samuel 1-27.

2Sa 1:1 Now it came to pass after the death of Saul, when David was returned from the slaughter of the Amalekites, and David had abode two days in Ziklag; 2 It came even to pass on the third day, that, behold, a man came out of the camp from Saul with his clothes rent, and earth upon his head: and *so* it was, when he came to David, that he fell to the earth, and did obeisance. 3 And David said unto him, From whence comest thou? And he said unto him, Out of the camp of Israel am I escaped. 4 And David said unto him, How went the matter? I pray thee, tell me. And he answered, That the people are fled from the battle, and many of the people also are fallen and dead; and Saul and Jonathan his son are dead also. 5 And David said unto the young man that told him, How knowest thou that Saul and Jonathan his son be dead? 6 And the young man that told him said, As I happened by chance upon mount Gilboa, behold, Saul leaned upon his spear; and, lo, the chariots and horsemen followed hard after him. 7 And when he looked behind him, he saw me, and called unto me. And I answered, Here *am* I. 8 And he said unto me, Who *art* thou? And I answered him, I *am* an Amalekite. 9 He said unto me again, Stand, I pray thee, upon me, and slay me: for anguish is come upon me, because my life *is* yet whole in me. 10 So I stood upon him, and slew him, because I was sure that he could not live after that he was fallen: and I took the crown that *was* upon his head, and the bracelet that *was* on his arm, and have brought them hither unto my lord. 11 Then David took hold on his clothes, and rent them; and likewise all the men that *were* with him: 12 And they mourned, and wept, and fasted until even, for Saul, and for Jonathan his son, and for the people of the LORD, and for the house of Israel; because they were fallen by the sword. 13 And David said unto the young man that told him, Whence *art* thou? And he answered, I *am* the son of a stranger, an Amalekite. 14 And David said unto him, How wast thou not afraid to stretch forth thine hand to destroy the LORD's anointed? 15 And David called one of

the young men, and said, Go near, *and* fall upon him. And he smote him that he died. 16 And David said unto him, Thy blood *be* upon thy head; for thy mouth hath testified against thee, saying, I have slain the LORD's anointed. 17 And David lamented with this lamentation over Saul and over Jonathan his son: 18 (Also he bade them teach the children of Judah *the use of* the bow: behold, *it is* written in the book of Jasher.) 19 The beauty of Israel is slain upon thy high places: how are the mighty fallen! 20 Tell *it* not in Gath, publish *it* not in the streets of Askelon; lest the daughters of the Philistines rejoice, lest the daughters of the uncircumcised triumph. 21 Ye mountains of Gilboa, *let there be* no dew, neither *let there be* rain, upon you, nor fields of offerings: for there the shield of the mighty is vilely cast away, the shield of Saul, *as though he had not been* anointed with oil. 22 From the blood of the slain, from the fat of the mighty, the bow of Jonathan turned not back, and the sword of Saul returned not empty. 23 Saul and Jonathan *were* lovely and pleasant in their lives, and in their death they were not divided: they were swifter than eagles, they were stronger than lions. 24 Ye daughters of Israel, weep over Saul, who clothed you in scarlet, with *other* delights, who put on ornaments of gold upon your apparel. 25 How are the mighty fallen in the midst of the battle! O Jonathan, *thou wast* slain in thine high places. 26 I am distressed for thee, my brother Jonathan: very pleasant hast thou been unto me: thy love to me was wonderful, passing the love of women. 27 How are the mighty fallen, and the weapons of war perished!

Will you go back with me for a few minutes to the beginning? It begins in 1 Sam. 31 that we begin with the most tragic statements. "Now the Philistines fought against Israel: and the men of Israel fled." I hope that when you come to this record of the Old Testament that you don't come to it in the flesh. I'm sure that most of you have come far enough to know that which happened in the Old Testament

was a type and prophecy of that which must happen in the New Testament.

The Old Testament age was the age of prophecy. The New Testament is the age of fulfillment. Old Testament fleshly Israel was a type and revelation and prophecy of New Testament spiritual Israel. I hope you have already seen that all the little battles that the people of God of the Old Testament fought with the devil's people were but preliminary skirmishes, only types and revelations of that last great big battle which is preparing in our future, which the people of God, the spiritual Israel of today will fight with the devil and his kingdom.

The Old Testament age, because it was the age of the flesh, flesh fought flesh, and the physical armies of Israel warred against the physical armies of the devil. In the New Testament age, the age of the Spirit, the spiritual armies of Israel are called to war against the spiritual armies of the devil, the demon spirits of hell. I hope when you come to this record and you read, "The Philistines fought against the men of Israel, and the men of Israel fled," that you don't just see a record of war between the men of Israel and the men of the Philistines.

If you see that, then you have come to the Word of God in the flesh. For the Philistines were but visible instruments through which the demons of hell were seeking to destroy the armies of God in that hour. The Philistines were but visible, physical instruments of the principalities and powers, (which is not flesh and blood) which we wrestle against, who were working to destroy the testimony of Jesus Christ in that hour. I see warfare between the demons of hell and the armies that the living God had then.

This is what makes the statement so tragic here. This is what makes this recorded history something to weep over. The Philistines fought against the men of Israel and the men of Israel fled. Do you know that it says that the armies of the living God, the soldiers of the Lord Jesus Christ, turned around and ran from the devils of hell? Oh! Tell it not in

Gath, David said, publish it not among the Philistines, that the demons of hell should taste such victory over the sons of the living God.

That's not all the tragic story. The very leader of God's people himself went down forever to dishonorable defeat. He whom God had raised up, one which God had set before all the world to lead His people to say, "This is the manifestation of my power and my glory in the earth," went down in the most dishonorable defeat. The Bible says in verse seven that the men of Israel fled, and Saul and his sons were dead. They forsook the cities of God and fled. This thing is getting worse. They forsook the cities of the living God, and they fled before the demons of hell, but that's not all.

It says that they stripped off his armour, sent it to the Philistines round about, to publish it in their house of idols among the people. Can you imagine this picture? This is no storybook story that we are reading. This is an official record of the time that the sons of the living God went down into the most horrible defeat before the demons of hell. The name of Jesus Christ went down into the dust of the earth, the anointing of the Lord came into disrepute. The power of God was scorned and ridiculed throughout the earth. The living God's name was dragged down into the dust.

The crowning tragedy was this, that they put the armour of the anointed of God in the church of the demons of hell. The demons of hell moved into their churches, into the place where they worship their god, and they stood before the armour of the sons of God, and they cried out in glee, "We have demonstrated once and for all that our god is more powerful than David's God, more powerful than Israel's God; our god is more powerful than Saul's God."

That's the picture, typically and prophetically. God had it recorded in the Bible to reveal the picture as it is today. You see, Israel under Saul, national Israel under Saul in that hour was a type of spiritual Israel today under man government, under flesh government, under so-called democratic

government that is ruling in the church of the Lord Jesus Christ. This was nothing but fulfillment of God's Word, for God had told Israel, when they first came to Him and demanded a fleshly, visible, man government, that it would take them down to defeat. God had never ordained that they have a visible king, a fleshy government, a democracy of any kind. Democracy is simply man government. Beloved, theocracy is God's plan for government for His people.

When God led Israel out of Egypt, and He set them in the Promised Land, He gave them no man government. He gave them no fleshy, physical head. He gave them a theocracy, God ruling through the ministries of His prophets, and of His seventy elders, those which Moses had established there in the wilderness, and of His apostles, though they were called by a different name in that day.

Israel did not want that, because you see, it takes faith to walk that way. You have to walk close with God to have the communion with God by which God can rule through a theocracy. That takes too much faith, dedication, consecration. Israel didn't want that. They did not want to be different, they did not want to be the people that were in this world, which would be supernatural people ruled over by an invisible king from a supernatural throne.

They went to Samuel, and they said, "Give us a visible king. We want to be like the nations round about us." God, who is willing to go along with His people until they finally wake up and get some sense, in His love, said "All right, I'll give you a visible king, but you will be sorry all the days of your life, he will take you down to defeat."

So out of His love, He looked around and found the very best that Israel had at that time, Saul. He gave them the best that they had, you see. God is waiting for us to wake up one of these days, and recognize that the best man he has is not good enough to rule over the Kingdom of God. The best that the Old Adam has will never be good enough to rule, only the new creation man brought to perfection, only the Christ man, the God man, the man with the new name, a new

nature, is the only one who can ever rule over God's Kingdom.

The Spirit of the living Christ, whether ruling through Jesus the head, or through the whole Body. Any other thing will always lead man to defeat.

Israel under Saul was a type of the man government that rules in the church of Jesus Christ today. This was never the will of God for the Body of Christ. A democratic government in the church is the best God can make out with in these past few centuries. It is deterioration from that which Jesus set up in the beginning, when God brought His spiritual Israel out of Egypt 1900 years ago and began to set them in their spiritual Promised Land. He did not give them a democracy. He gave them a theocracy.

He gave them the Spirit of Jesus, the head of the body, through five supernatural spirit ministries. God's Theocracy is revealed in Ephesians 4. When he ascended up, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men, ministry gifts to His church, to some apostles, some prophets, some evangelist, some pastors, some teachers, for the perfecting of the saints for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ. Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

During the first century of Christianity, Jesus was setting His body in God's divine order. He was establishing God's Theocracy. He was establishing the Kingdom of God, a kingdom through which the Head might rule through five, supernatural ministries. You cannot show me one place in the New Testament where there was ever a church that had one pastor ruling over it. You cannot convince me scripturally that which we see today is God's order for the Body of Christ. There are no presidents of denominations in the scripture, or board of directors, or fleshly ministry, that we see in the body of Christ today.

In the New Testament church, you see elders, or pastors, more than one in each local body. You see prophets,

evangelists, apostles, and teachers. You find some deacons to carry food to the poor, and so forth to handle that business. You never find deacons ruling over the church like you see it in the church today. It is an abomination in the sight of God. Just because they happen to have the most money, they set them up to rule over the church, and they have no anointing, no faith, no power, no leadership in God, no revelation, no spirituality. It is written in the church of Antioch, there were certain prophets and teachers; there were two apostles, Paul and Barnabas. When it was time for Paul to move out farther in the ministry that the head of the body of Christ had for him, Jesus did not speak to Paul personally and say, "Paul, it's time for you to go." The Bible says in the church there were certain prophets and teachers, and the Holy Ghost spake through them, "Separate me the apostles to the ministry that I have called him unto."

Paul did not swell up and say, "I do not receive visions, I do not believe in visions, or in prophets," nor did he say, "I'm the leader here, or I'm the ruler here, or I'm the apostle here. If God's going to speak to anybody, He's going to speak to me." No, Paul submitted himself to God's divine order in His body. It was all confirmed through the ministry of the prophets.

When the apostle Paul was traveling back to Jerusalem, and he passed through Ephesus on his way, he didn't want to go into the church there because he knew the brethren loved him, and would try to detain him, and he wanted to make Jerusalem, so he stopped at Mileta, the little town outside of Ephesus. It does not say that he called the pastor out to confer with him. It says that he called the elders, which means pastors -- all the pastors that were in that assembly, out to confer with him. For there were no rulers there, the Spirit of Christ was ruling through the elders as they submitted themselves to Christ.

All was going well as Jesus was setting up His theocracy, His divine order. But when the spirit of rulership took the first bishop, and the spirit of rulership is a demon spirit, don't

doubt it, it is a demon spirit. The spirit of servanthip is the Spirit of Christ. The Lord Jesus said, "If any man among you would be chief, let him be the servant of all." If God's people follow a man's wisdom and his anointing because the Spirit of God leads them to, voluntarily doing so because he has submitted himself to suffer and die to get the truth to them, that's the Spirit of Christ. When a man rises up with a kind of divine authority, to rule over the body of Christ, he is, at that moment, taken by a demon spirit of rulership. He may be a good man, but in that area, he is bound by a demon spirit.

Five supernatural Spirit ministries are set up over the gifts. When the first bishop rose up, claimed divine authority to rule the body of Christ, it degenerated into the popehood, 1400 years of the darkest ages that the church has ever known. Oh, but thank God, in about 1500, God found a Martin Luther, a man willing to obey the Spirit of God, and recognized that Christ is the head of the body, not the fleshy man government which the devil had set up. He began to listen to Christ. God began the glorious restoration. Through Martin Luther, He restored the truth, the doctrine for justification by faith, and not being ruled over by the church. About 200 years later, He got a hold of the Wesley brothers, and he restored the born again experience to the body of Christ.

Then about 60 years later, He poured out Pentecost upon the earth, and restored the baptism of the Holy Spirit to the church, About 15 years ago, He began another outpouring, and restored the gifts of the Spirit to the church, even though many rejected them. Now in the last hour, He is bringing forth the crowning point of restoration. He is restoring His five supernatural Spirit ministries to the body of Christ, that Jesus might gain once again headship and rulership over His body, restoring theocracy. Glory to God!

Only in the Spirit can we see the difference between a government just called by another name - apostle, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers. This is not what it is. For

no one will ever be called to be an apostle who has not first rejected once and for all the spirit of rulership, who will refuse to let anybody ever make him ruler over anything. God sent me across the country in the years establishing divine order bodies. I say to them, "When I leave you, while I'm gone, Christ is Head here, not me. You go to Him. If God sends me back as an apostle to you, then while I'm here, let Christ speak through me as an apostle. But don't look to me to rule over you. Christ is your ruler."

There is a difference between one who claims divine authority to rule, and one who is willing to die as a servant of people, that Christ might speak through him to guide His people home to perfection. That one who is willing just to be the voice of the Spirit of God, the supernatural voice of the Spirit of God, a channel, a servant to wash his brother's feet. So Israel under Saul was a type of spiritual Israel today, under the man government. Israel under David, God's little shepherd boy, who sought not to build his own kingdom, neither to build his own name, nor to drink the water that was brought to him by the servants of God, but poured it out before the Lord, was a type of spiritual Israel today under God's many-membered little sheepfold today. God is bringing forth His five-fold ministry. The Spirit of Christ shall deliver His people. You read the 34th chapter of Ezekiel, and you will hear the voice of the Lord saying in this day, "Behold, I am against the shepherds, for they feed not my flock, for they feed themselves," and you hear the voice of God saying, "I, even I, will search out my sheep on every hill where they have been scattered, and I will set them once again upon the mountains of Israel, the high places in Israel, and they shall feed again on my green things." Then you will hear Him say, "My servant David shall rule over them."

What did He mean? David had long since been dead. He meant that David was a type of Christ in His Body, that Christ in His Body will reign and rule over His Body through five Spirit ministries for government, nine Spirit gifts for

power to bring forth nine Spirit fruits and the perfected body of Christ. So when He shall appear we shall be like Him, and He may present His Church to Himself, a glorious church without spot or blemish, Holy.

My servant David shall reign over them, He said. David is rising up today, beloved, Christ in His many membered body. God has reached out to the sheepfold, He has found His humble and broken little shepherd boy, who can say , "I am but a sheep, and the Lord is my shepherd; He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness; He anointed my head with oil; He prepareth a table before me in he presence of mine enemies." That's why we hear God say, a little further back in 11 Samuel, to Samuel the prophet, "How long wilt thou mourn over Saul, seeing I have rejected him? Go forth and anoint David."

Beloved, Saul has been rejected. David is anointed. I want to tell you something saints, the ministry that God is calling out, which is going to defeat the demons of hell, take the body of Christ in to possess the land, bring in the Kingdom of God, is not going to come from the so-called trained, educated ministry of the past twenty years. They've failed. They had their opportunity, and they failed to go on in and possess the land.

Goliath stands before them tramping up and down laughing at them, daring them to come out and fight. They are hiding in holes, caves, and rocks. As God sends me across the country teaching two weeks' series of studies of demonology, the only way He can get me into a church to teach it, is to sneak me in, because they are scared to death to even mention the word in the midst of them. The ministry that is going to bring in the Kingdom, to perfect our walk, are the elders, evangelists, prophets, that God is raising up. The little Davids, the young ministries that God is raising up across the land.

God has raised up ones like these in Miami. In Plainview, Texas, when God sent us in there to hold a meeting, seventeen college students, young women, and one young

man from a Southern Baptist College there all received the baptism of the Spirit. The next week, they moved into the operations of gifts of the Spirit, very powerfully. Then we ministered on divine order. God began to raise up the ministries of the prophets, and the elders. Now there is a divine order body moving there. People come from all over, hundreds of miles to have demons cast out by Southern Baptist College students. That's the little David that God is raising up.

When God sent Samuel forth with his bottle of anointing oil, He went to the house of Jesse. Jesse trotted out his sons that had their muscles gleaming, their chests stuck out, and every time one would pass by, they would look and say, "Surely this is the Lord's." But God said, "Set them aside. I can't use their strength, their fleshly power," until finally all had passed by.

Samuel said, "I know God sent me here, surely there must be another one." Jesse says, "Well, there is one, a shepherd boy out there, surely God can't use him." Samuel said, "Bring him out." And young David, fair, ruddy of face, walked by and God said, "There is my man. For man looketh on the outward appearance, but God looketh upon the heart." In this last day when God searches the land to call out his shepherd boy, His five-fold ministry, He is not going to look upon the outward appearance. He doesn't care about how many degrees they have, or how many sects they have preached in, or what position in denominations, or how many years they pastored a church. He is just looking around to find the heart of a young one that He can take and raise up and train and bring forth David, a shepherd boy.

David was the one that Samuel poured the anointing oil upon, and it flowed down over his head, all over his body. In those days, they used the physical anointing oil for that was the day of types. In this day, it is reality and brother, we don't get the physical oil, we get the real thing. God is setting you apart and anointing you. Just as David went forth with his little sling, Saul tried to put his fleshy armour

on David, he hung that big sword, shield, and all that stuff. David looked down, and said, "I can't carry this garbage." He grabbed his little sling.

You young ministry that God is raising up to go forth, they'll try to hang their fleshy armour on you, they'll try to stick you in some Bible school, throw their degrees, their organizational programs and all that garbage at you. Cast it off, it has no place in you, beloved. The training point for this ministry which Christ is raising up to go forth in this last hour is the local body. The local body where teachers become evangelists, evangelists become prophets, prophets become elders, elders become apostles, and apostles go forth to spread the last day message of God across the land.

David picked up his little sling, and he went down to the brook, and picked up five smooth stones. Yes, five smooth stones which had been washed smooth by the water flowing over them over the years. The five became one, the one went forth and smote Goliath in the head, and Goliath fell down. Even so shall this little shepherd boy pick up five Spirit ministries, and the water of God's Spirit will wash them, as they go through the trials, tribulations and battles that you have gone through these past few years.

Saints, the water of God's Spirit will wash them and knock off the rough edges, and they will become smooth. The five will become one, operating in perfect conjunction with one another. They will go forth as one stone, smite Goliath in the head, and he shall fall. First, you will have to get chased all over Israel by Saul. That is the way the five stones got smooth. Saul spent more of his time chasing all over Israel trying to kill David, than he did chasing the Philistines. Do you know that Saul of today - let's don't laugh at him, let's face the facts - Saul of today is already spending more of his time trying to kill you than he is trying to kill the demons.

As I went into various cities these past months, the Sauls in these cities didn't care how many demons I cast out, or how many people were delivered, or how many victories, or whether the demons wanted to kill them or not, but they

were going to be sure to kill me if they could. In one city, as they spread my name throughout the city and dragged it through the dust of the earth, one day a brother had to stand up, (I heard it on tape, somebody got it to me), and he said, "Brethren, there is one thing we cannot deny, that is that the demons were cast out, the people were set free." The picture is the same today. As Saul goes down to ignominious defeat, David is going forth to victory after victory. Saul doesn't care about David's victories for Israel. He just wants him out of the way.

God set Saul aside because he failed in three ways. The first way he failed was that instead of building God's Kingdom as soon as God raised him up, he began building his own. Saul started well in the beginning. This is why man government can never work. They always start well in the beginning. When God first called Saul, he was a humble man, so humble that the anointing of God could be on him, when Saul finally came to Samuel as he was out hunting donkeys that day. God led him to Samuel to be anointed and raised up king over Israel.

Samuel said to him, "Thou hast been chosen as God's anointed to rule over Israel" Saul, in his humility said, "Who, me? Why, my father's house is the least in all of Israel, and I'm the least in my father's house." He started well, he was humble. So when Saul went forth from Samuel's town, Samuel said to Saul, "Go down the road, and you'll meet some prophets speaking in tongues." He said "Prophecy" You see a lot of people don't know that the original Hebrew that was used for the word prophesy back there in the Old Testament meant "unintelligible utterance." All these prophets were doing was speaking in tongues and magnifying God.

He said, "You go forth, and you'll meet them down the road. The Spirit of the Lord will come upon you, and you will become a new man." Saul went forth and he met the prophets, and they were prophesying. They were speaking in tongues, and he started speaking in tongues, and became a

new man. Friends, just because you have the baptism of the Spirit does not mean that you have got it made. He started well, the anointing of God was upon him. He tore up the oxen yoke. He split the oxen and sent them out. He said, "Let's go forth against the enemy." He went forth against the enemy that was surrounding Jabesh-Gilead, and he wrought a great victory for Israel, and the people rallied behind him, and the hand of God was upon him.

The men of Israel said, "Who is he that said Saul shall reign over us? Who is he that the anointing of the Lord is upon?" If he had continued to be humble before God and seeking to glorify the name of God, things would have been fine. The trouble was, after he got there, then he began building Saul's name. He began pushing God's people. He said, "Go and number the people. It's time to go to battle against the Philistines." God had not told him to go to battle. Saul went out ahead of the Lord and battled the Philistines. Saul wanted to get the glory for his name, you see. Saul went out ahead of the Lord and battled the Philistines, and the Philistines knocked him forty ways from Sunday, and he wound up with only 600 men left hiding down behind the trees. The anointing of the Lord is not going to be on us, brethren, when we are pushing people to go our way, and do this and that to win souls, or to win battles, and do this and that to glorify our name, or to build our church. That is what Saul has done today.

Sixty years ago when God began to pour out His Spirit, the anointing of the Lord was upon them and they were moving across the earth, being used mightily as God's warriors. As soon as they began to get victory over the enemy, right away they formed their own name and their own kingdom, whether you call it Assemblies of God, or Church of God, Pentecostal Holiness, Baptist, whatever you call it, as long as you put a name to it, brother, you've lost the anointing of God right there. For you are no longer building God's Kingdom then.

Men do not have what it takes to refrain from building their name and their kingdom. Saul pushed the people. That was the first place he failed. Even when God anointed Jonathan, the 600 were down there, and suddenly God anointed Jonathan, little Jonathan his son, who walked a little closer with God than Saul did. Jonathan said, "Let's go out and meet them, and if they say unto us, tarry until we come to you, then we will stand still in our place, and we will not go up unto them, but if they say thus, come up unto us, then we will go up, for the Lord hath delivered them into our hands; and this shall be a sign unto us. And there is no restraint to the Lord to save by few or by many."

Jonathan walked out with his armourbearer and the Philistines said, "Come up to us, and we will show you a thing or two." Jonathan said to his armourbearer, "Let's go, the Lord hath delivered them into our hands." He went out, began to swing the sword, and he knocked them down, and his armourbearer would come along behind and chop off their heads. Before long, he had them on the run, Then Saul with his 600, comes by into the battle, and rises up, puffs out his chest, and says, "We have them on the run, men, don't stop chasing them until we've chased them all the way out of Israel." He said, "If any man dare to stop, eat or drink before the enemy is out of Israel, I take an oath that he shall be slain."

Saul's son Jonathan didn't hear his oath, and all the men were traveling through the forest. They had fought hard that day, and were weak. They needed to stop and get some refreshments. The forest was full of honey. They needed to eat a little bit so that they could get some strength, so Jonathan dipped his spear in some honey, and he ate a little bit. That afternoon when the battle was over, they told Saul that someone had eaten in Israel, so Saul was bound by his oath, and asked, "Who did it?" They said, "Your own son, Jonathan." There he was, bound by his ridiculous oath, and he said, "Bring him forth that I may kill him," The people

stood up and said, "You shall not lay a hand upon him, for he has fought greater than you have today."

That was the second mistake Saul made. He lost the respect of God's people through his pride and his desire to glorify his own name. That's what you've got in Saul today. Instead of letting God's people stop and rest in battle, and eat from God's deeper truths so that they may be strong to go forth and win the battle, they crack the whip at them, and all they say is, "Go out and win souls," You would think that soul winning was the whole of God's purpose for His Kingdom, instead of feeding God's people on the deeper things, and letting them eat a little bit of God's strengthening honey, that they might have the strength to go forth and win the battle. They keep driving them to go out and do something that they probably won't have the strength to do. That's why they lose the respect of God's people. That is the second big mistake he made.

The third mistake he made was that he failed to move in God's divine order. He was waiting down there to see whether to go into the battle or not, and he got scared to death, and decided he had to hear a word from the Lord. Samuel had told him, "You wait down there for me. I'll be there in time to inquire of the Lord for you." Saul had no business inquiring of the Lord. It wasn't his ministry. He was a warrior. He was to lead the people. Samuel was the prophet. It was his business to inquire of the Lord. He lost the anointing of God, his leadership of God, in his desire to have glory to his own name, and when Samuel didn't get there when he thought he ought to, he said, "Bring hither the priest's robe," and he put the priest's robe on, and he took the ephod in his hand, and he wanted to hear what God had to say.

Saul's next big mistake was failing in perfect obedience. God told him to take God's people and go kill all the Amalekites, men, women, children, cattle, and everything was to be slain. You see, he didn't believe in perfection, he followed the doctrine that nobody can be perfect. Nobody

can be perfectly obedient. He believed that as long as you are offering sacrifices, and you're going through rituals, church rituals, everything is fine in the sight of God and nobody can be perfect. God called him to perfect obedience.

God said to him, "I want you to kill men, women, children, cattle, sheep, everything." Saul went out and killed men, women and children, but the people began to work on him, and he began to see how nice and fat the sheep and cattle were, so he saved the cattle and the sheep. God came walking along in his old prophet, and said, "Did you obey the voice of the Lord?" "Oh, yes I obeyed everything the Lord said." About then the old sheep went, "Baaa," and Samuel said, "What meanest this baaing of the sheep I hear in my ear?" Saul said, "Oh, well, the people decided that it would be good to keep the sheep to sacrifice to the Lord."

The people decided. Never mind what God said. Never mind perfect obedience to God's Word, the people decided, the church, the congregation voted on it. They elected that it would be better to keep the sheep, and offer them up to sacrifice. Then he heard the word, "Behold to obey is better than sacrifice, and rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft."

When you haven't heard God's Word telling you what to do, and haven't heard the truth about God's order it's one thing. But when you have heard God's Word and God has told you what to do and then you go ahead and use your own thinking, that is rebellion, deliberate rebellion.

These are the three instances in which Saul failed God. It is the same for the Saul system of today. God's anointing was on them, many rose up in great healing ministries, pastor ministries, ministries of every kind. They rose up in God's anointing, without organizations, but then as soon as they saw the work of God grow a little, they began to say "Let's organize, let's take over . . ." and they shut Jesus right out of it and started building in their own name, rather than in God's order. That is the first mistake.

The second mistake is that when they hear about God's divine order, they ignore it. They think we are crazy, and

they do not want to hear of it. And the last big mistake they make is in pushing God's people into doing works to glorify their own name. They do not feed God's people the food in the Spirit to make them strong, they do not give them the time to eat and grow in the Spirit, but they push them so that they can build a big church, and their name might be glorified. They give God's people no honey. They fail in the matter of perfect obedience. They do not believe in perfect obedience... They say nobody can be perfect.

In David, we see that these were all the things he succeeded in. That little shepherd boy rose up, and he said, "The Lord is my Shepherd." He looked to the Lord for guidance. He was never concerned about his own name. He was only concerned about God's Kingdom, about glorifying the name of his God. He would not take any honor and praise to himself. One time, when David was being chased all over Israel, three of David's men heard David when he was way out there in the woods say, "Oh, that I might have a drink from the well of water that is beside the gate of Jerusalem." These three mighty men of David, who loved him with all their hearts, put on their armour and they went forth. They burst through the enemy lines, they risked their lives, they went to the very gates of Saul's headquarters in Jerusalem, and brought water out of the well there back to David. What did David do? Did he drink it? No! He said, "I can't take this Honor to myself." He poured it out before the Lord. He said, "Brethren, you've done this thing as unto the Lord." He said, "I cannot take it unto me." He refused to exploit God's people to glorify his own name.

Secondly, he ruled all ages in God's divine order. He sought to do this. Once he got out of order, and he learned a sad lesson for it. He didn't say, "I'm king here I'll do what I want." One time he felt that he was to build a house for the Lord. He felt that God was calling him to build the house of the Lord, but what did he do? Did he say, "God's calling me to build a house for the Lord, everybody get into the work!" Oh, no, he went to old Nathan, the prophet. David said, "I

feel like I'm hearing from God on this, but I'm not quite sure. I need you to confirm it to me." Old Nathan, he kind of jumped a little ahead there for a minute, and he said, "Well, do all in your heart. God's been with you in the past." But that night God spoke to the prophet and said: "David shall not build the house of the Lord." Nathan went to David and told him: "Thus saith the Lord, thou shalt not build the house of the Lord it shall be given to your son to do." David didn't swell up or puff up and say: "Now look brother, I am the king here." He submitted himself to divine order. He obeyed the Word of the Lord that came through the prophet. He believed in perfect obedience. For this God gave him victory over his enemies.

Above all, beloved, this shepherd boy refused to lay his hand on God's anointed. Many times he had opportunity to kill Saul when Saul was chasing him all over Israel. One time he was back in a cave and Saul was trying to find him to kill him. Saul was tired and fell asleep in front of the cave where David and his men were. One of the men told David, "This is your chance, he is sleeping and you can kill him right now and get away with it. After all he has been chasing you all over Israel. It may be that God has delivered him into your hands." But David said, "I will not lay my hands to God's anointed. If God has anointed me to be king, God will make me king. I don't want to have to climb over Saul's dead body to get there."

This is the truth that God would burn into our hearts, brethren. When they persecute you and ridicule you, when they seek to kill you spiritually, neither lift up your hand nor your voice against them, for regardless they are God's anointed. If God has called David to rule, God will also set him up on the throne. We do not have to do it or fight for it with fleshly methods. What we have to do is become smooth stones. We have to fulfill this man David for he is a type of the Body of Christ that shall come forth in this hour. That shall love with the true love of God.

If ever a man had a good excuse for killing a man David did. Saul sought continually to destroy him. The Amalekite who ran to tell David that Saul and his son had gone down in defeat, knew nothing of this man David that God was bringing forth. He only knew the fleshly ways of men. He figured that he would get a great reward from David by telling him that his enemy was dead. But David was a man who could do what Jesus said do, "Love your enemies." David was a man after God's own heart. When this Amalekite came he did not know who he was dealing with. David said, "How dare you lay your hand to God's anointed?" And David said to one of his young men, "Fall upon him and slay him." May we see the picture that God wants to leave with us. Let us see it in David's bow. The lamentation that David wept over Saul and which he taught to Israel. Though Saul has been laid aside by God and though the anointing of God has been placed on David, we are not called to lay our hands to him or condemn him. We are not called to fight Saul. We have not been called to rejoice over the fact that he has gone down in defeat. That the demons of hell have had victory over him. That Saul and his system have forsaken the cities of God.

The cities of God today are the spiritual, supernatural cities. Saul has forsaken them. He has gone back to the robed choirs, the fancy organization, the stained-glass windows, the plush-covered pews, they have forsaken the spiritual cities for the fleshy cities. For the form of godliness that denieth the power thereof. The armour of Saul is hanging in the house of his enemies. The witch doctors across the land are claiming the power to heal. They perform the miracles while the church is claiming it can't be done. It isn't for today.

God's people are afraid to move against the demons of hell. This is nothing to boast about in our churches. I pray God will give us this heart of David. When God gave me this revelation to give to His people, He told me to tell them that He was calling out a people as David. That Saul had

been slain in his high places. That God had set him aside. He told me to tell them that the beauty of Israel was no more. Beloved, this is nothing to puff out our chest about. It is nothing to go around bragging about. Israel was sweeping across the land doing mighty deeds and was beautiful in the sight of God. Israel has been slain by her enemies. Listen to this, "How are the mighty fallen. Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Askelon lest the daughters of the uncircumcised triumph." We preach about it so that we can see the errors of their ways and not fall into them. So that we can review to God's people what God is doing. But we have no calling to go out and publish how the demons of hell, the uncircumcised, are taking victory over God's people. We have no cause to give the daughters of the Philistines something to tell in Gath, in the cities of the worshippers of false gods.

I love what a saint said one time as she told of the glorious victories that had come forth in the past years of her ministry. She said, "Indeed there were some defeats, but we don't talk about them." Friends, we don't have to tell what the devil does, or how the sons of God suffer defeats at his hand. When we get the victory, we can publish it in the land. But when we see the mighty fallen, let us not publish it. Let us pray for them but not brag about it.

He, said, "Ye mountains of Gilboa." Oh! God, the heart of this man David. Do you see him weeping over Saul, earnestly from his heart. Over this one who had been seeking to kill him. This one who had been chasing him all over Israel. Who had done everything to discredit him in the eyes of the people of Israel. One who chased him completely out of Israel that he had to go like a madman and dwell among the Philistines and even actually join battle with the Philistines army for a while.

I don't mind telling you that I haven't reached the point of the heart of this man David yet. I have caught the vision and I am moving toward it.

Ye mountains of Gilboa, let there be no dew, neither let there be rain, upon you, not fields of offerings: (get this) for there, the shield of the mighty is vilely cast away, the shield of Saul as though he had not been anointed with oil. Beloved, the fact that the shield of our brethren, who fought the battles in the past, so valiantly has been vilely cast away as with the oil of God's Spirit, is nothing to rejoice about. It is nothing to crow about.

These Pentecostal brethren of the past, though we have to unveil their mistakes, we do not criticize them. For they carried the shield of the mighty in that hour. They stood strong for the truth that God was giving them at that hour. They stood in the tongue-speaking truth, which we rejoice in now. They stood in it, in the face of rotten tomatoes and brick-bats that were thrown at them when they came outside of their meetings.

I met an old saint in Louisiana who was literally tied to a horse and dragged across the countryside, after being beaten with chains until he had deep gashes in his back. Yea, regardless of their mistakes or of their not getting the full revelation, or their failure at the end, brethren, they once carried the shield of the mighty. Yea, they once were anointed with oil. As they strive against what we preach today, we must not find ridicule for them in our hearts. Although we cannot yet feel what David felt for Saul yet, let us pray that God will work it in us.

I love this, "From the blood of the slain, from the fat of the mighty, the bow of Jonathan turned not back, and the sword of Saul returned not empty." In spite of the fact that Saul failed he still was zealous for God, he still had a mighty sword for God at one time. There are many brethren who have stood and fought the battle of the Lord at one time. They have laid the foundation for what we are building now. They have suffered like we have not yet suffered. They wielded a mighty sword, a sword that finally brought every denomination in the land into the recognition of the truth that they stood for.

Then he said, "Ye daughters of Israel, weep over Saul." If we are called to anything, beloved; we are called to weep over these brethren who failed to receive the next step in God. We are called to weep over those who have lost the anointing of God. Over all of those who do not have the revelation of what God is doing in this hour. To weep over everyone who has gone into building their own kingdom rather than God's.

God is calling us to intercede in prayer and weeping over them and not to ridicule nor scorn, not raise our hand or voice against them. God is calling us to stand in the truth He is giving in this hour. To establish divine order bodies. He is calling us for one great purpose, to die and redeem His church.

Weep over Saul, who clothed you in scarlet." Saul clothed us in scarlet. Scarlet is a type of the blood. Brothers and sisters, it was Saul who clothed us in scarlet, it was Saul who heard the message of God and gave it to us, that we might come into the saving power of the atoning blood. Saul suffered much to clothe us in scarlet. Who clothed us in scarlet and with other delights, who put ornaments of gold upon our apparel.

These brethren brought forth much of the nature of God, and set it before us. They rejected perfection, full growth, full cleansing, the polishing of the golden crown, but they set many golden ornaments on the daughters of Israel. How we need to recognize this.

"How are the mighty fallen in the midst of the battle." He wept with it, he had taught it to all the little children in all Israel. "Jonathan, thou was slain in thine high places." Right at the time of the height of his being mightily used of God.

There are lots of sons, lots of Jonathans who have been giants for God. I have met some of them. I long that they might know and understand God's ways. That they might be able to stand shoulder to shoulder in the battle of the Lord with us. Some sons of Saul have been giants, and have risen

to high places. Then in their high places they have been taken by enemy spirits and slain.

Oh! Jonathan, Jonathan, it was not in the low places, but in the high places of the spirit. I know what it is to be slain in the high places. I have gone that way once. Until the brethren prayed for me and God restored me back to the place in His Spirit. I know of many of God's men, who rose high in God and then the demons and their forces came against them like never before and knocked them over. Do not condemn them or crucify them, but rather if you are in the will of God, weep for them with David. "Oh! Jonathan thou art slain in thine high places."

Words cannot express what is in my heart, or how to get it over to you. The broken and torn heart of David for Jonathan. I am distressed for thee my brother Jonathan. Let us look in our hearts and see if we truly are distressed for Jonathan or Saul today. "I am distressed for thee, very pleasant has thou been unto me. My love for thee was wonderful, passing the love of women. How art the mighty fallen and the weapons of war perished."

I pray that God will burn this truth into your hearts. "Weep over Saul, ye sons and daughters of Israel, who clothed you in scarlet and golden ornaments." Weep over Saul, and in so doing you will become the David that God wants you to be. Amen.