

# FIRST SAMUEL STUDY

## CHAPTER 23:1-29 – PART II

TAPE NUMBER WN-348    FEBRUARY 12, 2003

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

**"WHEN THE LORD IS IN THE LEAD"**

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

*Hearing the Voice of God, Divine Counsel, Guidance*

**INTRODUCTION**

*to the text*

*I Samuel 23:1-29*

## WHEN THE LORD IS IN THE LEAD

**1.) *Lord, Prepare us for war***

**vv. 1-8**

***Lord, Prepare us for war***

**a.) *There must be battles in life - always***

### ***Verse 1***

*Then they told David, saying, "Look, the Philistines are fighting against Keilah, and they are robbing the threshing floors."*

Why did these men come to David,  
While Saul was still in Office?

Because Saul Had Failed  
to Protect the Nation under His Leadership!

Saul  
A Personal Failure / A National disgrace

THE PERSONAL APPLICATION IS THIS

**Our Battles of Faith**  
Are lived out in physical arenas

2 Tim 3:12  
all those who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus  
will suffer persecution.

Acts 14:21-22  
And when they had preached the gospel to that city and made many disciples,  
they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch, 22 strengthening the souls of  
the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, "We must  
through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God."

***There must be battles in life – always !***

***Lord, Prepare us for war***

***b.) There will be internal struggles - always***

**Verse 3**

***But David's men said to him, "Look, we are afraid here in Judah. How  
much more then if we go to Keilah against the armies of the  
Philistines?"***

These Men "Afraid" as they were,  
ere a Nation in Embryo, Needing a Leader, Desperately!

REMEMBER  
They had a lot of baggage to get rid of

1 Sam 22:2

And everyone who was in **distress**, everyone who was in **debt**, and everyone who was **discontented** gathered to him. **So he became captain over them. And there were about four hundred men with him.**

*The "becoming captain" part*  
**Internal Struggles can get the Best of us**  
**If we are not careful!**

***Lord, Prepare us for war***

***c.) We can look to His faithfulness to trust in - always***

**Verse 2 & 4**

*Therefore David inquired of the LORD, saying, "Shall I go and attack these Philistines?" And the LORD said to David, "Go and attack the Philistines, and save Keilah."*

**If, If an earthly leader**  
can consult God for direction in an earthly battle,  
Then we must consult God for spiritual battles

**What If**  
There are demonic powers Stirring People to Come Against You,

You're Home, You're Children, You're Husband, Your Wife.  
**"And the LORD answered him and said,**  
*"Arise, go down to Keilah. For I will deliver the Philistines into your hand."*

## Evil will never Triumph over Good

The Victory  
Is Something That We – Walk Into!

Walk into the Victory

But Jack, How Do I Walk Into the Victory?

Realize !

**Deut 1:30**

***'The LORD your God, who goes before you, He will fight for you, according to all He did for you in Egypt before your eyes,***

Respond !

**Josh 3:5-7**

***And Joshua said to the people, "Sanctify yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do wonders among you." 6 Then Joshua spoke to the priests, saying, "Take up the ark of the covenant and cross over before the people." So they took up the ark of the covenant and went before the people. 7 And the LORD said to Joshua, "This day I will begin to exalt you in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with you.***

Rejoice !

**Ps 98:1**

***Oh, sing to the LORD a new song! For He has done marvelous things; his right hand and His holy arm have gained Him the victory.***

Really Cool !

**1 Jn 5:4**

*For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world-- our faith.*

## **God is Faithful to Confirm His Word**

### **Verse 5**

*And David and his men went to Keilah and fought with the Philistines, struck them with a mighty blow,*

## **WHEN THE LORD IS IN THE LEAD**

### **2.) Lord, Grant us the wisdom**

**vv. 9-23**

### **Lord, Grant us the wisdom**

#### **a.) Wisdom to consult God first**

### **Verse 9-13**

*When David knew that Saul plotted evil against him, he said to Abiathar the priest, "Bring the ephod here." 10 Then David said, "O LORD God of Israel, Your servant has certainly heard that Saul seeks to come to Keilah to destroy the city for my sake. 11 "Will the men of Keilah deliver me into his hand? Will Saul come down, as Your servant has heard? O LORD God of Israel, I pray, tell Your servant." And the LORD said, "He will come down."*

### **Verse 12-13**

*12 Then David said, "Will the men of Keilah deliver me and my men into the hand of Saul?" And the LORD said, "They will deliver you." 13 So David and his men, about six hundred, arose and departed from Keilah and went wherever they could go. Then it was told Saul that David had escaped from Keilah; so he halted the expedition.*

## ***Lord, Grant us the wisdom***

### ***b.) Wisdom to know when to stand still***

#### ***Verse 14-15***

*And David **stayed** in strongholds in the wilderness, and **remained** in the mountains in the Wilderness of Ziph. **Saul sought him every day**, but God did not deliver him into his hand. 15 So David saw that Saul had come out to seek his life. And David was in the Wilderness of Ziph in a forest.*

***David stayed in strongholds  
remained in the mountains  
Saul sought him every day***

***but God did not deliver (would not allow it to  
happen) him into his hand***

Isa 40:31

*But those who wait on the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.*

Ps 46:10

*Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!*

***David had to learn how  
to write the great psalms for us...***

Ps 39:7

"And now, Lord, what do I wait for? My hope is in You.

Ps 130:5-6

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in His word I do hope. 6 My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning-- yes, more than those who watch for the morning.

## It's In The Wilderness

"David was a man after God's own heart in the sheperds Fields,  
**But it was in the wilderness that he became a king"**

## So What was David Thinking About?

Ps 91:1-16

He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. 2 I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress; my God, in Him I will trust." 3 Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the perilous pestilence. 4 He shall cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you shall take refuge; his truth shall be your shield and buckler. 5 You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, nor of the arrow that flies by day, 6 Nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday. 7 A thousand may fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; but it shall not come near you. 8 Only with your eyes shall you look, and see the reward of the wicked.

9 Because you have made the LORD, who is my refuge, even the Most High, your dwelling place, 10 No evil shall befall you, nor shall any plague come near your dwelling; 11 For He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways. 12 In their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone. 13 You shall tread upon the lion and the cobra, the young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.....

....14 "Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him on high, because he has known My name. 15 He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him. 16 With long life I will satisfy him, and show him My salvation."

## **Lord, Grant us the wisdom**

### **c.) Wisdom to remember God's calling**

#### **Verse 16-23**

*Then Jonathan, Saul's son, arose and went to David in the woods and strengthened his hand in God. 17 And he said to him, "**Do not fear, for the hand of Saul my father shall not find you. You shall be king over Israel, and I shall be next to you. Even my father Saul knows that.**" 18 So the two of them made a covenant before the LORD. And David stayed in the woods, and Jonathan went to his own house.*

### **Remember God's calling for you**

Rom 11:29

*For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.*

## **I Think Saul is A Pathetic Man Here, Self Decieved, and Lost**

19 Then the Ziphites came up to Saul at Gibeah, saying, "Is David not hiding with us in strongholds in the woods, in the hill of Hachilah, which is on the south of Jeshimon? 20 "Now therefore, O king, come down according to all the desire of your soul to come down; and our part shall be to deliver him into the king's hand." 21 And Saul said, "Blessed are you of the LORD, for you have compassion on me. 22 "Please go and find out for sure, and see the place where his hideout is, and who has seen him there. For I am told he is very crafty. 23 "See therefore, and take knowledge of all the lurking places where he hides; and come back to me with certainty, and I will go with you. And it shall be, if he is in the land, that I will search for him throughout all the clans of Judah."

# WHEN THE LORD IS IN THE LEAD

**3.) Lord, be mighty on our behalf**

**vv. 24-29**

**a.) We can only be at our best**

## **Verse 24-25**

*So they (the men of Ziph) arose and went to Ziph before Saul. But David and his men were in the Wilderness of Ma'on, in the plain on the south of Heshimon. 25 When Saul and his men went to seek David, they told David. Therefore he went down to the rock, and stayed in the Wilderness of Ma'on. And when Saul heard that, he pursued David in the Wilderness of Ma'on.*

***We can only be at our best***

***Our Best Will Never Be Enough***

***"When Need the LORD"***

**b.) We can only do our best**

## **Verse 26**

*Then Saul went on one side of the mountain, and David and his men on the other side of the mountain. So David made haste to get away from Saul, for Saul and his men were encircling David and his men to take them.*

***It's Seemingly the End***

***(it looked absolutely hopeless for David here)***

***Lord, be mighty on our behalf***

***c.) We must leave Him the rest***

***Verse 27-29***

*But a messenger came to Saul, saying, "Hasten and come, for the Philistines have invaded the land!" 28 Therefore Saul returned from pursuing David, and went against the Philistines; so they called that place the Rock of Escape. 29 Then David went up from there and dwelt in strongholds at En Gedi.*

***In All Thy Ways...***

***Stand-by for Jax Que for En Gedi Graphics***

***Lets Pray Now for This Church...  
for Our Soliders, Saliors and Airmen  
For Israel and the Iraqi People.  
For President Bush and Congress...***