

THE PROGRESSIVE PARANOIA OF KING SAUL

(1 Samuel 18)

I. SAMUEL (1 Samuel 1-7)

II. SAUL (1 Samuel 8-15)

III. DAVID (1 Samuel 16-31)

A. DAVID'S RISE TO PROMINENCE (1 Samuel 18 & 19)

1. Jonathan and David become close friends (18:1-4)

- a. Jonathan could relate to David as a spiritual _____ who shared his enthusiastic _____ in trusting the Lord by _____.

- b. Jonathan made a _____ with David that reinforced his _____ and _____ to him; this was expressed by giving the shepherd boy his royal armor. (1 Sam. 18:3-4; 20:16-17, 42; 23:16-18)

2. David is given command of the army and he is blessed with great success (18:5-7)

- a. Despite David's youthfulness, he was _____ by the king to be a commander over the army, and he was nationally _____ by the people and Saul's servants.

- b. David's _____ success was immortalized in the _____ of a popular folk song of the day; and this became the catalyst for Saul's irrational behavior.

3. The seeds of jealousy and paranoia take root in the heart of the king (18:8-16)

- a. Saul's _____ was evident as he _____ about the amount of praise ascribed to David, rather than to him.

* What is ironic about the king's question at the end of v. 8?

- b. In the eyes of Saul, David evolved into a _____; and on two separate occasions the king actually tried to _____ him with his _____.

* What is said to be the “cause and effect” of David’s godly reputation?

4. Saul schemes to have David killed by the Philistine army (18:17-27a)

- a. Saul had originally _____ his daughter in marriage to the victor of Goliath, but now he added further _____ in hopes that the young, inexperienced David would _____ in battle leading the army.

* What was David’s humble response to the king?

- b. Saul continued to _____ against David, and he even used his youngest daughter Michal as a tool to _____ him into being obligated to paying a dowry for her hand in marriage.

* Instead of the traditional dowry, what was Saul’s creative alternative?

* How did the king’s wicked plan backfire on him?

5. David marries the king’s daughter and the Lord continues to bless him (18:27b-30)

- a. Because David fulfilled his end of the agreement, Saul was publically _____ to give his daughter Michal to him in _____.

- b. It became rather apparent to the king that the _____ was with David, because of his rapid acceleration in _____, and constant military _____.

* What was David’s decisive participation in all of this success (18:5, 14, 30)?

* How does this chapter apply to you?