

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

PREVENTING SOUL DAMAGE

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PART 2: PERSECUTED WITHOUT A CAUSE

The Book of Psalms for the last 3,000 years has been a source of comfort and inspiration to the Hebrew people and for the Gentiles who were saved and became part of the body of Christ.

Most of the psalms were written by King David, but there are no real dates so we don't know how many psalms he wrote as a shepherd boy or as a warring man before he became king.

Very few Christians have looked upon David as a man. He was despised by his brothers as a young boy.

When he slew Goliath and saved Israel from defeat by the Philistines, he was employed by King Saul and held in high esteem, but over time Saul became his enemy and tried to kill him on many occasions.

For a short time he fled to the Philistines and became a roving marauder, who lived on plundering people, stealing their possessions and killing many of them.

Later he became king over Judah and in time king over all of Israel.

As a king he walked with God most of the time, but he became an adulterer and a murderer when he took Bathsheba from Uriah.

David had to flee from his own son when Absalom tried to kill him and take over the kingdom.

The sword never left the house of David and there was continual murder and incest among his children. At the end of his life, Bathsheba made sure that Solomon became the next king.

How can a man with such a twisted life produce psalms inspired by the Holy Ghost? Somehow he was able to overcome all the obstacles and finish strong.

DAVID IS SELECTED AND ANOINTED

David as a young teenager had no aspiration of becoming the king of Israel but it was God who selected him. **1 Samuel 16:1, 6-13**

KILLING GOLIATH

David's seven brothers were not pleased to have been rejected by God and despised David for being the next king of Israel. **1 Samuel 17:22-28**

David did not become bitter and he refused to be offended. **verse 29**

Instead, he focused on the problem the army of Israel had and insisted that he could take down the giant. **verses 32-37**



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David was not a trained soldier but a capable young shepherd boy who had been anointed with the Holy Ghost. There was no pride when he confronted Goliath, just a calm assurance that this giant was a dead man. **verses 38-51**

We can know David's mindset in reading Psalm 2. We don't know how many years he wrote this psalm after he slew Goliath, but we know he had faith and trust in God, regardless of circumstances as a young man. **Psalm 2:1-12**

REJECTED BY KING SAUL

King Saul wanted David to be a commander of his army since he was anointed by God. **1 Samuel 18:1-2, 5**

But Saul was filled with jealousy and hated it when the women lifted David higher than himself. **verses 6-8**

An evil spirit entered Saul and he tried to kill David. **verses 9-11**

Saul did not know what to do about David. **verses 12-16**

Saul schemed one thing after another but everything backfired and then he made David his enemy. **verses 17-29**

Instead of becoming bitter and offended, David stayed clean before the Lord. Is it possible that Psalm 23 was the response of David at this time of history?

DAVID'S CHANCE TO KILL KING SAUL

Once King Saul had chased away David from the palace and the city of Jerusalem, he became obsessed with finding and killing David, who was hunted like an animal by Saul and the army. **1 Samuel 26:1-3**

David had a great opportunity to kill King Saul but there was no bitterness or jealousy in David. David knew that if he killed Saul that night, he would have taken the kingdom of Israel by the sword and refused to do so. **verses 4-12**

David's real character was revealed when he challenged Abner and the king. **verses 13-25**

The soul of David is revealed in Psalm 18 when he proclaimed that the Lord God was his rock and salvation and that he had nothing to boast about. **Psalm 18:1-6**

David attributed his deliverance from King Saul to the fact that he had done no wrong to the king. **verses 17-29**

David also realized that it was God who makes us righteous. **verses 30-36**

Only God can deliver us from our enemies. **verses 46-50**

SUMMARY

David overcame evil with good. God removed King Saul and put David on the throne of Israel.

Jesus raised the standard when He came to the earth; so if the standard was high for David, it is much higher for the believers in Christ. **Luke 6:27-36**

God is merciful and wants His children to be merciful!

When you are merciful, you cannot be bitter.

When you are merciful, you cannot be offended.

When you are merciful, your soul cannot be damaged.

When you are merciful, you cannot hate but only give love.

How about you?

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

DO YOU HAVE AN EAR TO HEAR WITH?