

## BIBLE RADIO PRODUCTIONS www.bibleradio.org.au

BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:

A1491 ~ David flees from Saul.

Welcome to Bible Adventures. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow. Jesus is Lord of all.

Two young students from a rural university attended a Christian Saturday night function about an hour's drive away. On the way back home, they were very tired so the driver decided to take a shortcut way. Some distance along the road, the car ran out of petrol. The men set out walking towards their destination. After a few kilometres, they saw a light at a farmhouse. When they approached the farmhouse, two big dogs rushed out at them, barking and snarling. Very quickly, they somehow found an inner strength to outrun those dogs before they were bitten.

When King Saul's son Jonathan and David parted, David was not prepared for the role of fugitive. Someone as famous as him would find it hard to disappear into a hiding place and escape Saul's soldiers for any length of time.

There are two aspects of David's life during these trials that parallel with the Lord Jesus Christ. Although David was well aware that God's divine protection had saved his life in the past, he would not let the soldiers capture him. Secondly, he could not presume that God would do everything for him. He had to do his part.

In the Bible book Matthew, Chapter 4, Satan tempted the Lord Jesus to sin against God. He quoted from Psalm 91 and tempted Jesus to throw Himself down from the top of the temple building. Such an action would force God to send angels to protect Him. Jesus knew he must act wisely and resist testing God's hand.

David dearly wanted to prove his innocence of any wrongdoing against King Saul but he could not, as Saul's judgments, good or bad, had become law. Even when the Lord Jesus was found innocent of any crime and Pilate publicly declared this, Jesus was not saved from the most severe punishment of all.

In the pressure of the moment, David fled to the High Priest at the Tabernacle. David felt he could trust no one. When we are put under a lot of pressure, we tend not to think wisely and can often make mistakes. This is the very time we need to trust God for everything. Faith is living without fear. David, however, started making plans in an underhand manner. He had grown weary of the relentless threat to his life and started telling lies to protect himself. He even pretended to be mad to escape capture in a foreign country. The inner strength David had previously shown now seemed to have faded away.

DRAMA - The Bible In Living Sound.

Let us not sit in judgment of Bible characters. We can learn much from their problems and how they responded to them. Are we also not tempted to tell half-truths to try to make things better for ourselves?

The big problem with lying is that another lie needs to be told to support the first lie, and often a third lie or more to try to cover things up. You may have heard of the famous quote: "Oh, what a tangled web we weave, when first we practice to deceive."

Just over a decade ago, the body of a former United States ambassador to Switzerland was buried in a cemetery famous for being the graveyard for American war heroes. Within two years, however, his tombstone was hauled away and his coffin dug up. This man had lied. For years, he had told others he had served on a ship during the war. Yet when the records of war were finally checked, he was found to be a college student living hundreds of miles away the sea and not in the merchant navy at the time he claimed to be.

Some people take their secrets to the grave. But that is never the end of it. In the Bible book Jeremiah, Chapter 23, the Lord says: "I am a God who is everywhere and not in one place only. No one can hide where I cannot see them." And in Hebrews, Chapter 12, it says: "There is nothing that can be hid from God; everything in all creation is exposed and lies open before His eyes. And it is to Him that we must all give an account of ourselves." The sad truth is that the more lies we tell, the more confused we become about what is truth.

So is it ever right to tell a lie? In Proverbs, Chapter 12, we learn: "The Lord hates liars, but is pleased with those who keep their word." All lying is fellowship with the devil, as Satan is the father of all lies. In First Peter, Chapter 2, it says: "He (that is, the Lord Jesus) committed no sin, and no one ever heard a lie come from his lips." Take heed. We must always speak the truth in love but if this endangers others, silence is our best response.

In Europe during World War II, many people were saved from death by staying hidden in secret safe houses until they could be moved to freedom. Sometimes, enemy soldiers suspected that fugitives were being kept in these safe houses, so they would raid them unexpectedly and carry out searches. In one such raid, a soldier demanded of a young girl where the people were hidden. She had been taught never to tell a lie. So she replied, "Under the table." The soldier dragged the long tablecloth off the table and looked at her in disgust. Had he lifted the table aside, he would have seen the trapdoor in the floor to a room below where a number of desperate people were hoping and praying they would not be found.

Sometimes we are tempted to tell a lie by not taking action when we should. A man lost an expensive pair of binoculars and claimed insurance for them. A year later, however, he found the binoculars and so immediately sent the money back to the insurance company. The reply letter from the insurance company said that receiving money back did not happen very often and the people in the company were encouraged. Although this action seemed a small thing, it made a big impression on the man's children and they never forgot their dad's example. Are our lives good examples for other people to learn from? We can only be truthful and honest when we keep our life focused on the Lord Jesus. Is He your friend and Saviour? Turn away from sinful lying and falsehood and become His disciple today.

MUSIC - <u>Integrity Music</u>.

That was Paul Baloche and Ed Kerr singing "Faith is the Substance."

The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.

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