

## BIBLE RADIO PRODUCTIONS

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BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT: A1494 ~ Saul pursues David.

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

Children in some countries love to play the game of "Hide and Seek." The leader stays in one place called the base, covers his eyes and counts out aloud while all the other children find places to hide. Then the leader goes searching for the hidden children. While the leader is off looking in one direction, some of the children still undetected try to run back to base before being caught.

King Saul and David were playing a similar game, only this one was deadly serious. If Saul and his soldiers were to catch up with David, they would kill him. So David and his men travelled from place to place in the rugged mountainous regions of Judea.

To get on good terms with the king, some people living in those parts told Saul they knew where David was hiding. But each time Saul went out to look, David's spies told him in advance what Saul was doing. So David had moved in time and hidden elsewhere.

One time Saul and David were camped on the opposite sides of the same mountain. A messenger came to Saul saying the Philistines were attacking Israelite towns. So Saul returned to protect the people of Israel, leaving the search for David for a little while. Another time, Jonathan, Saul's son, came to visit David and encourage him.

DRAMA - The Bible In Living Sound.

David and Jonathon's friendship had remained very strong since the time David had killed Goliath. They made a covenant (or verbal contract) together that they would take care of each other. Jonathan recognized that David would be the next king of Israel so he made a further covenant with him just after King Saul sought David's life at Ramah. When they parted at the beginning of David's flight from Saul, their agreement was extended to care for each other's families in the future.

Now that Jonathan had come to visit David in the wilderness, David was very pleased to see and talk with him. Before parting, they again made a covenant before the Lord. Jonathan, although the crown-prince, put himself below David in rank and made it quite clear that he, Jonathan, would not trouble David when David was king.

In the Old Testament, there are a number of covenants between God and individual leaders. The first one with Adam held the condition that Adam and Eve were not to touch or eat of the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. And after they broke that condition, God promised Satan's defeat.

There were also covenants made between God and Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses and David. Many of these agreements contained promises from God but did not have any conditions upon them.

God's covenant with the crowned king David was reaffirmed by a number of leaders after him. This covenant was fulfilled in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ, who died and was raised to life again. Jesus was a direct descendant of David's. Even though it took one thousand years for God's covenant to David to be fulfilled, God never failed or forgot His promises. The friendship between David and Jonathan was based on their love for each other. A famous preacher once said: "Friendship is one of the sweetest joys of life. Many might have failed beneath the bitterness of their trial had they not found a friend." And no doubt David was growing weary of his lifestyle of constantly moving and always trying to be one step ahead of King Saul.

If we want to have friends, it is important we are friendly ourselves towards others. We must not be so concerned with our own activities that we fail to show genuine interest in other people.

Yet far more important than having earthly friends is our friendship with the Lord Jesus Christ. How do we start this? The Lord Jesus is the Lord of glory, the holy One. So great a lover of us people is He that He allowed His life blood to be shed for us so that God's justice against our wrongdoing would be satisfied. Jesus took our punishment for us because we could not pay for our own sins. Our sins deserve death and never ending separation from God. So we do not come into a friendship with the Lord Jesus as His equal. We need to humbly ask Him to be not only our Friend but also our Lord and Saviour. We do this by believing that He did pay the price to clean away all our sin. This is called saving faith.

Some people are well aware that the Lord Jesus died for the sins of the world, yet they do not want His blood applied to their spiritual lives. They refuse to bow down to Jesus or receive His free gift of forgiveness. While they seem to get away with such responses now, there will come a time when their rebellion will be judged. Then sorrow upon sorrow, they will be cast into the place of eternal torment. If you know someone resisting a commitment to the Lord Jesus, please pray for them often. How do we keep our friendship with the Lord Jesus alive and active? When we first ask Jesus to be our Lord, He gives us His Holy Spirit to dwell within us and guide us away from wrong. Continue by talking to Jesus often in prayer. Even if you cannot close your eyes or bow your head pray and talk to Him in your mind. Much of our wrongdoing starts with thoughts in our heads. Think about the passages of Scriptures you have read. Ponder the meanings and ask the Lord if there is something you don't understand. When the trials and troubles of life come along, we can trust our all-knowing Saviour to be our friend and to know what to do.

In the Bible book John, Chapter 15, the Lord Jesus says: "My commandment is this: love one another, just as I love you. The greatest love you can have for your friends is to give your life for them. And you are my friends if you do what I command you. I call you friends, because I have told you everything I heard from my Father."

Friendship with the Lord Jesus means hate for the bad things and selfish ways of this world which desire to draw us away from obeying Him. Does this mean hating people too? No! We are to pray for our enemies. Some, we hope, will be saved from their evil ways and receive God's forgiveness.

A lonely man in the 19<sup>th</sup> century wrote out these words and they became a favourite hymn:

"What a Friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear! What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer. O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear – All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer."

## MUSIC - Integrity Music.

That was Chris Christensen singing "The Fear of the Lord."

The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.

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