



## BIBLE RADIO PRODUCTIONS

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BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:

**A1483 ~ Jonathan and the Philistines.**

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

During one wet season in tropical northern Australia, a group of people were swimming in a river just downstream from a waterfall. The alarm was given that a wall of floodwater was coming down the river. Most people left the water immediately for the safety of higher ground. One family, however, was a bit slower than the rest. The two brothers were sitting on a rock in the riverbed. Their father called out to them to jump to him. One jumped and was saved. The other hesitated and was swept away by the rapidly rising water.

Often news broadcasts carry stories of people who have not respected the forces of nature or taken needless risks. It is then the task of trained emergency services people to look for dead bodies. In this instance after hours of searching, they found the boy alive a very long way downstream. The emergency recovery people were more shaken by the mercy of God in this case than if they had found the child dead.

King Saul did not respect God or the prophet Samuel as he should have done. As king, Saul had in his own mind grown to think that he was the most important person in all Israel. To do each royal task correctly, Saul needed to rely on God's guidance through Samuel. When Saul, however, tried to take over Samuel's role of prophet, the friendship between King Saul and Samuel was shattered.

Samuel told King Saul how foolish he had been to offer a sacrifice to God himself, rather than wait for Samuel to come. In the Bible book of 1 Samuel, Chapter 13, Samuel said that if Saul had done everything God had commanded him, God would have made his kingdom to last forever. But after Saul's disobedience, Samuel made the prophecy that God would take the kingdom of Israel from his family and give it to someone better than Saul.

Samuel and Saul parted that day and travelled in opposite directions to each other, both physically as well as spiritually.

How many people do you know who have no respect for our Creator God? There are millions of people who try to live their lives without any help or guidance from God at all. Worse still, some people of influence teach others that God does not even exist. In the Bible book Romans, Chapter 11, we are taught to praise God:

“How great are God's riches! How deep are his wisdom and knowledge! Who can explain his decisions? Who can understand his ways?”

As the Scriptures in Isaiah, Chapter 40, say:

“Who knows the mind of the Lord? Who is able to give him advice?

Who has ever given him anything, so that he had to pay it back?

For all things were created by him, and all things exist through him and for him. To God be the glory forever! Amen.”

King Saul stationed his small troop numbers at a central location in Israel. But the Israelite people were continually troubled by raiding parties from the Philistines camped further north.

So strong was the Philistine control over Israel that the farmers were required to get the Philistine blacksmiths to sharpen their ploughs, hoes, axes and sickles. The Philistines prevented the Israelites from making their own swords and spears.

One day, King Saul's son Jonathan took matters into his own hands.

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DRAMA - [The Bible In Living Sound](#).

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Why did Jonathan sneak away from the Israelite camp without permission of his father, the king? Within a family, each person knows the others' character weaknesses. Jonathan must have known that Saul was out of fellowship with God and would not seek His divine directions for dealing with Israel's problem. And it certainly was a serious problem if the Israelite farmers had to pay the Philistine blacksmiths to sharpen their tools for work.

Have you heard of the word "procrastinate?" It means putting off or delaying taking action. Procrastinating means we put off a job we could do today until a later time. Saul delayed making any move against the Philistines. So in faith, Jonathan trusted God to help them and God most certainly did.

When the Lord Jesus walked on earth, He taught deep respect or reverence for His heavenly Father. Jesus prayed often to God. He also gave thanks to God many times and ultimately entrusted God with his own spirit when dying.

By contrast Saul's respect for God and His prophet Samuel continued to decrease to a point where Samuel was afraid King Saul would kill him.

How about you? How strong is your respect for God and His Word the Bible? Respect for God includes not using His Name like a swear word. In the Bible book Matthew, Chapter 6, the Lord Jesus taught that God's Name is to be honoured. If you hear a person exclaim, "Oh God!" and the rest of what they say has nothing to do with God, this is a wrong use of God's Name.

Some children grow up in secular families and hear their parents say wrong words about God all the time. Believers in the Lord Jesus must resist the temptation to let such words come out of their mouth and banish the habit as soon as the thought comes into their mind. If this particular sin is a problem to you, confess it to God and ask Him to take away the natural desire to react to some mishap in this wrong way.

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MUSIC - [Integrity Music](#).

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That was Paul Baloche singing “Let the Words of my Mouth.”

*The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.*

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