

## **LOVE AND ENVY**

### **1 SAMUEL 18 (AND VARIOUS PASSAGES)**

**APRIL 25, 2021**

**Pressure is never a reason, nor is it ever an excuse for disobedience to God's Word.**

We must never condition our obedience on fully understanding why God has given a command, otherwise we will put ourselves in the dangerous place of assuming if we don't know the reason for a command, we are not obligated to obey it!

#### **Matthew 16:25**

The dangers of envy and resentment

#### **1 Samuel 18:5–9 (NASB95)**

5 So David went out wherever Saul sent him, and prospered; and Saul set him over the men of war. And it was pleasing in the sight of all the people and also in the sight of Saul's servants. 6 It happened as they were coming, when David returned from killing the Philistine, that the women came out of all the cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet King Saul, with tambourines, with joy and with musical instruments. 7 The women sang as they played, and said, "Saul has slain his thousands, And David his ten thousands." 8 Then Saul became very angry, for this saying displeased him; and he said, "They have ascribed to David ten thousands, but to me they have ascribed thousands. Now what more can he have but the kingdom?" 9 Saul looked at David with suspicion from that day on.

**Envy is a resentment fueled by the success of others, and the sick belief that their triumphs or blessings in some way diminish you.**

#### **1 Timothy 6:6 (NIV)**

But godliness with contentment is great gain.

**Envy is resentment with great loss!**

**The desperation of a soul turned away from God**

#### **1 Samuel 18:10–16 (NASB95)**

10 Now it came about on the next day that an evil spirit from God came mightily upon Saul, and he raved in the midst of the house, while David was playing the harp with his hand, as usual; and a spear was in Saul's hand. 11 Saul hurled the spear for he thought, "I will pin David to the wall." But David escaped from his presence twice. 12 Now Saul was afraid of David, for the Lord was with him but had departed from Saul. 13 Therefore Saul removed him from his presence and appointed him as his commander of a thousand; and he went out and came in before the people. 14 David was prospering in all his ways for the Lord was with him. 15 When Saul saw that he

was prospering greatly, he dreaded him. 16 But all Israel and Judah loved David, and he went out and came in before them.

### **The love that conquers envy**

#### **1 Samuel 18:1–4 (NASB95)**

1 Now it came about when he had finished speaking to Saul, that the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as himself. 2 Saul took him that day and did not let him return to his father's house. 3 Then Jonathan made a covenant with David because he loved him as himself. 4 Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was on him and gave it to David, with his armor, including his sword and his bow and his belt.

#### **1 Samuel 19:1–4 (NASB95)**

1 Now Saul told Jonathan his son and all his servants to put David to death. But Jonathan, Saul's son, greatly delighted in David. 2 So Jonathan told David saying, "Saul my father is seeking to put you to death. Now therefore, please be on guard in the morning, and stay in a secret place and hide yourself. 3 "I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where you are, and I will speak with my father about you; if I find out anything, then I will tell you." 4 Then Jonathan spoke well of David to Saul his father and said to him, "Do not let the king sin against his servant David, since he has not sinned against you, and since his deeds have been very beneficial to you.

#### **1 Samuel 23:16–17 (NASB95)**

16 And Jonathan, Saul's son, arose and went to David at Horesh, and encouraged him in God. 17 Thus he said to him, "Do not be afraid, because the hand of Saul my father will not find you, and you will be king over Israel and I will be next to you; and Saul my father knows that also."

Jonathan let the love of God and the Word of God rule his life. Do you know you can do the same?