
A Study In 1 Samuel

"The Evil Of Envy"

1 Samuel 18

08-27-23

Introduction: As we continue our journey through 1 Samuel, God is at work. He has rejected Saul and chosen David as his successor.

1. As a result, Saul's role is eroding, while at the same time, God is elevating David.
2. David is given a leadership role in Saul's army because of his victory over Goliath.
3. In this role, everything David touched prospered because God was with him.
4. Saul saw this, but rather than joy and gratitude, he became angry and felt threatened.
5. Why? The problem was envy. It is still a problem.
6. In this narrative we'll see how it evolves, how it affects us, so we can guard against it taking root in our lives.

I. The Evolution Of Envy

- A. David's Success
- B. Saul's Internal Conflict
- C. Saul's Frustration

II. The Effects Of Envy

- A. Paranoia
- B. Outbursts

C. Conspiracy

Conclusion: We have all experienced the evil of envy.

1. If you are in David's shoes:
 - Recognize you cannot control others.
 - Do not become proud/arrogant/obnoxious.
 - Do not apologize or feel guilty over God's blessing.
 - Do the next right thing.
2. If you are in Saul's shoes:
 - Repent/forgive.
 - Communicate openly and honestly.
 - Be yourself.
 - Appreciate God's blessings on others.
 - Focus on the mission, not status.
 - Depend on God.
3. The world will be a better place as the evil of envy is eradicated!