

May 17, 2023

The Lord wants you to live in His liberty and freedom.

1 Sam. 23:14 *David stayed in the wilderness in the strongholds, and remained in the hill country in the wilderness of Ziph. And Saul sought him every day, but God did not deliver him into his hand. (NIV)*

This passage should be such a testament to God's faithfulness. Nothing on this earth or in this universe can happen unless it fits in the plan of God. King Saul felt threatened by the shepherd boy who had been chosen by God through the prophet Samuel. Saul was told by Samuel that because of his disobedience, he would lose his throne to David. So, Saul took matters into his own hands and sought David to kill him. But God would watch over David and give him places to hide from Saul. Every cave and places like Engedi were spots that the Lord could hide David and keep him from the searching King.

How did this work out? Read this passage: **1 Sam. 24:4-7** *The men of David said to him, "Behold, this is the day of which the Lord said to you, 'Behold; I am about to give your enemy into your hand, and you shall do to him as it seems good to you.'" Then David arose and cut off the edge of Saul's robe secretly. It came about afterward that David's conscience bothered him because he had cut off the edge of Saul's robe. So he said to his men, "Far be it from me because of the Lord that I should do this thing to my lord, the Lord's anointed, to stretch out my hand against him, since he is the Lord's anointed." David persuaded his men with these words and did not allow them to rise up against Saul. And Saul arose, left the cave, and went on his way. (NIV)*

Saul wanted to kill David, but David wanted to spare Saul. No wonder scripture says that David was a man after God's own heart. He loved Saul more than himself. This is what God has done for us as well. We certainly deserved to die, but He came and gave His life so that we could live. Praise His holy name!

Dear Father, You are Almighty and all powerful. You hold all things in Your hand, and by Your will, we see You at work all around us. Help us to look to You instead of to ourselves. In Jesus Name, Amen