

1Samuel 21:10–22:5

"God's Powerful, Wise, and Merciful Providence"

What hope do believers have, when they are foolish or overmatched? Pastor leads his family in today's "Hopewell @Home" passage. In these ten verses, we learn that God powerfully, wisely, and mercifully works all things for believers' good.

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For signal chapter 21 verse 10.Through chapter 22 verse 5.

And David arose and fled that day from before Saul.And went to a quiche king of gas.And the servants of achieved said to him is this not David the king of the land.Did they not sing of him to one another in dances?Saying Saul has slain his thousands.

Then David has ten thousands.So David took these words to heart and was very much afraid of a hesh the king of death.So he changed his behavior before them pretended madness in their hands scratched on the doors of the gate.And let his saliva fold down on his beard.

Then and he said to his servants look you see the man is insane why have you brought him to me have I need a madman that you have brought this fellow to play the madman in my presence shall this fellow come into my house?David therefore departed from there and escaped to the cave of a dullum.

So when his brothers and all his father's house heard it they went down there to him.And everyone who was in distress everyone who was in debt and everyone who is discontented gathered to him.So he became captain over them.There were about four hundred men with him.Then David went from there to mitzpaw of Moab.

He said to the king of Moab, please let my father and my mother come here with you till I know what God will do for me.So he brought them before the king of Moab and they dwelt with him all the time that David was in the stronghold.Now the prophet gad said to David.

Do not stay in the stronghold depart.And go to the land of Judah.So David departed and went into the forest of Heret.So far the reading of God's inspired and.There were.

This passive our Lord.Reminds us that he is.Wise and powerful to save even when we are.Foolish and weak.

Some people think that.David pretending madness before a quiche is that the point of that portion is somehow that David was this very clever tactician.And that is most certainly not the point of the closing section of First Samuel 21.Because immediately after saying.In verse 9 that there is no sword like the sword of Goliath.

He takes the sword that everyone in the engineerries to recognize to Goliath's hometown.He takes it to Gath.And just in case we didn't recognize the folly of taking Goliath's sword to

Goliathville. It turns out everyone there still remembers that hit Israelite song. Saul has slain his thousands and David has ten thousands.

Which was sung in the wake of his executing Goliath and leading the slaughter of the Philistines. So the story of the end of for Samuel 21 is not how clever David is. But the inexplicable gullibility of a quiche king of Gath except for it's not inexplicable, but we have an explanation.

In fact, David wrote, not one, but two psalms. About the mercy of God to him. In this instance when a Psalm 34 and the other is Psalm 56. And the emphasis of the Psalms is God's mercy and wisdom and power. So David if it's going to be a if we're going to think about David it's an account of David's folly.

If it's an account of a case, it's an account of alcohol, he was now. God overpowered him. And was merciful to David.

Similar dynamic with his escaping to the cave of a dolom. Usually if you're going to go somewhere to hide in a cave. The point is secrecy. But it seems like everyone in Israel knows where David is. Because not only do his parents and his brothers here about it. But every single everyone who's in distress everyone who's in debt and everyone who is discontented.

Seem to know that David is hanging out in the cave of a dullum. And they come to him there.

This incidentally would be good practice for him as king. Because those are exactly the kind of people who show up at the palace and that turns out to be something that absolutely will use to his advantage and appeasing the distress to the indebted and the discontented but you get 400 of those folks in a room and if David is able to lead them be captain over them verse 2, then this is in God's Providence good king practice good.

Leadership training. But again. As Psalm 57 and Psalm 142 remind us this is God being merciful to David by making him to be protected even in the cave of Dolom even when everybody in Israel seems to know where he is. And then he gets help for his parents from what we might consider an unlikely source it's important that that he has helped for his parents because we learned some five chapters ago in chapter 17 that his parents were already advanced in age or at least that Jesse's father was advanced in age for.

For his elderly parents the stronghold of a dolom is not. The best place the best conditions for them and so you can't go to the king of Israel because that's when he's trying to kill him can't go to the kings of the Philistines because they've just remembered how the people saying David's phrases for executing so many Philistines and so.

You guys to the king of Moab. That might seem odd to us until you remember that his daddy. Jesse's grandma. Was named Ruth. And she was a Moabitess. And so Jesse is one-quarter. Moabite himself. And so perhaps that factored in but whether that factored in or not we see that it's the providence of God after all it was God who sent the famine in the days of Elimelech.

That's God who changed Ruth's heart that she'd come back with Naomi it's God who made Boaz righteous and gave earth favor and Boaz's eyes and so forth God had been providing for this from hundred a hundred years earlier. And so we're reminded of the great mercy of God and all of his providence how perfectly it fits together that even when he is handling things like the rise and fall of kings and the bringing in of the Davidic Kingdom he has an eye on the elderly and their daily comfort.

That they would have a safe place to stay not have to be on the run not have to be in the cave. And all that God is doing and his plan of redemption and the rise and fall of nations. Presidents. Kings and so forth. He takes note of and provides for even the littlest even the smallest unnoticed by man among his people.

So you can trust him for that. And then what a great mercy is verse five and chapter 22 the last verse in our text. Now the prophet Gad said today that. There. David has been making a lot of questionable choices the Lord has been kind of miraculously for protecting him in the midst of them whenever God comes with a clear word, there's a great mercy.

In this particular case, we haven't seen Gad before. We don't know where he comes from. He just appears as it were out of thin air. And the first Samuel 22:5, he's going to be one of David's court prophets later but we see that God prepares his word. He sends it in advance and he allows David to have this shore word about where he should go to the land of Judah do not stay in the stronghold depart and go to the land of Judah.

Regret. Mercy God's word is to us. Send not only does he overcome our folly and ever come our enemies and. Help us in trouble and providentially arrange everything that happens for us and take care of all our needs. He also most of all best of all. Sends us his word that we may know what we ought to do.

It's prayer.

Father, thank you for giving this family your word. For Samuel 21 help us. Lord to trust in you. And not to fear man. Who pray that you would be glorified for the way that you have perfectly arranged and ordered the. Circumstances and events of our lives. Pray that your spirit would help us to remember what we hear from your word.

As you have come to us not just by God, but. By first Samuel 21 and 22. We thank you that it is ultimately for the sake of Christ. That you did all this and for the sake of Christ that you do all good in our lives. Him you have joined to him.

Faith. And so we pray that with him as our righteousness and. Being adopted in him as your own beloved children. Because of the love with which you loved us and gave him for us. That you would help us the rest of this day, even as you have ordered out all of the circumstances that we will encounter.

That you would help us also to obey what we know from your word. Cause it to take root in our minds and our hearts be asked. In Jesus name. And your children here say amen.