

I. Introduction and review.**II. The Lord delivers David from Saul four times. v. 1-24****A. Jonathan rescues David from Saul's murderous plot. v. 1-7 18:3**

1. Saul tells his son and servants to murder David. v. 1a
2. Jonathan becomes an informer to David. v. 1b-3 Phil. 2:3f
3. Jonathan pleads David's case before his father Saul. v. 4-5 Mt. 5:9 Gal. 6:1
 - a. "This is not how kings should act." v. 4b
 - b. "David is innocent." v. 4c Ps. 59:4
 - c. "David has been a great help to you, delivering Israel from her enemies." v. 4d-5a 11:12-15 14:43,45 Pr. 17:13
 - d. "Don't bring judgment upon yourself and Israel by shedding innocent blood." v. 5b 25:30-31 Dt. 21:8-9 19:10-13
4. Saul is persuaded and vows not to harm David. v. 6 Lev. 19:12 Nu. 30:2 Mt. 5:33
5. David returns to the royal court. v. 7

B. David (again) evades Saul's spear. v. 8-10

1. David continues to prosper in all he does. v. 8 18:5,14,30
2. David is kind to his enemy Saul. v. 9b Ps. 35:13-14
3. Saul violates his oath as he tries to murder David. v. 10a II Pe. 2:22
4. The LORD enables David to evade Saul's spear and to escape Saul's presence. v. 10

C. Michal helps David escape from Saul and his henchmen. v. 11-17

1. This incident is the setting for Psalm 59.
 - a. Innocent David is surrounded by Saul's murderous dogs. v. 11a Ps. 59:1-7
 - b. David looks to the LORD for help. Ps. 59:8-15,1-2,4b,5
 - c. David sings the praises of the LORD in Whom he fully trusts. Ps. 59:16-17
2. Michal tells David to run for his life. v. 11b-12 Josh 2:15 Acts 9:25 II Co. 11:33
3. Michal buys time for David to escape by deceiving her father's men. v. 13-14
4. There are similarities between Michal and Jacob's wife, Rachel. Ge. 31:19,33ff
5. When Saul discovers Michal's ruse he burns with anger. v. 15-17a
6. Michal lies yet again. v. 17b
7. Was her lying justified? 15:29 21:13 27:10 Ex. 2:19 20:16 Josh. 2:4ff 9:22 Judges 3:15ff 4:17ff
8. Saul later gives Michal to another man. II Sam. 3:13ff

D. The LORD supernaturally delivers David at Ramah. v. 18-24

1. David seeks refuge with Samuel. v. 18 Ps. 27:4-6
2. Saul's spies inform him of David's whereabouts so he sends his assassins. v. 19-20a
3. On three occasions Saul's messengers are overcome by the Spirit, and thus are unable to complete their mission. v. 20b-21 II Kings 1:9ff
4. Saul determines to finish the job himself. v. 22-23a
5. The Spirit of God comes upon him so that he strips himself naked and prophesies day and night. v. 23b-24 Pr. 21:1
6. Meanwhile, David has opportunity to escape yet again.
7. How can the Spirit prophesy through someone who is not a believer? Num. 22-24 II Pe. 2:15 Rev. 2:14 Mt. 7:22-23 Mark 6:7ff
8. Saul's prophetic experiences form bookends at the beginning and the end of his legitimacy as king. 10:5-6,10-13
9. The humiliation of Saul and his men may be a fulfillment of Psalm 59:11-15.

III. How does this passage apply to us?

- A. Yet again Saul serves as a grave warning to us.
 - 1. Those who are lost are enslaved by sin. v. 6 Jo. 8:34,44 Ro. 6:20 8:6ff Eph. 2:1ff
 - 2. Unbelievers often have a conscience, but they cannot live by it. v. 6 Ro. 2:15 1:32
 - 3. Saul illustrates the utter futility and madness of opposing God. Ps. 59:8 2:4
 - 4. It is possible for a person to be gifted, to hold spiritual office, and even to be used by God's Spirit, and yet to be lost. Nu. 22-24 Lu. 9:1 Mt. 7:21ff He. 6:4 I Jo. 2:18ff
 - 5. Only Christ can set you free. Jo. 8:32ff I Cor. 6:9ff Eph. 2:1ff Ro. 6:22
- B. David's experiences and Psalms reflect our experience as God's people. Co. 3:3
- C. We too are oppressed by the enemies of God's Anointed One. Ps. 59:2-4,6-7 I Pe. 5:8
 - 1. Our culture has been given over to greed, lust and the shedding of innocent blood. 19:5 Rom. 1:28-32 Isa. 5:20
 - 2. Thus they hate and afflict us. Mt. 10:22 Mark 13:13 Lu. 6:22 Jo. 3:20 Acts 14:22
 - 3. Sometimes our loyalty to the LORD and His people may put us at odds with family members or those in authority. 19:4-5 20:30ff Luke 14:24 Ro. 12:18 Pr. 31:8-9
- D. The LORD protects and delivers us. Ps. 59:8-10
 - 1. All the power may seem to be on the other side.
 - 2. We, like David, can trust our sovereign God to take care of us. Ps. 59:8-10 46:1-3 Phil. 4:4-9 Mt. 6:25ff Pr. 21:1
 - 3. God uses means to deliver His people.
 - 4. Through delivering us, God glorifies Himself, in spite of the evil acts of wicked men. Ps. 59:11-13 17:46 Ro. 9:22ff

IV. Where do we see Christ in this passage?

- A. The events in David's life and his Psalms point to Jesus Christ. Ps. 59
- B. Jesus, like David, was innocent. v. 4 Ps. 59:4 Luke 23:47 John 19:4,6 Heb. 4:15
- C. Jesus' jealous enemies feared Him and repeatedly tried to kill Him. 18:29 Ps. 59:2-3,7 Ps. 2:2 Mt. 2:3ff 27:8 Mark 15:10 John 5:18 7:1,32 11:47ff Acts 4:22-30
- D. Just as David was protected by God's power, God repeatedly delivered Jesus from His enemies until His time had come. Mt. 2:14ff John 7:30,44-45 8:59,20 10:39 Ps. 2:4ff
- E. Jesus' captors shed innocent blood. v. 5 Mt. 27:4 Lu. 23:47 Jo. 19:4 Acts 2:23 Ps. 59:4
- F. God the Father delivered Jesus from the grave. Acts 2:24-36 Ps. 16:9-10 59:10
- G. Those of us who are in Christ are protected from death and hell through Jesus. Mt. 10:28 Ro. 8:31ff 6:23
- H. Jesus will vanquish all those who oppose Him. Ps. 59:13 2:4-12 Col. 2:10 I Co. 15:25
- I. Let us sing praises to God our Redeemer. Ps. 59:16-17

Discussion questions

- 1. How does Psalm 59 relate to I Samuel 19?
- 2. How do Psalm 59 and I Samuel 19 point to Christ?
- 3. How do I Samuel 19 and Psalm 59 apply to our lives?
- 4. Which of God's attributes are revealed in this passage?
- 5. How does this passage show how God uses human means to accomplish His sure purposes?
- 6. How does Jonathan set a godly example for us?
- 7. What warnings should we take from the life of Saul?
- 8. Was Michal's lying justified?
- 9. From what and from whom do you need rescue?
Can you pray Psalm 59 about your life?