

1 Samuel 18 key words

[translation NRSV, modified to show literal Hebrew in places]

When David had finished speaking to Saul, the life of Jonathan was bound to the life of David, and Jonathan **loved** him as his own life. Saul took him that day and would not let him return to his father's house. Then Jonathan made a covenant with David, because he **loved** him as his own life. Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that he was wearing, and gave it to David, and his armor, and even his sword and his bow and his belt.

David went out and was **successful** wherever Saul sent him; as a result, Saul set him over the army. And all the people, even the servants of Saul, it was **good in their eyes**. As they were coming home, when David returned from killing the Philistine, the women came out of all the towns of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet King Saul, with tambourines, with songs of joy, and with musical instruments. And the women sang to one another as they made merry, "Saul has killed his **thousands**, and David his ten **thousands**." Saul was very angry, for this word was **evil in his eyes**. He said, "They have ascribed to David ten **thousands**, and to me they have ascribed **thousands**; what more can he have but the kingdom?" So Saul **eyed** David from that day on.

The next day an evil spirit from God rushed upon Saul, and he raved within his house, while David was playing with his **hand**, as he did day by day. Saul had his **spear** in his **hand**; and Saul threw the **spear**, for he thought, "I will pin David to the wall." But David turned from **face** to foot. Saul was afraid of David's **face**, because YHWH was with him but had departed from Saul. So Saul removed him from his **face**, and made him a commander of a **thousand**; and David marched out and came in, leading the army. David had **success** in all his undertakings; for YHWH was with him. When Saul saw that he had great **success**, he was a stranger to his **face**. But all Israel and Judah **loved** David; for it was he who marched out and came in leading before his **face**.

Then Saul said to David, "Here is my elder **daughter** Merab; I will give her to you as a wife; only be valiant for me and fight YHWH's battles." For Saul thought, "I will not raise a **hand** against him; let him be taken by the **hand** of the Philistines." David said to Saul, "Who am I and who are my kinsfolk, my father's family in Israel, that I should be the **king's son-in-law**?" But at the time when Saul's **daughter** Merab should have been given to David, she was given to Adriel the Meholathite as a wife.

Now Saul's **daughter** Michal **loved** David. Saul was told, and the word was good to his **eye**. Saul thought, "Let me give her to him that she may be a snare for him and that the **hand** of the Philistines may be against him." Therefore Saul said to David a second time, "You shall now be my **son-in-law**." Saul commanded his servants, "Speak to David in private and say, 'See, the king is delighted with you, and all his servants **love** you; now then, become the **king's son-in-law**.'" So Saul's servants reported these words to David in private. And David said, "Does it seem to you **small in your eyes** to become the **king's son-in-law**, seeing that I am a poor man and of no repute?" The servants of Saul told him, "This is what David said." Then Saul said, "Thus shall you say to David, 'The king desires no marriage present except a hundred foreskins of the Philistines, that he may be avenged on the king's enemies.'" Now Saul planned to make David fall by the **hand** of the Philistines. When his servants told David these words, it was **good to his eye** to be the **king's son-in-law**. Before the time had expired, David rose and went, along with his men, and killed one hundred of the Philistines; and David brought their foreskins, which were given in full number to the king, that he might become the **king's son-in-law**. Saul gave him his **daughter** Michal as a wife. But when Saul realized that YHWH was with David, and that Saul's **daughter** Michal **loved** him, Saul was still more afraid of David. So Saul was David's enemy from that time forward. Then the commanders of the Philistines came out to battle; and as often as they came out, David had more **success** than all the servants of Saul, so that his fame became very great.