

1 Samuel 20 key words

David fled from Naioth in Ramah. He came before **Jonathan's** face and said, "What have I done? What is my guilt? And what is my sin against **your father** that he is trying to take my life?" He said to him, "Far from it! You shall not die. **My father** does nothing either great or small without uncovering my ear; and why should my father **hide** this from me? Never!" But **David** also swore, "**Your father knows yes knows** that you charm your eyes; and he thinks, 'Do not let **Jonathan know** this, or he will be grieved.' But truly, as **YHWH** lives and as you yourself live, there is but a step between me and death." Then **Jonathan** said to **David**, "Whatever you say, I will do for you." **David** said to **Jonathan**, "Tomorrow is the **new moon**, and I should not fail to sit with the king at the meal; but **let me go**, so that **I may hide** in the field until the third evening. If **your father misses yes misses** me, then say, '**David asked yes asked** leave of me to run to Bethlehem his city; for there is a yearly sacrifice there for all the family!' If he says, 'Good!' it will be **shalom** with your servant; but if he is **angry yes angry**, then **know** that evil has been determined by him. Therefore **do chesed** with your servant, for you have brought your servant into a covenant with YHWH and you. But if there is guilt in me, kill me yourself; why should you bring me to **your father**?" **Jonathan** said, "Far be it from you! If **I knew yes knew** that it was decided by **my father** that evil should come upon you, would I not tell you?" Then **David** said to **Jonathan**, "Who will tell me if **your father** answers you harshly?"

Jonathan replied to **David**, "Come, let us go out into the field." So they both went out into the field. **Jonathan** said to **David**, "By **YHWH**, the God of Israel! When I have sounded out **my father**, about this time tomorrow, or on the third day, if he is well disposed toward **David**, shall I not then **let go** and uncover your ear? But if **my father** intends to do you harm, **YHWH** do so to **Jonathan**, and more also, if I do not uncover your ear, and **let you go**, so that you may go in **shalom**. May **YHWH** be with you, as he has been with my father. If I am still alive, show me the **chesed** of **YHWH**; but if I die, never cut off your **chesed** from my house, even if **YHWH** were to cut off every one of the enemies of **David** from the face of the earth." Thus **Jonathan** made a covenant with the house of **David**, saying, "May **YHWH** seek out the enemies of **David**." **Jonathan** made **David** swear again by his love for him; for he loved him as he loved his own life.

Jonathan said to him, "Tomorrow is the **new moon**; you will be missed, because your place will be empty. On the day after tomorrow, you shall go a long way down; go to the place where you **hid** yourself earlier, and remain beside the stone there. I will shoot three **arrows** to the side of it, as though I **let go** at a mark. **Behold**, I will **let go** the **boy**, saying, '**Behold**, go, find the **arrows**.' If I say to the **boy**, '**Behold**, the **arrows** are on this side of you, collect them,' then you are to come, for, as **YHWH** lives, it is **shalom** for you and there is no danger. But if I say to the young man, '**Behold**, the **arrows** are beyond you,' then go; for **YHWH** has **let you go**. As for the matter about which you and I have spoken, **behold**, **YHWH** is witness between you and me forever." So **David hid** himself in the field.

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When the **new moon** came, the king sat at the feast to eat. The king sat upon his seat, as at other times, upon the seat by the wall. **Jonathan** stood, while Abner sat by Saul's side; but **David**'s place was empty. Saul did not say anything that day; for he thought, "Something has befallen him; he is not clean, surely he is not clean." But on the second day, the day after the **new moon**, **David**'s place was empty. And Saul said to his son **Jonathan**, "Why has the **son of Jesse** not come to the feast, either yesterday or today?" **Jonathan** answered Saul, "**David** asked ~~yes~~ asked leave of me to go to Bethlehem; he said, '**Let me go**; for our family is holding a sacrifice in the city, and my brother has commanded me to be there. So now, if I have found favor in your sight, let me get away, and see my brothers.' For this reason he has not come to the king's table." Then Saul's anger was kindled against **Jonathan**. He said to him, "You son of a perverse, rebellious woman! Do I not **know** that you have chosen the **son of Jesse** to your own shame, and to the shame of your mother's nakedness? For as long as the **son of Jesse** lives upon the earth, neither you nor your kingdom shall be established. Now **let go** and bring him to me, for he shall surely die." Then **Jonathan** answered his father Saul, "Why should he be put to death? What has he done?" But Saul threw his spear at him to strike him; so **Jonathan** knew that it was the decision of his father to put **David** to death. **Jonathan** rose from the table with burning nostrils and ate no food on the second day of the **month**, for he was grieved for **David**, and because his father had disgraced him.

In the morning **Jonathan** went out into the field to the appointment with **David**, and with him was a little **boy**. He said to the **boy**, "Run and find the **arrows** that I shoot." As the **boy** ran, he shot an arrow beyond him. When the **boy** came to the place where **Jonathan**'s arrow had fallen, **Jonathan** called after the **boy** and said, "Is the arrow not beyond you?" **Jonathan** called after the **boy**, "Hurry, be quick, do not linger." So **Jonathan**'s **boy** gathered up the **arrows** and came to his master. But the **boy** **knew** nothing; only **Jonathan** and **David** **knew** the arrangement. **Jonathan** gave his weapons to the **boy** and said to him, "Go and carry them to the city." As soon as the **boy** had gone, **David** rose from beside the stone heap and prostrated himself with his face to the ground. He bowed three times, and they kissed each other, and wept with each other; **David** wept the more. Then **Jonathan** said to **David**, "Go in *shalom*, since both of us have sworn in the name of **YHWH**, saying, '**YHWH** shall be between me and you, and between my descendants and your descendants, forever.'" He got up and left; and **Jonathan** went into the city.