

Episode 5: The Wolf and the Lion

In this episode we see the love story start between Michal and David. They are spending time together and getting to know one another. Later in scripture we find out they are in love and tell Saul. 1 Samuel 18:20 (ESV) Now Saul's daughter Michal loved David. And they told Saul, and the thing pleased him.

To help distract the people from talking about Saul and his craziness, they decide to arrange a marriage between the tribe of Judah and the tribe of Benjamin (Saul's house). At first it appears that Saul will have his younger daughter, Michal married. Instead, he announces that Merab will be married to Jordan from the tribe of Judah. There is nothing in scripture about this event or arrangement.

Throughout this episode we see that when David plays for Saul he calms down and the tormenting stops. This is written in scripture in 1 Samuel 16:23 (ESV) And whenever the harmful spirit from God was upon Saul, David took the lyre and played it with his hand. So Saul was refreshed and was well, and the harmful spirit departed from him.

- What calms you down when you are not feeling like yourself? Have you considered turning to God during these times, possibly through worship music, prayer, scripture reading/ memorization? What holds you back from doing this?

People are starting to notice that David is spending time with Michal and they are having feelings for one another. Michal's mother tells her to stay away from David. One of the guards of Saul (David's cousin) threatens his life and holds him over a cliff. He wants David to stay away from Michal and threatens to throw him over the cliff. David's response is that he has a purpose and a destiny and trusts in God. Note this is not in scripture.

- David has so much faith in God. He knows God has anointed him as king and trusts in the Lord. Do you fully trust in the Lord? Is there anything that you need to hand over to him so you can put your full trust in God?

Towards the end of the episode, Saul gives a speech about uniting his daughter Merab with Jordan from Judah. He decides to give Jordan's father an ancient scroll which was Jacob's blessing. We find out that it leads to another crazy outburst from Saul and the children do not get married.

Jacob's blessing is found in the book of Genesis and Jacob gave the blessing of his 12 children before he died. He goes through each son who would be the leader of each of the tribes of Israel. Some of the sons receive nothing and others receive greatness. Read Genesis 49 and note the following:

- What does Jacob say about the tribe of Judah (Genesis 49:8-12)?
- What do you know will come of the tribe of Judah?
- What animal is referenced when Jacob talks about Judah?
- What does Jacob say about the tribe of Benjamin (Genesis 49:27)? What animal is referenced?

The name of this episode makes more sense after reading this passage and seeing the outburst of Saul toward the end of the episode. We see the blessing of Jacob played out in Saul as he is from the tribe of Benjamin. The type of man Saul is, seems to follow the description of a wolf. Genesis 49:27 (NLT) Benjamin is a ravenous wolf, devouring his enemies in the morning and dividing his plunder in the evening. From what you have seen of Saul thus far, how does this accurately describe him?

- Devouring his enemies –
- Dividing his plunder –

The end of the episode has David talking to Saul and then when Saul leaves the room, David sits on the throne. To me this feels like foreshadowing what is to come once Saul is off the throne.