

Episode 7: A Royal Wedding

The episode opens with scripture from Deuteronomy.

Deuteronomy 7:13 (ESV) – *He will love you, bless you, and multiply you. He will also bless the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground, your grain and your wine, and your oil, the increase of your herds and the young of your flock, in the land that he swore to your fathers to give you.*

Do you think this is a blessing on the House of Saul or the House of David?

The House of Saul is in disarray after the previous episode. Jonathan finds out from Saul that his mom was the one that set up David. Merab and Michal clean up after their father’s outburst and Michal asks, “What happen to our family?” It should be a time of celebration with Michal and David’s wedding coming up, but with Ahinoam banished it is hard for the family to be united. What do you think is the main cause of the collapsing of The House of Saul?

Let’s revisit the seven things that are an abomination to God. Read the scripture below:

Proverbs 6:16-19 (ESV) – ¹⁶ *There are six things that the Lord hates, seven that are an abomination to him: ¹⁷ haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, ¹⁸ a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that make haste to run to evil, ¹⁹ a false witness who breathes out lies and one who sows discord among brothers.*

Last episode we saw at least 3 of these qualities in Ahinoam. Now we will cover the remaining four qualities. Fill in the chart below with who and what situations occurred in this episode. I’ve filled in a couple to start.

Action	Person	Situation
Haughty eyes (Pride)	<i>Ishvi</i>	
Hands shed innocent blood		
False witness	<i>Merab</i>	
Sowing discord (causing division)		<i>He explains how he set his parents against one another, encouraged Merab to marry David, burned down the silos.</i>

Pride has been the main downfall of humanity since the beginning of creation. We see Ishvi displaying his own pride in wanting to take down his own father and family. In the beginning of time, another exemplified pride in their actions. Read the verse below and note who exhibited pride.

Genesis 3:5-6 (ESV) – ⁵For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and **you will be like God**, knowing good and evil. ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be **desired to make one wise**, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

Abner talks to Saul about his recent decisions and asks “What good is winning the world, but losing yourself?” What does this mean to you?

Sara has some good news for Jonathan. Although their marriage is not stated in scripture, the bible does say something about Jonathan’s child. Circle the name below:

2 Samuel 4:4 (ESV) - Jonathan, the son of Saul, had a son who was crippled in his feet. He was five years old when the news about Saul and Jonathan came from Jezreel, and his nurse took him up and fled, and she fled in her haste, he fell and became lame. And his name was Mephibosheth.

Sara is not mentioned in scripture, but we do know he has a child and it is assumed he was married at some point.

The royal wedding is absolutely beautiful with David and Michal performing their pre-wedding cleansing ritual called the Mikvah. This is a Jewish ritual to achieve

Bible Reference

David said a prayer at his wedding about building a family of the nation like Leah and Rachel.

Genesis 29: 32-35 (ESV) – ³² And Leah conceived a son, and she called his name Reuben.... ³³ She conceived again.... And she called his name Simeon. ³⁴ Again she conceived.... His name was Levi. ³⁵ And she conceived again... she called his name Judah...

Genesis 30:17-18, 20 (ESV) - ¹⁷.. And she conceived and bore Jacob a fifth son. ¹⁸ ...She called his name Issachar. ¹⁹ And Leah conceived again... ²⁰ So she called his name Zebulun.

Genesis 30:22-24 (ESV) – ²² Then God remembered Rachel... ²³ She conceived and bore a son. ²⁴ And she called his name Joseph...

Genesis 35:16, 18 (ESV) – ¹⁶ .. Rachel went into labor.... ¹⁸... His father called him Benjamin.

DID YOU KNOW??

Jacob wanted to marry Rachel, but her father (Leban) gave Jacob Leah to marry first and then after 7 more years of working gave him Rachel. Since they were both Jacob’s wives, they had a bad relationship especially when Rachel had a hard time conceiving. The relationship reminds me of how Merab and Michal are presented in the show.

spiritual purity and to mark a life milestone, like marriage. After Mikvah Michal walks down the aisle and into the loving arms of David. He says a beautiful prayer over their marriage and they are finally married!

Jesse is present at the wedding and warns David not to let the crown rule him. He asks David, “How will you be remembered?” This is similar to the question Abner asked Saul, so both men are contemplating this. Jesse asks, “will it be God above all?” How do you want to be remembered? Would people say you put God above all?

I don’t know about you, but I have come to really like Dinah. Dinah has fallen in love with Ishvi, they are a cute couple, and she has befriended the girls. She comforted Merab, taught her to hunt as we see Merab kill her first deer. But it seems her curiosity has gotten her in real trouble. She sees the bad guy with the patch in the woods and follows him to Doeg who sends a pigeon saying the grain silo fire was not the Philistines as Saul thought. She tells Ishvi who then pushes her off a cliff to her death. Wow, I was not expecting that! As you saw in the chart above, Ishvi is making some questionable choices again and it appears he is bringing Merab in with him.

The episode ends with the flash-forward that we saw in episode 2. Abner summons David to Saul’s bedroom to play the lyre for him. Saul is angry and feels betrayed by David. He asks David if Samuel chose him. David says no, God chose him! Read the verse below to refresh your memory.

1 Samuel 18:10-11 (ESV) – ¹⁰ *The next day a harmful spirit from God rushed upon Saul, and he raved within his house while David was playing the lyre, as he did day by day. Saul had his spear in hand. ¹¹ And Saul hurled the spear, for he thought, “I will pin David to the wall.” But David evaded him twice.*

David answers Saul with such confidence that it wasn’t man (Samuel) that chose him, but God. The same is true of you. God chose you and loves you. Write a prayer below reflecting on this truth.