

Lesson 4. Jonathan: Born for Greatness

Saturday's Lesson

Should Jonathan have been spoiled, greedy, & selfish?? He did have some genetic predisposition to those traits via his father. What allowed him to overcome this predisposition?

Sunday's lesson

Were Jonathan & David lovers??

1 Sam 20:41-42. 41 As soon as the lad had gone, David arose from a place toward the south, fell on his face to the ground, and bowed down three times. And they kissed one another; and they wept together, but David more so. 42 Then Jonathan said to David, "Go in peace, since we have both sworn in the name of the LORD, saying, 'May the LORD be between you and me, and between your descendants and my descendants, forever.'" So he arose and departed, and Jonathan went into the city.

1 Samuel 20:30 30 Then Saul's anger was kindled against Jonathan, and he said unto him, Thou son of the perverse rebellious woman, do not I know that thou hast chosen the son of Jesse to thine own confusion, and unto the confusion of thy mother's nakedness?

2 Samuel 1:25-26 "How have the mighty fallen in the midst of the battle! Jonathan is slain on your high places. I am distressed for you, my brother Jonathan; You have been very pleasant to me. Your love to me was more wonderful than the love of women."

What is a covenant??

Definition of Covenant per Strong's Concordance.

B'rit - Covenant

1. covenant, alliance, pledge
 1. between men
 1. treaty, alliance, league (man to man)
 2. constitution, ordinance (monarch to subjects)
 3. agreement, pledge (man to man)
 4. alliance (of friendship)
 5. alliance (of marriage)
 2. between God and man
 1. alliance (of friendship)
 2. covenant (divine ordinance with signs or pledges)
2. (phrases)
 1. covenant making
 2. covenant keeping
 3. covenant violation

Can friendship be a stronger bond than family?? Is "blood thicker than water"? Any other examples from scripture or history??

Monday's lesson

Was it presumptuous of Jonathan to attack the Philistine garrison with only his armor bearer?

Any thoughts on the "sign from the Lord" Jonathan chose? Why not the opposite?

Tuesday's lesson

Read 1 Sam 19:1-7

Saul Persecutes David

1 Now Saul spoke to Jonathan his son and to all his servants, that they should kill David; but Jonathan, Saul's son, delighted greatly in David. 2 So Jonathan told David, saying, "My father Saul seeks to kill you. Therefore please be on your guard until morning, and stay in a secret place and hide. 3 And I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where you are, and I will speak with my father about you. Then what I observe, I will tell you." 4 Thus Jonathan spoke well of David to Saul his father, and said to him, "Let not the king sin against his servant, against David, because he has not sinned against you, and because his works have been very good toward you. 5 For he took his life in his hands and killed the Philistine, and the LORD brought about a great deliverance for all Israel. You saw it and rejoiced. Why then will you sin against innocent blood, to kill David without a cause?" 6 So Saul heeded the voice of Jonathan, and Saul swore, "As the LORD lives, he shall not be killed." 7 Then Jonathan called David, and Jonathan told him all these things. So Jonathan brought David to Saul, and he was in his presence as in times past.

How did Jonathan honor his father?? Does 'honoring' mean we are to do whatever our parents ask/command us to do?? What about our spouses??

Wednesday's lesson

Why the differences between Saul's offspring and David's??

Jonathan was content to be eliminated from consideration from the throne, yet two of David's sons tried to take over the throne. Where's the genetic influence??

Thursday/Friday's lesson

Was Jonathan punished for the "sins of his father" [e.g. dying in battle with Saul]?? Ref. Ex 20:4-6. Why or why not? Would Jonathan have lived longer / better if he had allied himself completely with David??

The lesson & EGW compare Jonathan with John the Baptist. Is this a fair comparison??