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(Peter Lok)駱沅祺

lokpeter@outlook.com

Bibleao.com

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YouTube Prayer Link

The importance of friendship and loyalty

In 1 Samuel 20, the hostile relationship between David and Saul continues to intensify. Saul continued to try to kill David, but David's friend Jonathan helped him escape and helped him understand Saul's plan. The friendship between Jonathan and David was even stronger, and they vowed to help each other and protect each other's families.

After Saul discovered David's traces, he began to threaten Jonathan and tried to get him to his side. Jonathan rejected Saul's request and promised that he would help David. Jonathan and David planned a signaling system to help David escape. David hides in a place far from town, while Jonathan eats with Saul and observes his reactions.

When Saul found out that David was not present, he was furious and tried to kill Jonathan. Jonathan escaped and joined David. They once again vowed to protect each other and promised that their descendants would always be friendly.

This chapter emphasizes the importance of friendship and loyalty, as well as faith and trust in God. It shows that true friendship and loyalty are protected and rewarded, even in the face of difficulties and dangers. It also depicts the extent of the hostile relationship between Saul and David and shows that the feud between them will continue.

It is rare to have a confidant in life, righteous and loyal

To be able to have a confidant in the journey of life reflects the importance of righteousness and loyalty. A confidant is like a soul mate, not only understanding your joys and sorrows, but also reaching out in times of hardship. Righteousness and loyalty became the cornerstone of this friendship, making it deeper and more precious.

First of all, righteousness is a selfless dedication and sacrifice, which is embodied in support and help at critical moments. Confidants work together to tide over the wind and rain, regardless of

gains and losses, just for the sake of sincere commitment to each other. The existence of this righteousness makes friendship stronger and becomes a pillar of life.

Secondly, loyalty is the essence of a confidant relationship, a practice of commitment and trust. On the basis of the trust built on each other, loyalty allows friendships to continue to flourish. The combination of empathy and loyalty in the midst of joy and facing challenges together makes for powerful solace when lonely.

Righteousness and loyalty build the deep foundation of the confidant relationship. In this fast-paced and ever-changing society, it is not easy to find a confidant who understands you, accompanies you, and never abandons. In this precious friendship, the importance of righteousness and loyalty becomes more and more apparent, becoming a warm color in life, embellishing ordinary days.

There are many teachings about friendship and faithfulness in the Bible, and some of these verses emphasize the importance of these two values. Here are some related verses:

Proverbs 17:17:

"Friends are always dear, and brothers are born for trouble. "

Proverbs 18:24:

"With friends and friends, you are closer than brothers. "

John 15:13:

"No man's love is greater than this, and that is the love of sacrificing one's life for one's friend. "

Proverbs 27:6:

"The wounds of friends are out of loyalty, but the enemies kiss again and again, but they are superfluous. "

These verses emphasize the value of intimacy, selflessness, and loyalty in friendship.

We pray together

Dear Heavenly Father,

May the Lord bless us and preserve the preciousness of friendship and loyalty in the hearts of our children. May we cultivate a deep friendship with each other, understand each other with innocence, and support each other. May the Lord's love fill our hearts and let the light of friendship illuminate our path. In the face of loyalty, may we be a strong pillar for each other and show self-sacrificing dedication. May the Lord's blessings cover our friendship and make it indestructible and a beautiful and eternal part of life. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

1 Samuel

CHAPTER 20

1Sa. 20:1 Then David fled from Naioth at Ramah and went to Jonathan and asked, "What have I done? What is my crime? How have I wronged your father, that he is trying to take my life?"

1Sa. 20:2 "Never!" Jonathan replied. "You are not going to die! Look, my father doesn't do anything, great or small, without confiding in me. Why should he hide this from me? It's not so!"

1Sa. 20:3 But David took an oath and said, “Your father knows very well that I have found favour in your eyes, and he has said to himself, ‘Jonathan must not know this or he will be grieved.’ Yet as surely as the LORD lives and as you live, there is only a step between me and death.”

1Sa. 20:4 Jonathan said to David, “Whatever you want me to do, I’ll do for you.”

1Sa. 20:5 So David said, “Look, tomorrow is the New Moon festival, and I am supposed to dine with the king; but let me go and hide in the field until the evening of the day after tomorrow.

1Sa. 20:6 If your father misses me at all, tell him, ‘David earnestly asked my permission to hurry to Bethlehem, his home town, because an annual sacrifice is being made there for his whole clan.’

1Sa. 20:7 If he says, ‘Very well,’ then your servant is safe. But if he loses his temper, you can be sure that he is determined to harm me.

1Sa. 20:8 As for you, show kindness to your servant, for you have brought him into a covenant with you before the LORD. If I am guilty, then kill me yourself! Why hand me over to your father?”

1Sa. 20:9 “Never!” Jonathan said. “If I had the least inkling that my father was determined to harm you, wouldn’t I tell you?”

1Sa. 20:10 David asked, “Who will tell me if your father answers you harshly?”

1Sa. 20:11 “Come,” Jonathan said, “let’s go out into the field.” So they went there together.

1Sa. 20:12 Then Jonathan said to David: “By the LORD, the God of Israel, I will surely sound out my father by this time the day after tomorrow! If he is favourably disposed towards you, will I not send you word and let you know?”

1Sa. 20:13 But if my father is inclined to harm you, may the LORD deal with me, be it ever so severely, if I do not let you know and send you away safely. May the LORD be with you as he has been with my father.

1Sa. 20:14 But show me unfailing kindness like that of the LORD as long as I live, so that I may not be killed,

1Sa. 20:15 and do not ever cut off your kindness from my family — not even when the LORD has cut off every one of David’s enemies from the face of the earth.”

1Sa. 20:16 So Jonathan made a covenant with the house of David, saying, “May the LORD call David’s enemies to account.”

1Sa. 20:17 And Jonathan made David reaffirm his oath out of love for

him, because he loved him as he loved himself.

1Sa. 20:18 Then Jonathan said to David: “Tomorrow is the New Moon festival. You will be missed, because your seat will be empty.

1Sa. 20:19 The day after tomorrow, towards evening, go to the place where you hid when this trouble began, and wait by the stone Ezel.

1Sa. 20:20 I will shoot three arrows to the side of it, as though I were shooting at a target.

1Sa. 20:21 Then I will send a boy and say, ‘Go, find the arrows.’ If I say to him, ‘Look, the arrows are on this side of you; bring them here,’ then come, because, as surely as the LORD lives, you are safe; there is no danger.

1Sa. 20:22 But if I say to the boy, ‘Look, the arrows are beyond you,’ then you must go, because the LORD has sent you away.

1Sa. 20:23 And about the matter you and I discussed — remember, the LORD is witness between you and me for ever.”

1Sa. 20:24 So David hid in the field, and when the New Moon festival came, the king sat down to eat.

1Sa. 20:25 He sat in his customary place by the wall, opposite Jonathan, [Septuagint; Hebrew wall. Jonathan arose] and Abner sat next to Saul, but David’s place was empty.

1Sa. 20:26 Saul said nothing that day, for he thought, “Something must have happened to David to make him ceremonially unclean — surely he is unclean.”

1Sa. 20:27 But the next day, the second day of the month, David’s place was empty again. Then Saul said to his son Jonathan, “Why hasn’t the son of Jesse come to the meal, either yesterday or today?”

1Sa. 20:28 Jonathan answered, “David earnestly asked me for permission to go to Bethlehem.

1Sa. 20:29 He said, ‘Let me go, because our family is observing a sacrifice in the town and my brother has ordered me to be there. If I have found favour in your eyes, let me go to see my brothers.’ That is why he has not come to the king’s table.”

1Sa. 20:30 Saul’s anger flared up at Jonathan and he said to him, “You son of a perverse and rebellious woman! Don’t I know that you have sided with the son of Jesse to your own shame and to the shame of the mother who bore you?

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1Sa. 20:31 As long as the son of Jesse lives on this earth, neither you nor your kingdom will be established. Now send and bring him to me, for he must die!”

1Sa. 20:32 “Why should he be put to death? What has he done?”

Jonathan asked his father.

1Sa. 20:33 But Saul hurled his spear at him to kill him. Then Jonathan knew that his father intended to kill David.

1Sa. 20:34 Jonathan got up from the table in fierce anger; on that second day of the month he did not eat, because he was grieved at his father’s shameful treatment of David.

1Sa. 20:35 In the morning Jonathan went out to the field for his meeting with David. He had a small boy with him,

1Sa. 20:36 and he said to the boy, “Run and find the arrows I shoot.” As the boy ran, he shot an arrow beyond him.

1Sa. 20:37 When the boy came to the place where Jonathan’s arrow had fallen, Jonathan called out after him, “Isn’t the arrow beyond you?”

1Sa. 20:38 Then he shouted, “Hurry! Go quickly! Don’t stop!” The boy picked up the arrow and returned to his master.

1Sa. 20:39 (The boy knew nothing of all this; only Jonathan and David knew.)

1Sa. 20:40 Then Jonathan gave his weapons to the boy and said, “Go, carry them back to town.”

1Sa. 20:41 After the boy had gone, David got up from the south side of the stone and bowed down before Jonathan three times, with his face to the ground. Then they kissed each other and wept together — but David wept the most.

1Sa. 20:42 Jonathan said to David, “Go in peace, for we have sworn friendship with each other in the name of the LORD, saying, ‘The LORD is witness between you and me, and between your descendants and my descendants for ever.’” Then David left, and Jonathan went back to the town.

Chapter 20 begins with David fleeing from Saul's presence and seeking refuge with Jonathan. David asks Jonathan why Saul wants to kill him, and Jonathan assures David that Saul does not want to harm him. However, David remains skeptical and devises a plan with Jonathan to test Saul's intentions. They agree to meet in a field the next day, and if Saul is angry and hostile towards David, then it is a sign that he truly wants to kill him.

The next day, David is absent from a feast hosted by Saul, and Saul becomes angry and suspicious. Jonathan covers for David, saying that David had asked permission to attend a family sacrifice in Bethlehem. Saul seems to accept this explanation, but he becomes enraged when Jonathan defends David's character and loyalty.

Jonathan returns to the field and tells David the news, shooting arrows to signal whether it is safe for David to return. When the arrows fall beyond the designated spot, David knows that he must flee and the two friends bid each other farewell.

In this chapter, we see the deep friendship and loyalty between Jonathan and David. They are willing to risk their own safety and well-being to protect each other, even in the face of Saul's wrath. The chapter also shows the dangerous and unpredictable nature of Saul, who becomes increasingly unstable and jealous of David.

Here are some important verses from chapter 20 of 1 Samuel in the Christian Bible:

1 Samuel 20:4 - "Jonathan said to David, 'Whatever you want me to do, I'll do for you.'"

1 Samuel 20:17 - "And Jonathan had David reaffirm his oath out of love for him, because he loved him as he loved himself."

1 Samuel 20:30-31 - "Saul's anger flared up at Jonathan and he said to him, 'You son of a perverse and rebellious woman! Don't I know that you have sided with the son of Jesse to your own shame and to the shame of the mother who bore you?'"

These verses continue to portray the close friendship between Jonathan and David, as Jonathan helps David escape from Saul's wrath. They make a plan for David to go into hiding, and Jonathan reaffirms his loyalty to David. However, when Saul becomes aware of their plan, he becomes angry with Jonathan and accuses him of siding with David against him. This chapter highlights themes of loyalty, friendship, and the lengths people will go to protect those they care about.

1 Samuel chapter 20 continues the narrative of David's life, focusing on his friendship with Jonathan and the growing animosity between David and Saul. This chapter explores themes of loyalty, trust, and the faithfulness of God's providence.

One of the key themes that emerges from this chapter is the theme of loyalty and friendship. David and Jonathan share a deep bond of friendship, and in this chapter, Jonathan seeks to protect David from Saul's anger and plots. They make a covenant of friendship, and Jonathan pledges to inform David of any danger.

This chapter highlights the power of genuine friendship and the loyalty that exists between David and Jonathan. Their relationship is built on trust, selflessness, and a shared commitment to God. It reminds us of the importance of loyal friendships in our lives, where we can find support, encouragement, and a safe haven. It encourages us to cultivate and cherish relationships that are grounded in mutual trust and loyalty.

Furthermore, 1 Samuel chapter 20 emphasizes the importance of trust in God's providence. David and Jonathan devise a plan to test Saul's intentions, relying on God's guidance and direction. They have faith that God will reveal the truth and protect David from harm.

This chapter serves as a reminder that we can trust in God's providence and guidance even in challenging situations. It encourages us to seek His wisdom, to listen to His voice, and to trust that He is working behind the scenes for our good. It prompts us to have faith in God's faithfulness and to rely on Him in all circumstances.

Additionally, 1 Samuel chapter 20 reveals the consequences of Saul's disobedience and anger. Saul's jealousy and rage cause him to act irrationally and even attempt to kill his own son, Jonathan. It highlights the destructive power of unchecked emotions and the consequences that arise from disobedience to God's commands.

This chapter reminds us of the importance of self-control, humility, and obedience in our lives. It warns us against allowing jealousy, anger, or pride to drive our actions and decisions. It prompts us to submit to God's authority and seek His guidance, knowing that His ways lead to peace and righteousness.

In conclusion, 1 Samuel chapter 20 brings forth reflections on loyalty, trust, and the faithfulness of God's providence. It highlights the power of genuine friendships, the importance of trust in God's guidance, and the consequences of disobedience. May we cultivate loyal friendships, trust in God's providence, and seek to live in obedience to His commands.