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YouTube Prayer Link

The death of King Saul was mourned throughout the country

Summary of 2 Samuel Chapter 1: This chapter describes David's reaction to the death of Saul and Jonathan in battle with the Philistines. He mourned the deaths of Saul and Jonathan and ordered that lamentations be taught to the Jews. An Amalekite claimed to have killed Saul, but David did not immediately accept his words. He ordered the man who claimed to have killed Saul to be put to death because he had killed Saul, the anointed of God.

Saul was a well-respected and beloved king who led the people of Israel to many glorious victories on the battlefield. His wisdom and courage inspired his men to forge ahead and be invincible.

However, as a brilliant leader, he also had his own struggles and mistakes. He has made mistakes before, but he always tries to take responsibility for his mistakes and try to make up for them.

His life was full of challenges and trials, but he always stood true to his beliefs and principles.

At the time of his passing, the entire nation of Israel was deeply saddened and lost. His departure means the passing of a great leader, the end of a history. However, his spirit will always live on in our hearts, and his exploits will forever be remembered in the long river of history.

In the Bible, King Saul's suicide is described as a tragic end. Suicide is an act of desperation that shows that a person is suffering greatly in the soul and suffering. King Saul's suicide can be viewed from God's perspective.

God is a loving and merciful God who understands human frailties and struggles. He cared deeply for everyone's hearts and was grieving for their suffering. Therefore, he would not simply look at King Saul's suicide with a stern eye, but would treat him with compassion and mercy.

God is a righteous and just God who judges people's actions according to their hearts and motives. While suicide is a wrong act, God knows the struggles and dilemmas that everyone has

inside. Therefore, he would examine the motives and state of mind behind King Saul's suicide and make a fair verdict based on the circumstances.

God is a God of mercy and forgiveness, and He is willing to forgive those who sincerely repent. Even if a person makes a mistake, God will be willing to accept him and grant him peace and comfort as long as he sincerely repents and seeks God's forgiveness.

Therefore, we should view King Saul's suicide with compassion and understanding, while also being aware of the magnitude of God's mercy and forgiveness. May we experience God's love and mercy, as well as understanding and tolerance for everyone's inner struggles, when faced with a tragedy like suicide.

In the Bible, King Saul, while presenting himself in some ways as a qualified leader, also had some actions and decisions that could be considered wrong. Although he may not have committed obvious wrongdoing in his personal interests, some of his actions were still condemned and judged by God.

Although Saul may not have committed obvious wrongs in his personal interests, some of his actions were still contrary to God's will and principles. We should look at King Saul's actions in the Bible with caution and prudence and learn from them to avoid repeating the mistakes he made. At the same time, we should also realize that God's requirements for leaders are loyalty, obedience, and righteousness, not just the pursuit of personal gain.

When King Saul died and David mourned for him, David's emotions were heavy and sad. David was saddened by Saul's death because Saul had been his king, friend, and rival. Although Saul hunted him down, David still respected his position and his role as God's chosen king. His hymns are filled with memories of Saul's past, mourning for him, and anxiety about the future of his country.

David's song of mourning for Saul and his son Jonathan. In this song, David expresses his sorrow and respect for Saul and Jonathan. What stands out in this passage is David's forgiveness of his enemy Saul and his deep gratitude to his friend Jonathan. David not only expressed his respect for Saul as king, but also praised Jonathan's deep friendship with him, which reflected David's noble character and value for human affection.

## We pray together

Heavenly Father

May the Lord, with mercy and strength, soothe our hearts when we lose faith or lose our companions. Pray that the Lord will give us a firm faith and let us see the light of hope in the darkness. Pray that the Lord will give us comfort and courage to feel your presence when we are alone. May the Lord help us to stand strong in the midst of challenges and let us know that we are never alone in you. In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

## 2 Samuel

### CHAPTER 1

2Sa. 1:1 After the death of Saul, David returned from defeating the

Amalekites and stayed in Ziklag two days.

2Sa. 1:2 On the third day a man arrived from Saul's camp, with his clothes torn and with dust on his head. When he came to David, he fell to the ground to pay him honour.

2Sa. 1:3 "Where have you come from?" David asked him. He answered, "I have escaped from the Israelite camp."

2Sa. 1:4 "What happened?" David asked. "Tell me." He said, "The men fled from the battle. Many of them fell and died. And Saul and his son Jonathan are dead."

2Sa. 1:5 Then David said to the young man who brought him the report, "How do you know that Saul and his son Jonathan are dead?"

2Sa. 1:6 "I happened to be on Mount Gilboa," the young man said, "and there was Saul, leaning on his spear, with the chariots and riders almost upon him.

2Sa. 1:7 When he turned round and saw me, he called out to me, and I said, 'What can I do?'

2Sa. 1:8 "He asked me, 'Who are you?' " "An Amalekite," I answered.

2Sa. 1:9 "Then he said to me, 'Stand over me and kill me! I am in the throes of death, but I'm still alive.'

2Sa. 1:10 "So I stood over him and killed him, because I knew that after he had fallen he could not survive. And I took the crown that was on his head and the band on his arm and have brought them here to my lord."

2Sa. 1:11 Then David and all the men with him took hold of their clothes and tore them.

2Sa. 1:12 They mourned and wept and fasted till evening for Saul and his son Jonathan, and for the army of the LORD and the house of Israel, because they had fallen by the sword.

2Sa. 1:13 David said to the young man who brought him the report, "Where are you from?" "I am the son of an alien, an Amalekite," he answered.

2Sa. 1:14 David asked him, "Why were you not afraid to lift your hand to destroy the LORD's anointed?"

2Sa. 1:15 Then David called one of his men and said, "Go, strike him down!" So he struck him down, and he died.

2Sa. 1:16 For David had said to him, "Your blood be on your own head. Your own mouth testified against you when you said, 'I killed the LORD's anointed.'"

2Sa. 1:17 David took up this lament concerning Saul and his son Jonathan,

2Sa. 1:18 and ordered that the men of Judah be taught this lament of the bow (it is written in the Book of Jashar):

2Sa. 1:19 “Your glory, O Israel, lies slain on your heights. How the mighty have fallen!

2Sa. 1:20 “Tell it not in Gath, proclaim it not in the streets of Ashkelon, lest the daughters of the Philistines be glad, lest the daughters of the uncircumcised rejoice.

2Sa. 1:21 “O mountains of Gilboa, may you have neither dew nor rain, nor fields that yield offerings of grain. For there the shield of the mighty was defiled, the shield of Saul — no longer rubbed with oil.

2Sa. 1:22 From the blood of the slain, from the flesh of the mighty, the bow of Jonathan did not turn back, the sword of Saul did not return unsatisfied.

2Sa. 1:23 “Saul and Jonathan — in life they were loved and gracious, and in death they were not parted. They were swifter than eagles, they were stronger than lions.

2Sa. 1:24 “O daughters of Israel, weep for Saul, who clothed you in scarlet and finery, who adorned your garments with ornaments of gold.

2Sa. 1:25 “How the mighty have fallen in battle! Jonathan lies slain on your heights.

2Sa. 1:26 I grieve for you, Jonathan my brother; you were very dear to me. Your love for me was wonderful, more wonderful than that of women.

2Sa. 1:27 “How the mighty have fallen! The weapons of war have perished!”

Chapter 1 of the book of 2 Samuel begins with the news of King Saul's death in battle against the Philistines. An Amalekite man claims that he had killed Saul at Saul's own request, hoping to gain favor with David who had been anointed by Samuel as the next king. However, David and his men mourn for Saul and Jonathan, his beloved friend, and order the Amalekite to be put to death for killing the anointed king of Israel. David composes a lament for Saul and Jonathan, in which he praises their bravery and mourns their untimely deaths.

Here are some important verses from chapter 1 of the book of 2 Samuel:

1. "After the death of Saul, David returned from striking down the Amalekites and stayed in Ziklag two days." (2 Samuel 1:1) - This verse sets the context for the rest of the chapter.
2. "David asked him, 'Why weren't you afraid to lift your hand to destroy the Lord's anointed?'" (2 Samuel 1:14) - This verse shows David's attitude towards the man who claimed to have killed Saul.
3. "David took hold of his clothes and tore them, and all the men who were with him did the same." (2 Samuel 1:11) - This verse shows the outward display of mourning that David and his men exhibited when they heard about Saul's death.

4. "Your glory, O Israel, lies slain on your heights. How the mighty have fallen!" (2 Samuel 1:19) - This verse is part of David's lament for Saul and his son Jonathan, and it has become a famous phrase that is often quoted.

5. "Jonathan lies slain on your heights. I grieve for you, Jonathan my brother; you were very dear to me. Your love for me was wonderful, more wonderful than that of women." (2 Samuel 1:25-26) - These verses express David's deep love and respect for Jonathan, who was his closest friend and ally.

Overall, chapter 1 of 2 Samuel is a lament for the death of Saul and Jonathan, and it sets the stage for David's rise to power as king of Israel.

In 2 Samuel Chapter 1, we see the aftermath of the battle between Israel and the Philistines, where King Saul and his son Jonathan are killed. Here are some key reflections from the chapter:

**Grief and Mourning:** The chapter begins with an Amalekite coming to David, who was anointed to be the next king of Israel, and informing him about the death of Saul and Jonathan. David's response is filled with grief and mourning. He tears his clothes, weeps, and fasts, expressing deep sorrow for the loss of these two important figures.

**Respect for God's Anointed:** Despite Saul's troubled relationship with David, he was still the anointed king of Israel. David's response to the news of Saul's death reveals his respect for the anointing and his desire to honor God's chosen one, even in death. He asks the Amalekite why he was not afraid to lift his hand against the Lord's anointed.

**David's Lament:** In this chapter, David composes a lament, known as the "Song of the Bow," to honor Saul and Jonathan. He praises their courage, valor, and the love they shared. It reflects the deep bond David had with Jonathan and his appreciation for Saul's role as the king of Israel. David's lament shows his ability to find beauty and honor even in the midst of tragedy.

**The Futility of Self-Glorification:** The Amalekite who claims to have killed Saul brings his crown and bracelet to David, hoping to receive favor and reward. However, David responds with anger and sorrow. He recognizes the audacity and sinfulness of someone taking the life of the anointed king, believing it would lead to reward and honor. This serves as a reminder of the futility of seeking personal glory through dishonest and wicked means.

**Mourning for the Fallen:** The chapter ends with David commanding that the people of Judah be taught the Song of the Bow. This indicates David's desire for the nation to collectively mourn the loss of Saul and Jonathan. It highlights the importance of recognizing and honoring those who have fallen in battle, acknowledging their sacrifice and valuing their memory.

Overall, 2 Samuel Chapter 1 showcases David's response to the news of Saul and Jonathan's death, emphasizing his grief, respect for God's anointed, and his ability to find beauty and honor in the midst of tragedy. It also reminds us of the futility of seeking personal glory through dishonest means and the significance of mourning for those who have fallen.

