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(Peter Lok)駱沅祺

[lokpeter@outlook.com](mailto:lokpeter@outlook.com)

[Bibleao.com](http://Bibleao.com)

## Daily Rice 2024 February 6

YouTube Prayer Link

Thou shalt not inflict harm on Jehovah's anointed one

1 Samuel

26:9 David said to Abichian that he must not be killed . Who stretches out his hand against the anointed of Yahweh and is not guilty?

In 1 Samuel 26, we see that David had another opportunity to kill Saul, but he chose not to. Saul sent his soldiers after David, who and his men hid in a cave. One night, Saul entered a cave to rest, and David and his men saw the opportunity, and David's men suggested that he kill Saul. However, David rejected this suggestion, believing that he should not reach out to others, especially since Saul was God's king.

Instead, David chose to take Saul's pillow and shouted in the distance, telling Saul that they could have killed him, but they didn't. Surprised and grateful, Saul acknowledged that David was blessed by God and vowed not to pursue him again.

In this chapter, we see David's courage and compassion, as well as his faith and obedience to God. He chose not to kill Saul because he believed that God had His own plan and time to solve the problem. At the same time, we also see Saul's change and recognition of David, which also shows God's work and guidance.

Yahweh's anointed ones are those who are considered to be God's agents or special elect in the Christian faith. In the Christian scriptures, this can include prophets, messengers, saviors, etc. For Christians, Jesus Christ is considered to be the Son of God, the Savior of the world, and

therefore one of Jehovah's exalted beings. This concept of faith is a vital part of Christianity and reflects faith in divine authority and salvation.

In the church, pastors and staff play a key role as spiritual leaders and guides of the faith. We should value their contributions and understand the responsibilities they carry. They should not be hurt by words or actions, but should be treated with love and respect. Through support, prayer, and collaboration, we can work together to build a strong and harmonious church community where pastors and staff can fulfill their ministry in God's will and lead believers to grow and community

There are passages in the Bible that teach us to respect and love the leaders of the church. Here are some of them:

Hebrews 13:17 - "Submit yourselves to those who lead you, and be obedient, for they are always on the watch for your souls, as they are to be accountable. "

1 Timothy 5:17 - "Consider that elders who labor in instruction and exhortation are worthy of twice as much respect. "

Titus 1:7 - "For the overseer, being God's steward, must be blameless, not self-willed, not irascible, not addicted to wine, not beating, not greedy for unjust gain." "

These verses emphasize respect, obedience, and support for church leaders to build a harmonious church environment.

To become a unified church, you need to focus on the following areas:

Based on love and respect: Church members should be grounded in love for one another, honoring each other's differences and uniqueness. Love is the key to unity.

Common Beliefs: Churches should identify common beliefs and avoid disagreements over basic beliefs. Unity on shared values of faith helps build unity.

Open Dialogue and Understanding: Encourage open, honest dialogue among members to understand each other's perspectives and feelings. Establishing good communication can help resolve potential disagreements.

Unity Ministries and Goals: Churches should pursue God's will together and establish common ministry goals to ensure that members have a common direction and goals in their ministry.

Support one another: Church members should support each other during difficult times, not only spiritually, but also in all aspects of life.

Pastor's Guidance: Pastors play a key role in nurturing unity, leading the church toward unity through teaching, care, and guidance.

Prayer and Humility: Church members and leaders alike should be prayer-based, humble in heart, and seek God's guidance and wisdom.

Through these practices, the church can build an environment of unity, love, respect, and common pursuit of God's will.

## We pray together

May the Lord bless the pastors and co-workers of the church and give them wisdom and strength to guide them on the path of faith. Pray that the Lord will protect their physical and mental health so that they can be spiritual role models in their ministry and guide and care for the

congregation of the church. May the Lord increase their courage and joy, give peace to their hearts, and fill their ministry with the glory of God. and protect their physical and mental spirits from all kinds of challenges and trials

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

## 1 Samuel

### CHAPTER 26

1Sa. 26:1 The Ziphites went to Saul at Gibeah and said, “Is not David hiding on the hill of Hakilah, which faces Jeshimon?”

1Sa. 26:2 So Saul went down to the Desert of Ziph, with his three thousand chosen men of Israel, to search there for David.

1Sa. 26:3 Saul made his camp beside the road on the hill of Hakilah facing Jeshimon, but David stayed in the desert. When he saw that Saul had followed him there,

1Sa. 26:4 he sent out scouts and learned that Saul had definitely arrived. [Or had come to Nacon]

1Sa. 26:5 Then David set out and went to the place where Saul had camped. He saw where Saul and Abner son of Ner, the commander of the army, had lain down. Saul was lying inside the camp, with the army encamped around him.

1Sa. 26:6 David then asked Ahimelech the Hittite and Abishai son of Zeruiah, Joab’s brother, “Who will go down into the camp with me to Saul?” “I’ll go with you,” said Abishai.

1Sa. 26:7 So David and Abishai went to the army by night, and there was Saul, lying asleep inside the camp with his spear stuck in the ground near his head. Abner and the soldiers were lying round him.

1Sa. 26:8 Abishai said to David, “Today God has given your enemy into your hands. Now let me pin him to the ground with one thrust of my spear; I won’t strike him twice.”

1Sa. 26:9 But David said to Abishai, “Don’t destroy him! Who can lay a hand on the LORD’s anointed and be guiltless?”

1Sa. 26:10 As surely as the LORD lives,” he said, “the LORD himself will strike him; either his time will come and he will die, or he will go into battle and perish.

1Sa. 26:11 But the LORD forbid that I should lay a hand on the LORD’s anointed. Now get the spear and water jug that are near his head, and let’s go.”

1Sa. 26:12 So David took the spear and water jug near Saul’s head, and they left. No-one saw or knew about it, nor did anyone wake up. They were all sleeping, because the LORD had put them into a deep sleep.

1Sa. 26:13 Then David crossed over to the other side and stood on top

of the hill some distance away; there was a wide space between them.

1Sa. 26:14 He called out to the army and to Abner son of Ner, “Aren’t you going to answer me, Abner?” Abner replied, “Who are you who calls to the king?”

1Sa. 26:15 David said, “You’re a man, aren’t you? And who is like you in Israel? Why didn’t you guard your lord the king? Someone came to destroy your lord the king.

1Sa. 26:16 What you have done is not good. As surely as the LORD lives, you and your men deserve to die, because you did not guard your master, the LORD’s anointed. Look around you. Where are the king’s spear and water jug that were near his head?”

1Sa. 26:17 Saul recognised David’s voice and said, “Is that your voice, David my son?” David replied, “Yes it is, my lord the king.”

1Sa. 26:18 And he added, “Why is my lord pursuing his servant? What have I done, and what wrong am I guilty of?

1Sa. 26:19 Now let my lord the king listen to his servant’s words. If the LORD has incited you against me, then may he accept an offering. If, however, men have done it, may they be cursed before the LORD! They have now driven me from my share in the LORD’s inheritance and have said, ‘Go, serve other gods.’

1Sa. 26:20 Now do not let my blood fall to the ground far from the presence of the LORD. The king of Israel has come out to look for a flea — as one hunts a partridge in the mountains.”

1Sa. 26:21 Then Saul said, “I have sinned. Come back, David my son. Because you considered my life precious today, I will not try to harm you again. Surely I have acted like a fool and have erred greatly.”

1Sa. 26:22 “Here is the king’s spear,” David answered. “Let one of your young men come over and get it.

1Sa. 26:23 The LORD rewards every man for his righteousness and faithfulness. The LORD gave you into my hands today, but I would not lay a hand on the LORD’s anointed.

1Sa. 26:24 As surely as I valued your life today, so may the LORD value my life and deliver me from all trouble.”

1Sa. 26:25 Then Saul said to David, “May you be blessed, my son David; you will do great things and surely triumph.” So David went on his way, and Saul returned home.

Chapter 26 continues the story of David and Saul, with David once again sparing Saul's life. In this chapter, Saul is once again pursuing David, who is hiding in the wilderness of Ziph with his men. Saul's army surrounds David and his men, and Saul himself camps nearby.

One night, David and Abishai, one of his men, sneak into Saul's camp while he is sleeping.

Abishai suggests that they kill Saul while he is vulnerable, but David refuses, stating that he will not lay a hand on the Lord's anointed. Instead, David takes Saul's spear and water jug as proof that he could have killed Saul if he had wanted to.

David calls out to Saul from a safe distance, waking him up and alerting him to the fact that he was in the camp. David chastises Abner, Saul's commander, for not protecting his king, and then urges Saul to stop pursuing him and seek peace. Saul realizes that David has spared his life once again and acknowledges that David is more righteous than he is.

The chapter ends with Saul asking David to promise that he will not cut off his descendants or wipe out his name, and David agrees. The two part ways, with David heading back to the wilderness and Saul returning home.

Here are some important verses from chapter 26 of 1 Samuel in the Christian Bible:

1 Samuel 26:8-9 - "Abishai said to David, 'Today God has delivered your enemy into your hands. Now let me pin him to the ground with one thrust of the spear; I won't strike him twice.' But David said to Abishai, 'Don't destroy him! Who can lay a hand on the Lord's anointed and be guiltless?'"

1 Samuel 26:23-24 - "The Lord rewards everyone for their righteousness and faithfulness. The Lord delivered you into my hands today, but I would not lay a hand on the Lord's anointed. As surely as I valued your life today, so may the Lord value my life and deliver me from all trouble."

These verses describe a second incident where David has an opportunity to kill Saul, who is seeking to kill him. David's loyal follower, Abishai, urges him to take advantage of the opportunity and kill Saul. However, David again chooses to spare Saul's life, recognizing him as the Lord's anointed and trusting in God's justice. This chapter highlights the themes of faithfulness, obedience, and trust in God's sovereignty. It also emphasizes the importance of showing mercy and restraint, even towards one's enemies.

1 Samuel chapter 26 presents a parallel account to the previous chapter, where David once again has an opportunity to take vengeance on Saul. This chapter explores themes of mercy, trust in God's timing, and the power of forgiveness.

One of the key themes that emerges from this chapter is the theme of mercy. Similar to the previous encounter, David finds Saul sleeping vulnerable in the camp, and his men urge him to kill Saul and end the threat to his life. However, David once again chooses not to harm Saul, recognizing the value of mercy and respecting God's anointed leader.

This chapter highlights the importance of extending mercy even to those who have wronged us. It challenges us to rise above the desire for revenge and instead choose forgiveness and compassion. It reminds us that mercy is a reflection of God's character and prompts us to seek opportunities to extend grace to others, even when they may not deserve it.

Furthermore, 1 Samuel chapter 26 emphasizes the significance of trusting in God's timing. David acknowledges that it is not his place to take matters into his own hands and exact vengeance on Saul. He trusts in God's sovereignty and timing, believing that if God desires to remove Saul from power, He will do so in His own way and time.

This chapter reminds us to trust in God's perfect timing and plans for our lives. It encourages us to resist the temptation to force outcomes or take matters into our own hands. It prompts us to surrender our desires and agendas to God, placing our trust in Him to work all things together for good according to His divine purposes.

Additionally, 1 Samuel chapter 26 showcases the power of forgiveness and reconciliation. Even though Saul repeatedly seeks to kill David, David still holds no ill will towards him. He maintains a heart of forgiveness and extends an invitation for reconciliation, expressing his desire for unity and peace.

This chapter underscores the transformative power of forgiveness in relationships. It challenges us to let go of grudges, bitterness, and resentment, and to actively pursue reconciliation and healing. It prompts us to follow David's example and be agents of reconciliation, seeking to restore broken relationships and foster unity among God's people.

In conclusion, 1 Samuel chapter 26 brings forth reflections on mercy, trust in God's timing, and the power of forgiveness. It encourages us to extend mercy and forgiveness to those who have wronged us, trusting in God's timing and plans for justice. It prompts us to cultivate a heart of reconciliation, seeking unity and peace in our relationships. May we walk in the path of mercy and forgiveness, trusting in God's timing and working towards reconciliation and healing.