

FIRST SAMUEL

Lesson 45: Chapter 30: David's Response to the Chastening Hand of God

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This chapter in the word of God supports the doctrine of sowing and reaping (Gal. 6:7). David had been out of the will of God and had cozied up to the enemy (the world). As a result, he returned home one day to find nothing but ruins. Much of the ruin we face in our own lives is a result of our own sin and could have been avoided if we'd paid more attention to our relationship with the Lord. Because the Lord loves you, HE will do whatever it takes to try and get you to turn back to Him and be reconciled. The quicker you respond to God's chastening hand, the less ruin you'll have to endure.

FIVE STEPS IN RESPONSE TO THE CHASTENING OF GOD

1. **TURN BACK TO GOD** (Vs. 6). David encouraged himself in the LORD his God.
 - a. The Devil will use lies to make you think the ruin in your life proves God is through with you.
 - b. The ruin (the chastening) is actually proof that God wants to continue His relationship with you.

2. **SEEK THE LORD FOR GUIDANCE** (Vs. 8). David inquired at the LORD.
 - a. Don't give up. Don't remain far from God. Get up and seek God's face once again for direction.

3. **GET BACK TO THE BUSINESS THAT GOD HAS CALLED YOU TO DO** (Vs. 10). David pursued.
 - a. Don't let the Devil convince you that you're through. You don't have to stay in the ruin. One act of sin doesn't defile your entire life. Repent of that sin, ask God to forgive you, and proceed to live a life that will honor Him.
 - b. Christians are told to help restore a brother or sister who has fallen to sin (Gal. 6:1) and to bear one another's burdens (Gal. 6:2). We are not to reject a repentant sinner (Luke 5:32, Luke 15:7, 2 Cor. 2:7, Eph. 4:32).

4. **GOD WILL BEGIN TO RESTORE YOU** (Vs. 18). David recovered all that the Amalekites had carried away.
 - a. When you put God first, "all these things shall be added unto you" (Matt. 6:33).

5. **REMEMBER YOUR SAVIOR'S GREAT LOVE** (Rom. 8:32).
 - a. When you feel like God hates you, remember Calvary: the wonderful proof that He loves you dearly and cares for you still.

OUR SALVATION IS PICTURED IN DAVID'S DEALINGS WITH THE OUTCAST EGYPTIAN (Vss. 11-17)

1. David's servants found an Egyptian: an enemy of God (Rom. 5:10). They found him in the field (this represent the world in Matthew 13:38). He is a servant to an Amalekite (the Devil, in type). He's been abandoned by his master.
 - a. He is a perfect picture of a lost man in this world.

2. One day David's servants (soul-winners, in type) found this lost Egyptian in the field and brought him to David (the Lord, in type).

3. The Egyptian was ministered to by David's grace. David had what that man needed to live and he gave it to him freely by his grace—because of his goodness. The Egyptian could not pay (works) for what David gave by grace (Eph. 2:8-9).

4. The Egyptian ate and **“his spirit came again to him”** (vs. 12). You came to Jesus Christ spiritually dead (Eph. 2:1). You ate of the bread of life (John 6:35) and were born again (John 3:3, 7), your spirit revived, you were quickened (made alive) by the Spirit (Eph. 2:5, Titus 3:5).
 - a. Note: his spirit came **“AGAIN”** implies that his spirit had become lost at some point.
 - b. See the New Testament teaching on the subject of babies and mentally incapacitated people (Romans 7:7-9). They are born **“alive,”** but when sin revives through the knowledge of God's commandments, they die (spiritually). If a person dies before sin revives in them, they will not go to hell.

5. The Egyptian became a servant and co-laborer with David in the fight against the enemy (Vss. 14-17).
