

THE FALL OF AN ENEMY

14 March 2025

We sometimes hope for our enemies to fail, or worse, to be harmed. Today, we'll see that, not only did David not rejoice in the fall of his greatest enemy, Saul, but he lamented. We'll also see that God has no pleasure to see people end up in hell when they reject Him.

DAVID'S RESPONSE TO THE DEATH OF HIS GREATEST ENEMY, KING SAUL: 1 SAMUEL 1:11-12, 17, 23, 27

- David was a man after God's own heart (1 Sam 13:14; Acts 13:22)

GOD'S HEART

- God executes judgment because He has to, not because He wants to.
 - God's desire is to pardon even the worst of sinners (1 Tim. 1:15).
- The Lord has a forgiving Spirit. Jesus greeted Judas as "friend" after he betrayed him (Mt. 26:50).
- When sinners sin against God, it doesn't change who He is. He never seeks revenge.
 - He is always holy, harmless, undefiled, and separate from sinners (Hebrews 7:26).
- God has no pleasure in the death of the wicked (**Ezek. 18:23, 33:11**).
 - Hell was not prepared for men (Mt. 25:41). If you choose hell over Jesus Christ, it is against what God wants for you (2 Pet. 3:9).
- Christ died for all men (1 Jn 2:2; Heb 2:9). That means there is no man that God wants in hell.
- The Lord acknowledges the depravity of men, but He doesn't give up on them. In Matthew 23, Jesus tells people they are "children of hell," "vipers," "blind guides," "fools," and "serpents," and tells them they are headed for "the damnation of hell" (vs 33).
 - In **Matthew 23:34**, the Lord says He sends prophets, wise men, and scribes to these very depraved men because He doesn't want them to die in their sins.
 - In **Matthew 23:35-37**, after Jesus harshly rebuked the people, He said He still would have taken them in if they would only repent and come to Him. His heart grieved for the people of Jerusalem (Luke 19:41).
- Preaching the gospel to lost people will certainly expose you to a lot of abuse from the very people you are witnessing to. Be careful not to lean to your flesh. Have a heart like Jesus.
 - Remember Christ died for those people. Control your anger. Evoke the love of Christ.

- In **Matthew 5:43-48**, Jesus instructs you to “**Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you.**”
 - If you can do this, you’ll be like your Father in heaven (vs 48).
 - It is possible to serve God without having the heart of God.
 - This will cause weariness in well-doing (2 Thes 3:13).
 - Who do you avoid witnessing to because they don’t treat you right?
 - You have a higher calling as a Christian to preach Christ to all men.
- In **Ephesians 4:30-31**, we see the heart of the Holy Spirit of God. Our **malice** grieves the Holy Spirit.
 - Malice is the desire in your heart to see somebody suffer.
 - The Holy Spirit reproves the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment (Jn 16:8) because He doesn’t want anybody to go to hell.
 - Be filled with the Spirit and you’ll have the heart of God.
- **Proverbs 24:17-18**, the Lord is displeased when we rejoice at the fall of an enemy.
- **2 Samuel 1:20**, David would not rejoice in the death of his enemy, Saul, because if he did, he’d be just like those who were opposing God.

The love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost, which is given unto us.”

(Romans 5:5)