

*“How God Prepares a King”*

**1 Samuel 18**

“Teach me, Lord, that if I do not live a life that satisfies Thee,  
I shall not live a life that will satisfy me.”

(Puritan prayer in *The Valley of Vision*)

*The Big Picture: What happened to David in 1 Samuel*

**Preparation Process: How God prepared David to be King**

The phases God used to mold David's life...

1. Obscurity: As a Shepherd boy
2. Privilege: As Saul's musician
3. Miracle: The Goliath Experience
4. Popularity: Military Campaigns in Saul's army
5. Opposition: Hated and hunted by Saul

*A Closer Look: What happened in 1 Samuel 18*

I. David prospers (1-7)

**A. Friendship with Jonathan (1-4)**

**B. Military Success (5)**

**C. Public Opinion (6-7)**

II. Saul goes down hill (8-12)

- A. Uncontrolled anger (will get worse, not better; 8)**
  - B. Jealousy (9)**
  - C. Evil spirit (10)**
  - D. Attempted murder (failed twice, 11)**
  - E. Fear and Paranoia (12)**
  - F. The Lord left him (12).**
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III. More prosperity for David (13-14)

- A. Military campaigns (13)**
  - B. The Lord is with him (14)**
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IV. More decline for Saul (15-27)

- A. More fear (15)**
  - B. Another Murder plot by Saul (17-19)**
  - C. Another murder plot (20-27)**
  - D. More Fear (28-29)**
  - E. Became David's enemy (29)**
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## V. More prosperity for David (28-30)

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### **Contrast three characters in 1 Samuel 18:**

#### *\*Jonathan:*

1. Lost his right to rule, but accepted it graciously
2. Submitted to God's plan

#### *\*Saul:*

1. Lost his right to rule, but refused to accept the fact
2. Rejected God's plan, and followed his own

#### *\*David:*

1. Success from God
2. Humble and gracious response to success

### Lessons from 1 Samuel 18:

1. *When you put God first, don't expect everyone to applaud.*
2. *The enemy can destroy us. So can success.*

