



Lesson 75

DAVID SPARES SAUL'S LIFE (AGAIN)

Story Elements

- **Text:** 1 Samuel 26:1-27:12
- **Setting:** approx. 1030 B.C.
- **Main Characters:** God, David, and Saul
- **Plot:** David again spares Saul's life and then flees to find refuge amongst the Philistines.
- **Key word(s):** “ _____ ”
- **Climax:** *“So David took the spear and the cruse of water from Saul's bolster; and they gat them away, and no man saw it, nor knew it, neither awaked: for they were all asleep; because a deep sleep from the LORD was fallen upon them.” (v 12)*

“Fool Me Once...”

1. (26:1-2) Once again, David hid in the wilderness of Judea to escape the wrath of Saul. The _____ informed Saul of David' whereabouts, and Saul summoned three thousand choice soldiers to pursue David.
2. (26:3-5) David's scouts discovered Saul's camp, and David proceeded to reconnoiter by _____ and formulated a plan.
 - a. (26:6-11) David, Ahimelech the Hittite, and Joab, penetrated Saul's camp under cover of darkness. As in the cave of Adullam, David's men desired to kill Saul, but David would not, saying, “The LORD forbid that I should stretch forth mine hand against the LORD'S _____.” (v 11)
 - b. (26:12-13) Instead of taking Saul's life, David took Saul's spear and jar that were lying near his head (a bolster is a long _____).
3. (26:13-24) David fled to a safe distance and stood atop a nearby hill, calling out to Saul. He taunted Saul's second-in-command for his failure to protect the king, and he once again pleaded his innocence and _____ to Saul. David displayed the spear and jar as evidence of his innocence.
4. (26:25) Saul is once again reminded of David's integrity. And, perhaps realizing again that God had chosen David as king, Saul confessed, “I have sinned: return, my son David: for I will no more do thee harm, because my soul was precious in thine eyes this day: behold, I have played the _____, and have erred exceedingly.” (v 21)

Faltering Faith

5. (27:1-4) Of course, David did not return to Saul, but continued to flee. David was in a sour state of mind and thought, “I shall now perish one day by the hand of Saul...” (v 1). In a fit of depressed anxiety, David fled again to _____, to Achish the son of Maach.

