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Lesson 78

David Mourns for Saul and Jonathan

Story Elements

- Text: 2 Samuel 1:1-27
- Setting: approx. 1020 B.C.
- Main Characters: God, David, and an unnamed Amalekite
- **Plot**: David mourns the death of Saul and Jonathan.
- Climax: "And David said unto him, How wast thou not afraid to stretch forth thine hand to destroy the LORD'S anointed?" (v 14)

Regicide (2 Sam. 1:1-16)

1.	(vv 1-2) David was battling the Amalekites (a tribe of desert marauders) as Saul,
	Jonathan, and the Hebrews were facing the Philistines on Mt. Gilboa. After returning
	,
	to Ziklag, David was informed of Saul and Jonathan's death by (ironically) an
	a. (vv 3-10) The Amalekite claimed to have come upon Saul while he was in the final
	throws of; the Amalekite said that Saul was unsuccessful in quickly
	killing himself and asked him to finish the job before the Philistines came. The
	Amalekite allegedly did so and took Saul's crown and bracelets to present to David.
	b. (vv 11-16) David immediately commanded the Amalekite to be executed. Why was
	David so infuriated? Didn't the Amalekite do the right thing?

Requiem (1:17-27)

- 2. David wrote a lament for the deaths of Saul and Jonathan. The lament was taught to the people of Israel and included in the Book of ______, which was a book about the exploits of Israel's champions. (cf. Joshua 10:13)
- 3. David's lament begins and ends with words of affection for his covenant friend, Jonathan. Some have taken the phrase "thy love to me was wonderful, passing the love of women" to infer a homosexual connotation. This is wicked caviling. What David meant was the love he and Jonathan shared was a binding, eternal, and _____love.

Application

4. This story illustrates the sobering truth stated in **Num. 32:23** - "...and be sure your sin will find you out."

	a. Notice this verse does not say "others will find out that you sinned" but "your will find you out." That is, hidden sins, unrepented of, have a way of	sin
	our lives – directly or indirectly. We may think we have gotten away them, but the last, we may find ourselves spiritually as Saul was literally – the fruit of disobedience standing over his lifeless body.	
	b. Matthew Henry notes: "Saul spared the best of their, and now the be of his [i.e., the royal crown] came to one of that devoted nation."	est
5.	David's elegy for Saul and Jonathan is instructive for the believer:	
	a. David was very gracious to the memory of Saul, a man who treated David like enemy. He not only refused to rejoice at Saul's death, but he honored his memory by writing this beautiful poem.	
Pr	verbs 17:5 "he that is glad at shall not be unpunished."	
	b. David and Jonathan were the epitome of true friendship. Matthew Henry writ "nothing is more delightful in this world than a true friend, that is wise and good that kindly receives and returns our affection, and is faithful to us in all our trainterestsnothing is more distressful than the loss of such a friend; it is parting we a piece of one's self. It is the vanity of this world that what is most pleasant to we are most liable to be distressed in. The more we love the more we	od, rue vith us
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	Answer Key	
LOF	Word(s): mighty • 1. Amalekite; a) death; b) David was angry because he felt strongly about respecting the office of D's anointed; the Amalekite was being dishonest (the previous chapter plainly states that Saul died by his own hand 31:5, 6) to curry favor with David. • 2. Jasher • 3. covenantal • 4. a) affecting; b. spoil • 5. Proverbs 17:5 "calamities" re	d - 1

¹ Henry, Matthew. <u>Matthew Henry's Commentary on the Whole Bible: Complete and Unabridged in One Volume</u>. Peabody: Hendrickson, 1994. Print.

² ibid.