

“Behold I Am With You Heart And Soul”

1 Samuel 14:1-23

“And he said, ‘If the Syrians are too strong for me, then you shall help me, but if the Ammonites are too strong for you, then I will come and help you. Be of good courage, and let us be courageous for our people, and for the cities of our God, and may the LORD do what seems good to Him’” (2 Samuel 10:11-12). “And Asa cried to the LORD his God, ‘O LORD, there is none like You to help, between the mighty and the weak. Help us, O LORD our God, for we rely on You, and in Your name we have come against this multitude. O LORD, You are our God; let not man prevail against You’” (2 Chronicles 14:11). “One man of you puts to flight a thousand, since it is the LORD your God who fights for you, just as He promised you” (Joshua 23:10).

- A quick reminder of the situation....
 - The Philistines had mustered to fight with Israel. They had 30,000 chariots, 6,000 horsemen, and troops like the sand of the seashore (1 Samuel 13:5). The Israelites had no weapons of war (1 Samuel 13:22) and most of them were either hiding, escaping, or trembling out of fear of the Philistines (1 Samuel 13:6-7). Saul, as king, had not led them faithfully, (1 Samuel 12:14) but instead had relied on his own wisdom (1 Samuel 13:12-14). *“And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear Him who can destroy both soul and body in hell....Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.” (Matthew 10:28-31)*
- 1 Samuel 14:1-5: “Self-focused passivity”
 - *“But he did not tell his father....the people did not know that Jonathan was gone....”*: Jonathan knew that Saul’s actions were not in faith, but were in self-focus. God, in His grace, was restraining the Philistines from attacking because He was doing a work in Israel....*“according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will.” (Ephesians 1:11)*
 - *“Saul was staying....in the pomegranate cave....”*: After sinning against the LORD, Saul became self-focused and passive about obedience to God. His company was reflective of his focus. When the ephod is mentioned, the priest is seeking the will of God (1 Samuel 23:9-11; 1 Samuel 30:7-8). We see that God was not sought until the victory was sure (1 Samuel 14:18-19).
 - *“There was a rocky crag (a steep or rugged cliff or rock face) on the one side and a rocky crag on the other side....”*: Jonathan took a difficult path to attack the Philistines believing this would give him the element of surprise. Bozez meant “shiny/slippery” and Seneh meant “thorny”. Samuel wants us to know this was a difficult way to go.
- 1 Samuel 14:6-15: “God-focused activity”
 - Some important theological truths: 1)God is for the Christian in a unique way that is for our spiritual good....*“And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose....If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things?” (Romans 8:28,31-32).* 2)We should submit to God’s infinite wisdom and believe in God’s infinite power....*“Ah, Lord God! It is You who have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and by Your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for You” (Jeremiah 32:17). “Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!” (Romans 11:33).* 3)Christian zeal burns with the support of Christian community....*“And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near” (Hebrews 10:24-25). “Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be*

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Worship: What A Friend We Have In Jesus (Various Artists)

Holy Holy Holy (Sovereign Grace Music)

Service Times: Sundays: Pneumatology Class 4/Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 6:30 & 7;

Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

fervent in spirit, serve the Lord” (Romans 12:10-11). 4) God will make our paths straight....“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge (submit) Him, and He will make straight your paths” (Proverbs 3:5-6). 5) The Christian life is lived to glorify God and show His infinite worth....“For to me to live is Christ, and to die (in His service) is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me....Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ....” (Philippians 1:21-22,27).

- 1 Samuel 14:16-23: “Faithless following”
 - *“Count and see who has gone from us....Bring the ark of God here...”*: In these two statements we see more stalling on Saul’s part. It would have taken a while to count and see who was missing amongst 600 people. Then Saul went through a religious ceremony that was not the means to determine God’s will (1 Samuel 4:3).
 - *The cowards join the fight*: Saul and all the people that were with him, the Hebrews (Gentile converts or Jews that had abandoned Israel) and the men who had hidden themselves (cf. Matthew 13:20-23).

“For You save a humble people, but the haughty eyes You bring down. For it is You who light my lamp; the LORD my God lightens my darkness. For by You I can run against a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall. This God — His way is perfect; the word of the LORD proves true; He is a shield for all those who take refuge in Him.” (Psalm 18:27-30)

Announcements:

★**DONATIONS:** We are collecting donations for Vertical 196 during the month of August. They are in need of: Disposable Razors, Travel Size Shaving Cream, Travel Size Deodorant, Men’s Boxer Briefs (Size Large), Women’s Bikini Cut Underwear (Size 7 & 8), Men’s and Women’s Ankle Socks, Dry Dog and Cat Food, Coffee, Wendy’s Gift Cards, Individually Wrapped Candy, Powdered Drink Mix, and Bleach. *THIS Sunday will be our last day to collect these donations for Vertical 196!*

★**CHURCH DAY OF PRAYER:** Our monthly day of prayer as a church body will be NEXT Wednesday, August 31st. We ask that you set aside specific time on this day to pray for the leaders and the ministries of our church body.

★**FELLOWSHIP DINNER:** We are having a Fellowship Dinner THIS Sunday, August 28th, immediately following the worship service. There is a sign-up list on the back tabe, please sign-up to bring something to the dinner. EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the dinner and fellowship with us!