

"He Loved Him As His Own Soul"

1 Samuel 18:1-16

"For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice" (James 3:16).

"Wrath is cruel, anger is overwhelming, but who can stand before jealousy?" (Proverbs 27:4). "If anyone returns evil for good, evil will not depart from his house" (Proverbs 17:13).

"And Jonathan, Saul's son, rose and went to David at Horesh, and strengthened his hand in God. And he said to him, 'Do not fear, for the hand of Saul my father shall not find you. You shall be king over Israel, and I shall be next to you.' Saul my father also knows this" (1 Samuel 23:16-17). "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up!...And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him — a threefold cord is not quickly broken" (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10,12).

- "Brotherly Love" (1 Samuel 18:1-5)
 - When souls are knit together: David and Jonathan shared a desire for God's glory (1 Samuel 14:6-7; 1 Samuel 17:45-47). This desire for *God's Name to be hallowed* brought a closeness that is only attainable through a *love for God*. *"As for the saints in the land, they are the excellent ones, in whom is all my delight" (Psalm 16:3). "Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!" (Psalm 133:1).*
 - A covenant of humility: Brotherly love for God's glory can only happen in the presence of humility and grace. *"...Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble" (1 Peter 5:5). "Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace" (1 Peter 4:8-10).*
 - God's blessing of love: When we live in obedience to God we will be blessed by God in various ways. David was blessed by there being a "covenantal love" and a "common love". *"....And Saul loved him [David] greatly...." (1 Samuel 16:21). "But all Israel and Judah loved David...." (1 Samuel 18:16). "Above all, keep loving one another earnestly...." (1 Peter 4:8). "By this all people will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35).*
- "Fleshly Jealousy" (1 Samuel 18:6-16)
 - Praise reveals what our loves are: Saul wanted more than anything to be great in the eyes of men, so he was vulnerable to the whims of man's praise. *"for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God" (John 12:43; 1 Samuel 15:12). Praise from men, or the lack thereof, reveals what a man loves. "The crucible is for silver, and the furnace is for gold, and a man is tested by his praise." (Proverbs 27:21)*
 - Surrendering to our flesh invites "harmful spirits": Saul's decisions to disobey God has led to him being vulnerable to jealousy, fear of man, and rage. God's Word has been given to us to protect us from harm, but when we stand in our own strength we set ourselves up for disaster. *"The fear of man lays a snare, but whoever trusts in the LORD is safe." (Proverbs 29:25; cf. James 3:13-18)*
 - Loving your enemies: David faithfully served Saul even after Saul tried to take his life. This revealed that David genuinely did what he did for God's glory. He was an example of "loving our enemies". *"But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you....If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them....But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and*

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Worship: Glorious Christ — Sovereign Grace Music

Christ The Sure And Steady Anchor — Matt Boswell

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

your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for He is kind to the ungrateful and the evil.” (Luke 6:27-36)

Mary, Queen of Scots, is reputed to have said: “I fear the prayers of John Knox more than all the assembled armies of Europe.”

Announcements:

★**COMMUNION:** We will be celebrating and partaking of Communion together as a church body THIS Sunday, November 6th.

★**CLEANING MINISTRY:** With the move into the new building comes a new opportunity to serve! It will be our responsibility as a church body to clean and maintain the building, so we are looking for volunteers to help with that! There is a sign-up list on the back table, please sign up if you are interested in helping with this ministry! *No experience is required to serve in this ministry* — we are looking for willing, able bodied volunteers who are excited to serve the Lord and the church body in this way. The hope is to have enough volunteers for this ministry that you would only need to be serving once every 4 weeks. Please see Krystal if you have any questions.

★**PSA:** There is no janitor on staff for this building — the Set-up/Tear-down Ministry and the future Cleaning Ministry ARE NOT our janitorial staff. We are all responsible as a church body to take care of this building that the Lord has blessed us with. That means that we all need to participate in the upkeep and cleanliness of the whole building! So if you see a mess or if you find something that needs cleaned up, please take the time to clean it up!