

“God’s Sovereignty And Providence Over Sin/Evil”

1 Samuel 22:1-23; Psalm 142:1-7

“As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today” (Genesis 50:20). “Then Israel came to Egypt....And the LORD made His people very fruitful and made them stronger than their foes. He (God) turned their hearts (Egypt) to hate His people, to deal craftily with His servants....So He brought His people out with joy, His chosen ones with singing. And He gave them the lands of the nations, and they took possession of the fruit of the peoples’ toil, that they might keep His statutes and observe His laws. Praise the LORD!” (Psalm 105:23-25,43-45; cf. 1 Samuel 2:25-26).

- 1 Samuel 22:1-5,20-23: God’s providence over sin that brought men together.
 - *“The righteous will surround me, for You will deal bountifully with me.” (Psalm 142:7b):* In David’s distress, God brings David’s family, the struggling, a prophet, and a priest to be with David in his struggle. *“If we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; and if we are comforted, it is for your comfort....” (2 Corinthians 1:6a)*
 - The King of Moab had favor on David and his family because they were related through his great-grandmother Ruth. The means that God used to gain this favor was famine, death, and suffering leading to salvation (Ruth).
 - Despite David’s sin, the LORD was providing everything that David needed for physical and spiritual nourishment.
 - The death of the priests of the LORD led Abiathar to David for protection and safety.
- 1 Samuel 22:6-19: God’s providence over sin that took men’s lives.
 - Saul offers possessions and power to try to gain allegiance and then he uses pity to try to manipulate the people. When we are lost or we are walking in unrepentant sin, possessions, power, and emotions, become our god. *“For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.” (1 Timothy 6:10)*
 - Saul deals out the death penalty without the evidence of two or three witnesses or without permission of God (Deuteronomy 17:18-20; 19:15-21).
 - The people of Israel had an awe and a respect for the priests of the LORD. Saul was asking them to attack/remove the source of God’s ministering to His people (Malachi 2:5-8).
 - Doeg’s sinfulness is used by God to accomplish the fulfilling of God’s Word to Eli (1 Samuel 2:31-33).
 - Saul refused to obey the LORD in using his kingship to bring justice and judgment, (1 Samuel 15:2-3) but he had no issue using his power for his own glory. *“It is not good to eat much honey, nor is it glorious to seek one’s own glory. A man without self-control is like a city broken into and left without walls.” (Proverbs 25:27-28)*

Worship: Nothing But The Blood Of Jesus — Various Artists O Come, All Ye Faithful — Various Artists

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

Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

Announcements:

★**CHRISTMAS SERVICE:** We WILL BE having our normal worship service THIS Sunday, Christmas Day at 5:30pm. There will be NO Children's Ministry offered during the worship service on Christmas Day! Christmas is always a great opportunity to invite friends and family to come to church with you!

**After the worship service this Sunday, we will be keeping our annual Christmas Day tradition of going to the Chinese Buffet for dinner. Everyone is welcome to join us for that! Please let Pastor Jeremy know if you plan to join us at the Chinese Buffet for dinner on Sunday, so we can get seating for everyone!

★**ANNUAL NEW YEARS EVE PARTY:** We will be having our annual New Year's Eve Party on Saturday, December 31st, at Andy Wesley's house (1062 National Drive SE; Hebron). The festivities will start at 6pm and last until midnight! Please plan on joining us for a fun night of games and food and fellowship! There is a sign-up list on the back table, please sign-up to bring your favorite appetizer, snack, finger food, or dessert.