

# 1 Samuel 14:42

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Saul said, Cast lots between me and Jonathan my son.  
And Jonathan was taken.

## Analysis

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**And Saul said, Cast lots between me and Jonathan my son. And Jonathan was taken.**

The lot between Saul and Jonathan identifies Jonathan. The spare narrative - 'Cast lots between me and Jonathan my son. And Jonathan was taken' - heightens tension. What should have been unthinkable becomes reality: the hero of the battle stands condemned by his father's oath. The lot functions correctly; God identifies the oath-breaker. Yet the oath itself was the problem, not the one who unknowingly violated it. Divine process confirms human folly.

## Historical Context

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The lot's identification of Jonathan was understood as divine verdict. Ancient Israelites believed God controlled lot outcomes (Proverbs 16:33). Jonathan's 'taking' by the lot was considered divine confirmation of his violation, regardless of his ignorance.

## Related Passages

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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

1. When proper procedures produce unjust results, what is wrong - the procedure or the underlying situation?
2. How should we evaluate systems that technically function correctly but produce harmful outcomes?

## Interlinear Text

לְכָה	ד	בָּנִי	וַיֹּאמֶר	שָׁא	וְלֹא	יְהִי	בִּין	וְבַקֵּשׁ	וְיִזְחַק	וְיִצְחָק	וְיִצְחָק	וְיִצְחָק
<b>said</b>		<b>And Saul</b>		<b>Cast</b>		H996	H996		<b>And Jonathan</b>		<b>my son</b>	<b>was taken</b>
H559		H7586		H5307					H3129		H1121	H3920

יונתן

## And Jonathan

H3129

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