

1 Samuel 18:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the servants of Saul told him, saying, On this manner spake David.

Analysis

And the servants of Saul told him, saying, On this manner spake David.

The servants faithfully report David's humble response back to Saul. This brief verse functions as narrative transition, but its presence highlights the court's communication structure. Every word David spoke reached the king. Such transparency left David no private space - his humility was observed and reported. For David, this was protection; for Saul, it was intelligence gathering. The same transparency that would later make David vulnerable to Saul's schemes here demonstrated his consistent character. Those who speak the same in public and private have nothing to fear from reported conversations.

Historical Context

Royal courts functioned as information networks where servants observed and reported. Such reports could be used for advancement or accusation. David's consistent character meant his reported words supported rather than undermined his reputation.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How would your words change if you knew they would be reported to those in authority?
2. What does David's consistency between public and private speech model for integrity?

Interlinear Text

בָּא	לָהּ	פָּקַדְךָ	יְמִ	לִאמְרָה	רַ	לְ	וּ	שָׁא	לַ	עָבָד	יְ	וְ	תִּلְ	וְ	תִּלְ	
told	And the servants	of Saul	him saying	On this manner												
H5046	H5650	H7586	H559	H1697												H428
spake	David															

תִּלְדָּהּ: תִּלְדָּהּ: דָּבָר
H1696 H1732

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