

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

וַיֹּד	עֲבָדַי	לִשְׂאֵל	לֹא	לֵאמֹר	כִּדְבָרִים	כֵּן
told	And the servants	of Saul	H0	him saying	On this manner	H428
H5046	H5650	H7586		H559	H1697	
דָּבַר	דָּוִד:					
spake	David					
H1696	H1732					

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