

1 Samuel 18:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Saul saw and knew that the LORD was with David, and that Michal Saul's daughter loved him.

Analysis

And Saul saw and knew that the LORD was with David, and that Michal Saul's daughter loved him.

Saul's recognition that 'the LORD was with David' combines with awareness that 'Michal Saul's daughter loved him' - God's favor and human affection both attached to his rival. Each plan to destroy David strengthened David's position. Saul's spiritual sight was clear enough to see God's hand but not transformed enough to submit to it. Such awareness without submission characterizes hardened hearts.

Historical Context

Repeated failure of schemes against David would have been noticed by court observers. Saul's diminishing options reflected his spiritual bankruptcy. His own family's alignment with David isolated him increasingly.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does seeing God's favor on others challenge your response - celebration or resentment?
2. What does Saul's clear-eyed rejection of divine providence teach about the mystery of hardened hearts?

Interlinear Text

רָא	וְ	יְהִי	הִ	כִּי	לְ	עָלָיו	שֶׁא	וְלָ	רָא	וְ	בְּ	דָּוִיד	וְ	נָמָם			
saw	And	Saul	and	knew		H3588	that	the	LORD		H5973	was	with	David			
H7200		H7586		H3045				H3068				H1732					
לְמִיכָּל	וְ	בָּת	וְ	שֶׁא	וְלָ	אֶחָדְתָּהָוּ											
and	that	Michal	daughter	And	Saul							loved					
H4324			H1323		H7586							H157					

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