

# 1 Samuel 18:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass as they came, when David was returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, that the women came out of all cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet king Saul, with tabrets, with joy, and with instruments of musick.

## Analysis

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**And it came to pass as they came, when David was returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, that the women came out of all cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet king Saul, with tabrets, with joy, and with instruments of musick.**

Jonathan's covenant with David exemplifies godly friendship that transcends personal ambition and family loyalty. Though Jonathan was heir to Saul's throne, he recognized God's choice of David and submitted to divine purposes. His willingness to risk his father's wrath to protect David demonstrates loyalty rooted in spiritual discernment rather than political advantage. The covenant between Jonathan and David foreshadows Christ's faithful friendship with believers, showing covenant love that sacrificially serves another's good even at personal cost.

## Historical Context

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The establishment of monarchy around 1050-1010 BCE represented a dramatic political and theological shift for Israel. Unlike surrounding nations where kings were considered divine or semi-divine, Israel's kings were supposed to function under God's ultimate authority as laid out in Deuteronomy 17:14-20. The

Benjamite tribe occupied strategic territory between Ephraim and Judah, making Saul's selection a politically astute choice to balance tribal rivalries. Archaeological remains from this period show increased fortification and centralization of settlements, confirming the transition to state-level organization.

## Related Passages

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

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

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1. How does covenant faithfulness in this passage illuminate God's character and His commitment to His promises despite human unfaithfulness?
2. What specific heart attitudes, thought patterns, or life practices does this passage call you to examine or change?
3. How does the covenant relationship in this passage illuminate the new covenant established through Christ's blood?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיְהִי	בָּבוֹא	מִן	בְּשָׁבֵךְ	בְּשָׁבֵךְ	זַד	בְּשָׁבֵךְ	זַד
H1961	And it came to pass as they came		was returned		when David		
		H935		H7725		H1732	
from the slaughter	מִמְכָּר	וְתִזְבְּחָת	אֶת	הַפְּלִשְׁתִּים	וַיֵּצֵא אִנָּה	הַנְּשָׁאָנִים	מִכֶּל
H5221	H853	H6430		H3318	came out	that the women	H3605
						H802	
of all cities	שָׁעַר	יִשְׂרָאֵל	לְשׁוֹר	וּבְמִחְלָל	לִקְרָב אֶת	שָׁאָול	king
H5892	H3478	H7891	H4246	H7125	to meet	Saul	H4428
						H7586	
with tabrets	בְּשִׁמְחָה	בְּשִׁמְחָה	וּבְשִׁלְשִׁים				
H8596	H8057	H7991					

## Additional Cross-References

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**Exodus 15:20** (Parallel theme): And Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances.

**Judges 11:34** (Parallel theme): And Jephthah came to Mizpeh unto his house, and, behold, his daughter came out to meet him with timbrels and with dances: and she was his only child; beside her he had neither son nor daughter.

**Psalms 68:25** (Sin): The singers went before, the players on instruments followed after; among them were the damsels playing with timbrels.