

1 Samuel 19:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But Jonathan Saul's son delighted much in David: and Jonathan told David, saying, Saul my father seeketh to kill thee: now therefore, I pray thee, take heed to thyself until the morning, and abide in a secret place, and hide thyself:

Analysis

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Jonathan's delight (chaphets) in David and his warning intervention placed covenant loyalty above filial obedience. The practical wisdom of hiding 'until the morning' and 'abide in a secret place' provided immediate safety while Jonathan worked to change his father's mind. Jonathan's role as intercessor between king and fugitive foreshadows Christ's mediatorial work.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern sons typically identified with paternal interests, especially regarding succession. Jonathan's loyalty to David was extraordinary given the threat David represented to his inheritance. His willingness to intervene risked severe consequences.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. What relationships require you to advocate for someone against opposing interests?
2. How does Jonathan's mediation between Saul and David illustrate the need for intercessors?

Interlinear Text

וַיֹּדַע	יְהוֹנָתָן	דָּוִד	לֵאמֹר	שׁ מְבַקֵּשׁ	שָׁאֵל	אָבִי
told	But Jonathan	David	saying	seeketh	Saul	my father
H5046	H3083	H1732	H559	H1245	H7586	H1
לְהַמִּיתָּ	וְעַתָּה	הַשְׁמַר			נָא	
to kill		thee now therefore I pray thee take heed				
H4191	H6258	H8104			H4994	
בְּבֹקֶר	וַיֵּשֶׁבֶת	בַּיָּסוּד	וַיִּחְבֵּאֵתָּ:			
to thyself until the morning	and abide	in a secret	place and hide			
H1242	H3427	H5643	H2244			

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 17:17 (Parallel theme): A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

Acts 9:24 (Parallel theme): But their laying await was known of Saul. And they watched the gates day and night to kill him.

