

1 Samuel 19:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where thou art, and I will commune with my father of thee; and what I see, that I will tell thee.

Analysis

And I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where thou art, and I will commune with my father of thee; and what I see, that I will tell thee.

Jonathan's plan demonstrates strategic wisdom: he would 'stand beside' ('amad 'etsel) his father, positioning himself to observe and influence while David remained safely hidden. The promise 'what I see, that I will tell thee' commits to complete transparency. Jonathan functioned as intelligence gatherer and advocate simultaneously. The field setting allowed private conversation away from court observers. Such careful planning shows that faith does not preclude prudent action - Jonathan trusted God while taking practical steps to protect his friend.

Historical Context

Private conversations in fields away from palace courts were common for sensitive matters. Standing beside someone indicated close access and influence. Jonathan's dual role as son and advocate gave him unique position to both discover and shape his father's intentions.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How do you balance trusting God with taking practical steps for protection?
2. What does Jonathan's strategic positioning teach about wise advocacy for others?

Interlinear Text

אֲשֶׁר	בָּשָׂדָה	אָבִי	לִידֵי	עַמְדָתִי	אָצֶן	אָבִי	אָשֶׁר
H589	And I will go out	and stand	beside	my father	in the field		H834
	H3318	H5975	H3027	H1	H7704		
אָתָּה	אָתָּה	אָתָּה	אָתָּה	אָתָּה	אָתָּה	אָתָּה	אָתָּה
H859	H8033	H589		where thou art and I will commune	H0	H413	my father
				H1696			H1
וְיִרְאֶה	וְיִרְאֶה	וְיִרְאֶה	וְיִרְאֶה	וְיִרְאֶה	וְיִרְאֶה	וְיִרְאֶה	וְיִרְאֶה
I see	of thee and what	that I will tell		to	H0		
H7200	H4100	H5046					

Additional Cross-References

1 Samuel 20:13 (Parallel theme): The LORD do so and much more to Jonathan: but if it please my father to do thee evil, then I will shew it thee, and send thee away, that thou mayest go in peace: and the LORD be with thee, as he hath been with my father.

1 Samuel 20:9 (Parallel theme): And Jonathan said, Far be it from thee: for if I knew certainly that evil were determined by my father to come upon thee, then would not I tell it thee?

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org