

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

וְאֲנִי	אֵצֶל	אֲבִי	לִיד	אֲבִי	בַּשָּׂדֶה	אֲשֶׁר
H589	And I will go out	and stand	beside	my father	in the field	H834
	H3318	H5975	H3027	H1	H7704	
הָאֵת	שָׁמָּה	וְאֲנִי	אֶדְבָּר	אֲבִי	אֶל	אֲבִי
H859	H8033	H589	where thou art and I will commune		H0	H413
			H1696			my father
						H1
וְכֵן	אֶרְאֶה	וְהָיָה	לִי			
I see	of thee and what	that I will tell				
H7200	H4100	H5046	H0			

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?

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