

# 1 Samuel 26:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Saul knew David's voice, and said, Is this thy voice, my son David? And David said, It is my voice, my lord, O king.

## Analysis

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Saul's recognition of David's voice triggers an emotional address: 'Is this thy voice, my son David?' The term 'my son' (Hebrew: 'beni') carries profound pathos, revealing lingering paternal affection twisted by jealousy and madness. David's respectful reply ('It is my voice, my lord, O king') maintains proper honorifics even after years of unjust persecution. This exchange captures the tragic complexity of their relationship: genuine affection corrupted by Saul's spiritual decline.

## Historical Context

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The father-son language reflects both David's former position as Saul's son-in-law (married to Michal) and the mentoring relationship that existed before Saul's jealousy emerged. Ancient Near Eastern kings often referred to loyal subjects as 'sons,' making David's former status doubly significant.

## Related Passages

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**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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1. How do you maintain respect for those who have deeply wounded you?

2. What relationships in your life contain this painful mixture of affection and conflict?

## Interlinear Text

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יָכַר	שָׂאוּל	אֶת	קוֹלִי	דָּוִד	וַיֹּאמֶר	קוֹלִי
knew	And Saul	H853	Is this thy voice	And David	and said	Is this thy voice
H5234	H7586		H6963	H1732	H559	H6963

זֶה	בְּנִי	דָּוִד	וַיֹּאמֶר	דָּוִד	קוֹלִי	אֲדֹנָי
H2088	my son	And David	and said	And David	Is this thy voice	my lord
	H1121	H1732	H559	H1732	H6963	H113

הַמֶּלֶךְ:  
O king  
H4428

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Samuel 24:16** (Kingdom): And it came to pass, when David had made an end of speaking these words unto Saul, that Saul said, Is this thy voice, my son David? And Saul lifted up his voice, and wept.