

## 1 Samuel 22:6-23

### Living in the Spirit in Victory or Living in the Flesh as a Victim

Do you ask God for permission or direction? If you do, do you ask Him daily?

Do you seek after the Lord or seek after the world?

Are you willing to take a bold stand for the things of God even if it will cost you?

Where are you playing the victim in your life instead of seeking God and trusting God?

David is running for His life. David is seeking after God. Bad things keep happening to David.

Truth- God is using David. God has a plan. God is growing David. God is impacting others through David.

-Saul is insecure, self reliant, prideful, selfish, and focused on fleshly thought instead of godly thought. Saul is leading others to evil and David is leading others to good.

-Both will most likely be in heaven based on their faith in God and the promised Messiah.

**Vs 6-10** Instead of seeking the Lord, Saul seeks vengeance. Saul treats his own people like enemies. Saul feels victimized by David and it leads him to unholy thoughts and unholy actions.

**Saul is prideful about what he thinks he has done. Saul is not seeking the Lord. Saul is living for himself. Saul is not showing the glory of the Lord through his thoughts, actions, or influence.**

**Do people see God's glory in you or do they see you focused on self?**

**David was not conspiring against Saul. Saul's mind was running wild and he was making things up and making assumptions that were not true.**

**Are there areas of your life where you are assuming thoughts of others, but you truly don't know? Satan wants you self-consumed, self-absorbed, miserable, angry, and not pointing others to Jesus.**

Ahimelech gave David food and a weapon. He sought God. This was good and Saul saw it as bad.

**Vs 11-19** The charge was conspiring against the king. The priest sought the Lord and gave to someone in need. Look at the different perspectives and look what the victim mentality led Saul to do.

Ahimelech spoke in a strong and bold way about God, David, and doing right.

Are you willing to take a stand for God even if it may not go well for you for a short time on earth?

**Do you focus on the now and temporal or do you focus on God and doing right and eternity?**

Doeg and Saul struck down all of the priests who were ordained by God and they wiped out these men as if they were enemies of God's people. They thought they were right to do so.

**\*\*\*\*\*We must pray. We must be in community. We must read God's word and know God's word. We must seek after God. We must be in church and part of church or our hearts and minds can do evil and we can think it is okay and right.\*\*\*\*\***

Matthew 6:1-34- God's way, not the victims way!

Giving to the Needy

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6 *“Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. 2 “Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. 3 But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4 so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

5 *“And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. 6 But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. 7 “And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. 8 Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. 9 Pray then like this:*

*“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. 10 Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. 11 Give us this day our daily bread, 12 and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. 13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. 14 For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, 15 but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.*

### **Fasting**

16 *“And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. 17 But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, 18 that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.*

### **Lay Up Treasures in Heaven**

19 *“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust[e] destroy and where thieves break in and steal, 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. 22 “The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, 23 but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! 24 “No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.*

### **Do Not Be Anxious**

25 *“Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? 26 Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? 27 And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?[g] 28 And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, 29 yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? 31 Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ 32 For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. 33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.*

34 *“Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.*

**Vs 20-23** By God's provision one priest was left. One priest who God spared. There would be a godly priest that would be with David and God's people.

**Later, there will be one priest who will be with us. This priest is the GREAT HIGH PRIEST. His name is Jesus and He will lead us forever. Do you ask Jesus to guide you and to be your MASTER?**

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**The victim mentality rests on three key beliefs: This is all based on fleshly WOE IS ME!**

Bad things happen and will keep happening.

Other people or circumstances are to blame.

Any efforts to create change will fail, so there's no point in trying.

**The result is no faith in God and they wallow in negativity and force it upon others. And Avoiding responsibility**

**This might involve:**

-placing blame elsewhere

-making excuses

-not taking responsibility

-reacting to most life hurdles with “It's not my fault” or blame shifting to others and your circumstance.

-Negative self-talk and self-sabotage

**People living with a victim mentality may internalize the negative messages suggested by the challenges they face.**

**Feeling victimized can contribute to beliefs such as:**

-“Everything bad happens to me.”

-“I can't do anything about it, so why try?”

-“I deserve the bad things that happen to me.”

-“No one cares about me.”

**A victim mentality can take a toll on emotional well-being.**

**People with this mindset might feel:**

-frustrated and angry with a world that seems against them

-hopeless about their circumstances never changing

-hurt when they believe loved ones don't care

-resentful of people who seem happy and successful

**These emotions can weigh heavily on people who believe they'll always be victims, building and festering when they aren't addressed. Over time, these feelings might contribute to:**

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- angry outbursts
- depression
- isolation
- loneliness
- sin with no repentance
- self medicating instead of seeking God's solution.
- complaining
- shifting blame
- not accepting responsibility
- feeling trapped or powerless
- feeling like nothing makes a difference

**Right now, in your life, are you David, seeking after God and impacting others in your life?**

**Right now, are you Saul wallowing in self-pity with a victim mentality not having faith in God and His power and negatively impacting those around you?**

**God loves you. God sent a Savior to die, raise again, and help you. God can change you.**

**Right now, ask God to give you faith, forgive you of your sins, to use you in mighty and powerful ways for His honor and glory.**

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