

## Facing Opposition

1 Samuel 19

### 1. Attempt Reconciliation vs. 1-7

When Jonathan became aware of his father's intentions towards David, he informed David of the potential danger, and then attempted to bring reconciliation between Saul and David's relationship since the reasons for opposition were not rational.

When opposition towards us takes place, our first attempt if possible is to try to make peace with everyone. We need to be wise; someone who is respected by the opposed to initiate the attempt of reconciliation maybe needed. (Romans 12:14-21)

Questions:

- a. Why might someone hate a person who has done nothing but good for him or her?
- b. In what current circumstance might God be calling you to be a peacemaker?

### 2. Avoid Deliberate Conflict vs. 8-17

Reconciliation had failed as Saul once again attempted to kill David with his spear, and when that failed, even sent his men to find David and bring him to himself. David's wife Michal sent him away to avoid possible harm, and covered for David so he could get away.

When reconciliation is not an option, we are to avoid situations that can stir up anger and produce strife (conflict). Proverbs 20:3; 30:33

Questions:

- a. What is the likely outcome when we allow irrational anger or hatred to dictate our actions?
- b. What are the signs that we should watch out for so that we may avoid a situation of potential deliberate conflict?

### 3. Ask For Spiritual Guidance vs. 18-24

Instead of heading home to his family's town, David went north to seek spiritual counsel from the prophet Samuel. David's declared faith perspective "it is not by sword or spear that the Lord saves; for the battle is the Lord's" (1 Samuel 17:47) is honoured by God, as God protects David from Saul by the Spirit of God immobilizing the opposition through prophesying with Samuel and the other prophets.

Although opposition may appear to have an advantage over us, we can be encouraged, as the battle is the LORD's". As God was with David, so He is with those who are in Christ. Let us seek God together in all things. (Zechariah 4:6, 2 Corinthians 10:4, Ephesians 6:12)

Questions:

- a. David wrote Psalm 23 and displays many reasons why we should go to God for everything. What are the reasons?