

# Life of David

A Man After God's Own Heart

## David Comes to His Senses

- When David and his men got back to Ziklag, they discovered that their families had suffered in their absence [1 Sam 30:1-3].
  - Ziklag had been sacked by the Amalekites, possibly in retaliation [1 Sam 27:8].
  - The Amalekites had taken the women and children captive – killing no one, but also leaving no one behind.
- David and his men reacted with great emotion as they were filled with grief [1 Sam 30:4].
- David and his men reacted very differently to these difficult circumstances [1 Sam 30:5-6].
  - David's men blamed him for what had happened and, in their bitterness, wanted to kill him.
  - David responded to the pressure by turning to God for the first time in quite a while.
- David then sought the Lord's will for the first time in quite a while [1 Sam 30:7-8].
  - David asked for the ephod and inquired of the Lord in prayer.
  - God used these circumstances to apply pressure to David which caused him to repent, so God answered David's prayer [Jas 1:5 cp. 1 Sam 28:6].
- David and his men took action and pursued the Amalekites [1 Sam 30:9-10].
  - David's men abandoned their anger with David and followed him as he pursued in faith based upon God's answer.
  - One third of David's men (200/600) could not keep up the pace and were left behind at the brook Besor [cp. 1 Sam 25:13].
- On the way, David and his men found an abandoned Egyptian slave [1 Sam 30:11-15].
  - The Egyptian was abandoned when he fell sick and was deemed no longer useful by his master.
  - The Egyptian was starving to death, but revived when David's men cared for him.
  - The Egyptian was grateful for the kindness and agreed to lead David to the Amalekites.
- David and his men crashed the Amalekite's victory party [1 Sam 30:16-20].
  - David and his men defeated the Amalekites in a lengthy battle.
  - Only 400 young men escaped the battle.
  - David and his men recovered everything that had been taken, including David's two wives.
  - They also took some sheep and cattle as spoil.
- When dividing the spoils, David taught an amazing lesson on grace [1 Sam 30:21-31].
  - Some of the men who went with David to battle acted wickedly and did not want to share the spoils with the 200 men who stayed behind.
  - David reproved these men and made sure they understood that the Lord had given them victory and that everyone would share in the spoils.
  - David took the role of teacher and taught them that everything we receive is by grace [Ps 34:11; 1 Cor 4:7; 15:10; 1 Pet 4:10-11].
  - The Lord had taught the people of Israel regarding the division of booty and the giving that should accompany such a blessing [Num 31:25-31].
  - David then demonstrated the ultimate lesson regarding the proper appreciation of God's grace by giving some of the spoils of victory to all the cities of Judah that had supported him.