

“What’s The Big Deal About Disappointment?”

David – Someone who Lived with Disappointments

Lesson 1

What’s the big deal? This question is asked more often by this generation than almost any other. There are some “big deals” however, that we should be aware of. We selected the top 8 big deals of this generation and will be exposing them this summer.

“Perhaps the most popular Old Testament character, David is a study in contrasts: an unknown shepherd lad who became the king, a rugged warrior who wrote tender psalms, a strong leader who was weak at home, a man of God with a rebellious son. This series introduces you to the facts revealed in Scripture and how they relate directly to us today. No biography could be more timely. Although David is dead, his life still speaks.” (P 173)

“David was paradox personified. He slew Goliath with the fling of a stone, but he was wounded by the lust of his own wandering eyes. He soothed Saul’s spirit with soft strains on the harp, but he exploded in anger at Nabal. He gave Jonathan’s crippled son Mephibosheth grace – a seat at his royal table – but he ignored the needs of his own children. He is from God after his affair with Bathsheba ... but, oh, he knew how to draw near.”

How can such an inconsistent man be considered someone after God’s own heart? David’s heartbeat with God’s not because he was perfect, but because he was devoted. One passion was greater than all the others: his desire to know and obey God.” As J. Oswald Sanders wrote: “He swung between extremes, but paradoxically evidenced an abiding stability. The oscillating needle always retuned to its pole – God Himself.” (Preface) David was a man who lived with many disappointments. Let’s take a satellite view of his lifetime and look at 5 disappointments of his life and God’s cure.

- I. Five Causes of Disappointments
 - David was disappointed in his...
 - A. Family – 1 Samuel 17
 - B. Friends – 1 Samuel 15
 - 1. Authority: Saul
 - 2. Followers: Ahithophel, Mephibosheth, and Shimei
 - C. Foes – 1 Samuel 25
 - D. Finances – Psalm 73
 - E. Faith (ultimately in God) – 1 Samuel 27-30

Disappointments, if not Biblically eliminated, lead to discouragements and then become disillusionments and distress (1 Samuel 30)

- II. Three Cures to Disappointments
 - A. Recognize your hidden hurts. Psalm 51:32.
 - B. Relinquish to God your... (Phil. 2:1-5)
 - 1. Resentments
 - 2. Rights

3. Reputation

C. Rest in God's promises (2 Peter 1:4)

Conclusion: A "shepherd, soldier, outlaw, king, fugitive, sinner, saint and poet, David became a man who wondrously understood and reflected the mind of God, these pages clearly reveal. The harp he used was a symbol of the life he was living, the Lord Himself being the joy and melody it expressed." David lived with many disappointments but finally realized they were actually God's appointments.

Some notes taken from Insight for Living, 1997, David, A Man after God's Own Heart, and Making of a Man of God by Alan Redpath, 1962.