1Thess #77

David and Jonathan operate from God’s integrity and honor.

We will be in 1Samuel today so go into the OT starting with 1Sam 19.

Today I feel led to look at what a real honor code looks like – it is dependent upon divine integrity and God’s protocol.

This study will reflect establishment principles and aspects of the 4 divine institutions.

/The RFHC is a CA doctrine and a royal commission for this dispensation. Yet God’s people have always been called into honor and walking in divine integrity. The OT has many historic events which were a shadow and analogy or typology, for what would come in the future. The build up to the CA and then the end times can be seen from OT studies. \

We will be jumping around into 1Sam 19 and 1Sam 22- 23 and 24 to cover this story so be prepared and pay attention.

Now for those of you who do not realize King Saul took David under his wing after he defeated Goliath.

David lived in the kingdom and became like a brother to Jonathan who was King Saul’s son.

King Saul realized this young man was a fearless warrior and at first he embraced David almost like a son – David went out on the battlefield for King Saul representing the nation of Israel.

David had victories and the people began elevating David in songs and stories of David’s victories spread throughout the nation.

This brought out the weakness of King Saul.

/1Sa 19:1 Now Saul told his son Jonathan and all his servants **to put David to death**. But Jonathan, Saul’s son, greatly delighted in David.

King Saul revealed his insecurities and cowardice against Goliath. He was able to hide it for a period time but weaknesses within the OSN always bubbles up to the surface.\

King Saul was fine with using David on the battlefield – in fact David had become a lucky charm for King Saul against the enemies of Isarel.

This is a sign King Saul lacked true integrity and honor in his life.

/As is always the case the weak Bel is threatened by the strong Bel. Or the one who is gaining momentum with God is often the target of those who lack faith and application in the plan of God. This leads to a spirit of jealousy, insecurity and bitterness fertile ground in the soil of your soul structure. Weak leaders eventually get exposed yet the damage they bring to those under their authority can bring long term misery for all involved.\

Another principle on display is that a parent with a weak nature does not always produce a child with that nature.

It can go either way – a parent with honor and integrity may have a child who lacks the same qualities.

BD resolves the issue but it has to deeply ingrained and applied to make a difference.

/[1Sa 19:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1sa/19/2/s_255002) So **Jonathan informed David,** saying, “My father Saul is seeking to put you to death. Now then, please be on your guard in the morning, and stay in a hiding place and conceal yourself.

Jonathan had BD and enough honor and integrity, which gave him good discernment to know when and how to stand against evil authority.\

Not only is Saul king over Israel he is the father of Jonathan.

[1Sa 19:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1sa/19/3/s_255003) “And as for me, I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where you are *hiding,* and I will speak with my father about you; and whatever I find out, I will tell you.”

Bels who refuse to grow up will either blindly, follow evil authority or vehemently buck against it. Either way they are outside the protocol of God.

Jonathan is not often studied or brought up in Bible class, yet I tell you, this man was a man of character and integrity. He was a serious Bel and also an intricate part of the early story of David.

God places certain people and environments in our life to assist us toward maturity and perhaps even protect us from evil. Yet you will never recognize these people and circumstances if you are a weak Bel.

At this point, King Saul was already sliding toward criminal insanity, due to how his own insecurities and arrogance. His lust patterns of arrogance had driven him to have a strong desire to kill David.

/[1Sa 19:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1sa/19/4/s_255004) Then **Jonathan spoke well of David to his father Saul** and said to him, “May the king not sin against his servant David, since he has not sinned against you, and since his deeds *have been* very beneficial to you.

Jonathan is not destroying the authority of his father; he is attempting to work within a framework of respect. He is applying honor and integrity trying to bring unity. \

Jonathan was trying to be a peace maker …a problem solver.

[1Sa 19:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1sa/19/5/s_255005) “For he took his life in his hand and struck the Philistine, and the LORD brought about a great victory for all Israel; you saw *it* and rejoiced. Why then would you sin against innocent blood by putting David to death for no reason?”

[1Sa 19:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1sa/19/6/s_255006) Saul listened to the voice of Jonathan, and Saul vowed, “As the LORD lives, *David* shall not be put to death.”

[1Sa 19:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1sa/19/7/s_255007) Then Jonathan called David, and Jonathan told him all these words. And Jonathan brought David to Saul, and he was in his presence as before.

/[1Sa 19:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1sa/19/8/s_255008) **When there was war again, David went out and fought the Philistines** and defeated them with great slaughter, so that they fled from him.

David remained under the authority of a king who now hated him and had evil desires against him. He stood his ground and remained in his calling in the military.\

David was a man of integrity and BD led his life and decisions.

Both David and Jonathn are doing the best they can to live in a form of divine honor and divine integrity.

They both understood the national strength of unity – Nationalism.

/[1Sa 19:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1sa/19/9/s_255009) Now **there was an evil spirit** (*raʿ rûaḥ*)**from the LORD on Saul** as he was sitting in his house with his spear in his hand, and David was playing *the harp* with *his* hand.

God allowed a demonic influence, to final fall upon Saul. Saul had already invited that influence in from lack of faith and divine integrity. \

RA-HA ROO-ACK- speaks to evil in the form of demonic influence or a dark spirit from the fallen angels.

King Saul is not possessed - he is demon influenced. Bels cannot be possessed.

King Saul had been walking a line of worldly influence and arrogance for a long period of time.

The Bel who repeatedly chooses the cosmic system over the plan of God is actually opening up a door of demonic influence.

/Psa 81:12 “So **I gave them over** to the **stubbornness** of their heart, **to walk  
by their own plans**.

Rom 6:12 Therefore **sin is not to reign** in your mortal body **so that you obey its lusts,** \

Keep in mind as a king - a leader, more was expected of King Saul.

To the one much is given…much is required.

[1Sa 19:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1sa/19/10/s_255010) And Saul tried to pin David to the wall with the spear, but he escaped from Saul’s presence, so that he stuck the spear into the wall. And David fled and escaped that night.

From this point forward David was on the run because Saul had slipped into criminal insanity.

Many Jewish scholars believe David was on the run for 7 years.

Which may well be true – 7 being a Biblical number for completion or perfection and fulfillment.

Jump over to chapter twenty RF.

King Saul would use the spear another time besides chapter 19 - not on David, but on his own son Jonathan.

King Saul was so heated and criminally insane that once he finds out Jonathan’s loyalty to David, he curses his own son and throws the spear into the wall next to Jonathan.

/Jealousy, bitterness, arrogance is an invitation to allow the OSN to rule your life. That invitation extends to cosmic influence which is demonic. The RFHC can only be upheld and applied by Bel’s with divine integrity, with deeper knowledge of BD which points to SM. The RFHC is derailed when the OSN steps to the fore front of the Bel’s life.\

Now during this volatile time between David and King Saul – Jonathan remained loyal to his faither in every other area except the destruction of David.

1Sa 20:1 Then David fled from Naioth in Ramah, and he came and said to Jonathan, “What have I done? What is my guilt? And what is my sin before your father, that he is seeking my life?”

Notice David never asks Jonathan to help him overthrow the throne or kill his father.

[1Sa 20:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1sa/20/2/s_256002) He said to him, “Far from it, you shall not die! Behold, my father does nothing either great or small without informing me. So why would my father hide this thing from me? It is not so!”

/1Sa 20:3 Yet David vowed again, saying, “**Your father is well aware that I have found favor in your sight**, and he has said, ‘**Jonathan is not to know this**, otherwise he will be worried.’ But indeed as the LORD lives and as your soul lives, there is just a step between me and death.”

Both David and Jonathan operate in great compassion and honor toward one another even during an extremely difficult situation. \

Both David and Jonathan are doing their best to honor the seat of authority – the throne of Israel, even though the king is off the rails!

Now jump over to chapter twenty-three.

Even when you do not agree with the person in authority you have to do your best to show that title or that seat of authority respect.

God may have you stand against that authority at some point but we are never called to attack authority. Jonathan was actually walking a very fine line but he was still maintaining an honor code to both David and his father.

/1Sa 23:1 Then they informed David, saying, “**Behold, the Philistines are fighting against Keilah** and are plundering the threshing floors.” 2 So David inquired of the LORD, saying, “**Shall I go and attack** these Philistines?” And the LORD said to David, “**Go and attack the Philistines and save Keilah**.”\

Keilah was a city connected to Judah.

Even though David would rescue this Jewish city because King Saul was re-miss in his duties. Many of the men of that city would attempt to turn on David and try to turn him over to King Saul.

David called for a Jewish priest who brought him the ephod. The breastplate, with the Urim and Thummim, was attached to the ephod. This breastplate held the twelve stones of Israel and they would light when GOD communicated to a YES or NO answer.

/1Sa 23:9 But David knew that Saul was plotting evil against him; so he said to Abiathar the priest, **“Bring the ephod here.**” 10 Then David said, **“LORD God of Israel**, Your servant has heard for certain that Saul is seeking to come to Keilah to destroy the city on my account.

David had saved the population of that Jewish city, it actually was a stronghold or as the name infers – fortress. \

[1Sa 23:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1sa/23/11/s_259011) “Will the citizens of Keilah hand me over to him? Will Saul come down just as Your servant has heard? LORD God of Israel, please, tell Your servant.” And the LORD said, “He will come down.”

/[1Sa 23:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1sa/23/12/s_259012) Then David said, “Will the citizens of Keilah hand me and my men over to Saul?” **And the LORD said, “They will hand you over.”**

David was following GOD’s instructions and reliant upon God’s directions. His fellowship with God was aligned, answers and protection followed.\

David had accumulated many men who would stand and fight with him. He had a core group of seasoned warriors – the mighty men of David believed to be 37 soldiers of highly trained fighting skills. These numbers increased to well over 500 after this victory yet the 37 mighty men always acted as a wall of fire around David. Because God communicated to David, he and his small army retreated toward the southern end of the Dead Sea.

Jonathan would find him and he made a pact with David there. It would be the last time Jonathan and David would meet. They made a covenant there as they had spoken about in the past.

This would be the time many scholars believe David wrote Psalms 54.

It would be a group of ZEF-ITES who were a Jewish clan also attached to the southern end of Judah, who would tell King Saul that David had been in the forest region of ZIPH.

Saul and his soldiers went in hot pursuit once again.

/1Sa 23:26 Saul went on one side of the mountain, and David and his men on the other side of the mountain; and **David was hurrying to get away from Saul, while Saul and his men were surrounding David** and his men to apprehend them.\

God kept placing people and circumstances in between David and Saul and it kept David alive.

[1Sa 23:27](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1sa/23/27/s_259027) But a messenger came to Saul, saying, “Hurry and come, for the Philistines have launched an attack against the land!”

[/1Sa 23:28](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1sa/23/28/s_259028) So Saul returned from pursuing David and went to confront the Philistines; therefore **they called that place the Rock of Division**. 29And David went up from there and **stayed in the strongholds of Engedi**.

David and Jonathan kept an attitude of reconciliation and respect, yet King Saul’s own bitterness kept a harsh division amongst the three Bels.\

Let me read a few scriptures in chapter 24 as we close.

1Sa 24:1 Now when Saul returned from pursuing the Philistines, it was reported to him, saying, “Behold, David is in the wilderness of Engedi.”

[1Sa 24:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1sa/24/2/s_260002) Then Saul took three thousand chosen men from all Israel and went to search for David and his men in front of the Rocks of the Mountain Goats.

[/1Sa 24:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1sa/24/3/s_260003) And he came to the sheepfolds on the way, where there *was* a cave; and **Saul went in to relieve himself. Now David and his men were sitting** in the inner recesses of the cave.

These caves were dotted throughout this western terrain next to Red Sea, some deep enough to hold huge herds of sheep for rest and shade.\

[1Sa 24:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1sa/24/4/s_260004) Then David’s men said to him, “Behold, *this is* the day of which the LORD said to you, ‘Behold; I am about to hand your enemy over to you, and you shall do to him as it seems good to you.’” Then David got up and cut off the edge of Saul’s robe secretly.

David could have easily cut Saul’s throat.

[1Sa 24:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1sa/24/5/s_260005) But it came about afterward that David’s conscience bothered him because he had cut off the edge of Saul’s *robe.*

It was a symbol of great disrespect to do this to a king.

[/1Sa 24:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1sa/24/6/s_260006) So he said to his men, **“Far be it from me because of the LORD** that I would do this thing to my lord, **the LORD’S anointed**, to reach out with my hand against him, since he is the LORD’S anointed.”

David never lost sight of the doctrine of authority, chain of command, honor, integrity and most importantly allowing God’s plan and God’s hand to make the final decision. \

/Both Jonathan and David displayed elements of the RFHC we have in the CA. They did so in an environment of great turmoil and tension, led by a King who had slid into criminal insanity. They never attacked the throne and disrupted the nation of Israel. They remained at a high level of integrity and honor even when they both had to stand against the evil authority of King Saul. \