

“Defense Against Offences”

“Then He said to the disciples, ‘It is impossible that no offenses should come...’” (Luke 17:1 NKJV)

How the Mighty Have Fallen

1 Samuel 10:27 – “But some worthless fellows said, ‘How can this man save us?’ And they despised him and brought him no present. But he held his peace.”

1 Samuel 11:12-13 – ¹²“Then the people said to Samuel, ‘Who is it that said, ‘Shall Saul reign over us?’ Bring the men, that we may put them to death.’ ¹³But Saul said, ‘Not a man shall be put to death this day, for today the LORD has worked salvation in Israel.’”

1 Samuel 22:7-9, 19 – ⁷“And Saul said to his servants who stood about him, ‘Hear now, people of Benjamin; will the son of Jesse give every one of you fields and vineyards, will he make you all commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds, ⁸that all of you have conspired against me? No one discloses to me when my son makes a covenant with the son of Jesse. None of you is sorry for me or discloses to me that my son has stirred up my servant against me, to lie in wait, as at this day.’ ⁹Then answered Doeg the Edomite, who stood by the servants of Saul, ‘I saw the son of Jesse coming to Nob, to Ahimelech the son of Ahitub,’

¹⁹And Nob, the city of the priests, (Saul) put to the sword; both man and woman, child and infant, ox, donkey and sheep, he put to the sword.”

1 Samuel 18:7-11 – ⁷“And the women sang to one another as they celebrated, ‘Saul has struck down his thousands, and David his ten thousands.’ ⁸And Saul was very angry, and this saying displeased him. He said, ‘They have ascribed to David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed thousands, and what more can he have but the kingdom?’ ⁹And Saul eyed David from that day on.

¹⁰The next day a harmful spirit from God rushed upon Saul, and he raved within his house while David was playing the lyre, as he did day by day. Saul

had his spear in his hand. ¹¹And Saul hurled the spear, for he thought, ‘I will pin David to the wall.’ But David evaded him twice.”

1 Samuel 15:17 – “So Samuel said ‘When you were little in your own eyes, were you not head of the tribes of Israel. And did not the LORD anoint you king over Israel?’” (NKJV)

David’s Detox

Psalms 3:1-8 - ¹“O LORD, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me; ²many are saying of my soul, ‘There is no salvation for him in God.’ ³But you, O LORD, are a shield about me, my glory, and the lifter of my head. ⁴I cried aloud to the LORD, and he answered me from his holy hill. ⁵I lay down and slept; I woke again, for the LORD sustained me. ⁶I will not be afraid of many thousands of people who have set themselves against me all around. ⁷Arise, O LORD! Save me, O my God! For you strike all my enemies on the cheek; you break the teeth of the wicked. ⁸Salvation belongs to the LORD; your blessing be on your people!”

Psalms 109:1-4 – ¹“Be not silent, O God of my praise! ²For wicked and deceitful mouths are opened against me, speaking against me with lying tongues. ³They encircle me with words of hate, and attack me without cause. ⁴In return for my love they accuse me, but I give myself to prayer.”

Law of Love

Leviticus 19:16-18 – ¹⁶“You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand up against the life of your neighbor: I am the LORD. ¹⁷“You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason frankly with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him. ¹⁸You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.”

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)