

A person wearing a grey hooded cloak sits on the grass in a field, holding a long wooden staff. The scene is bathed in the warm, golden light of a setting or rising sun, with trees in the background and a large tree on the left. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

A Heart Like
God's

Part 12: Betrayed, but still faithful

20 But one son of Ahimelech the son of Ahitub, named Abiathar, escaped and fled after David.

1 Samuel 22:20–23

NASB95

21 Abiathar told David that Saul had
killed the priests of the LORD.

22 Then David said to Abiathar, “I knew on that day, when Doeg the Edomite was there, that he would surely tell Saul. I have brought about *the death* of every person in your father’s household.

23 “Stay with me; do not be afraid, for
he who seeks my life seeks your life, for
you are safe with me.”

It is impossible that grief,
anger and guilt will not
come our way.

Where we go with the
thoughts that follow
determines our future.

For the choir director. A Maskil of David, when Doeg the Edomite came and told Saul and said to him, "David has come to the house of Ahimelech."

Psalm 52

NASB95

1 Why do you boast in evil, O
mighty man? The lovingkindness of
God *endures* all day long.

2 Your tongue devises destruction,
Like a sharp razor, O worker of
deceit.

3 You love evil more than good,
Falsehood more than speaking what
is right. Selah.

4 You love all words that devour, O
deceitful tongue.

5 But God will break you down
forever; He will snatch you up and
tear you away from *your* tent, And
uproot you from the land of the
living. Selah.

6 The righteous will see and fear,
And will laugh at him, *saying,*

7 “Behold, the man who would not
make God his refuge, But trusted in
the abundance of his riches *And* was
strong in his *evil* desire.”

8 But as for me, *I am like a green olive tree in the house of God; I trust in the lovingkindness of God forever and ever.*

9 *I will give You thanks forever,
because You have done it (“you have
finished”),* And I will wait on Your
name, for *it is good*, in the presence
of Your godly ones.

Venting our vengeful thoughts to **God** provides an avenue to reset our hearts back to a faithful, loving position **before** we do something rash.

1 Then they told David, saying,
“Behold, the Philistines are fighting
against Keilah and are plundering the
threshing floors.”

1 Samuel 23:1-14

NASB95

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 deliver Keilah.”

3 But David's men said to him,
“Behold, we are afraid here in Judah.
How much more then if we go to
Keilah against the ranks of the
Philistines?”

4 Then David inquired of the LORD once more. And the LORD answered him and said, "Arise, go down to Keilah, for I will give the Philistines into your hand."

5 So David and his men went to Keilah
and fought with the Philistines; and he
led away their livestock and struck
them with a great slaughter. Thus
David delivered the inhabitants of Keilah.

Carrying the heart of the
Good Shepherd means
caring for His people even
when we are at risk.

Only hirelings flee when
the wolves are afoot.

6 Now it came about, when Abiathar the son of Ahimelech fled to David at Keilah, *that he came down with an ephod* in his hand.

1 Samuel 23:1-14

NASB95

7 When it was told Saul that David had come to Keilah, Saul said, "God has delivered him into my hand, for he shut himself in by entering a city with double gates and bars."

8 So Saul summoned all the people for war, to go down to Keilah to besiege David and his men.

9 Now David knew that Saul was plotting evil against him; so he said to Abiathar the priest, “*Bring the ephod here.*”

10 Then David said, “O 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.**

11 “Will the men of Keilah surrender me into his hand? Will Saul come down just as Your servant has heard? O LORD God of Israel, I pray, tell Your servant.” And the LORD said, “He will come down.”

12 Then David said, “Will the men of Keilah surrender me and my men into the hand of Saul?” And the LORD said, *“They will surrender you.”*

13 Then *David and his men*, about six hundred, *arose and departed from Keilah*, and they went wherever they could go. When it was told Saul that David had escaped from Keilah, he gave up the pursuit.

14 David stayed in the wilderness in the strongholds, and remained in the hill country in the wilderness of Ziph. And Saul sought him every day, but God did not deliver him into his hand.

Betrayal happens when trust is broken, which means there was an expectation of the betrayer, spoken or unspoken.

When we are betrayed, we
have a choice to lay down
our expectations and
extend mercy, or to
harden our hearts and
hope for punishment.

For the choir director; on stringed instruments. A Maskil of David, when the Ziphites came and said to Saul, "Is not David hiding himself among us?"

Psalm 54

NASB95

*I Save me, O God, by Your name,
And vindicate me by Your power.*

2 Hear my prayer, O God; Give ear
to the words of my mouth.

3 For strangers have risen against
me And violent men have sought
my life; They have not set God
before them. Selah.

4 Behold, *God is my helper; The Lord
is the sustainer of my soul.*

5 *He* will recompense the evil to my
foes; Destroy them in Your
faithfulness.

6 Willingly I will sacrifice to You; *I*
will give thanks to Your name, O
LORD, for it is good.

7 For *He has delivered me from all trouble,* And my eye has looked with satisfaction upon my enemies.

Whenever we are
betrayed, especially by
those for whom we have
sacrificed and served ...

we are in good company

23 For I received from the Lord
that which I also delivered to you,
that the Lord Jesus *in the night in
which He was betrayed* took bread;

1 Corinthians 11:23–26

NASB95

24 and when He had given thanks,
He broke it and said, “*This is My
body*, which is for you; do this *in
remembrance of Me.*”

25 In the same way *He took* the cup also after supper, saying, “This cup is *the new covenant in My blood*; do this, as often as you drink it, *in remembrance of Me.*”

26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.





