

How to Behave in a Cave

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TEXT: 1 Samuel 24

1 Samuel 24:1-3

1 *And it came to pass, when Saul was returned from following the Philistines, that it was told him, saying, Behold, David is in the wilderness of En-gedi.*

2 *Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel, and went to seek David and his men upon the rocks of the wild goats.*

3 *And he came to the sheepcotes by the way, where was a cave; and Saul went in to cover his feet: and David and his men remained in the sides of the cave.*

LETTER A: David catches Saul when Saul was the _____
_____.

1 Samuel 24:4-6

4 *Then the men of David said to him, This is the day of which the Lord said to you, Behold, I will deliver your enemy into your hand, that you may do to him as it seems good to you. And David arose and secretly cut off a corner of Saul’s robe.*

5 *Now it happened afterward that David’s heart troubled him because he had cut Saul’s robe.*

6 *And he said to his men, The Lord forbid that I should do this thing to my master, the Lords anointed, to stretch out my hand against him, seeing he is the anointed of the Lord.*

LETTER B: Cutting off a corner of the royal robe was an act of _____ and _____ vandalism.

1 Samuel 24:22

22 *So David swore to Saul. And Saul went home, but David and his men went up to the stronghold.*

LETTER C: The most important fact in the whole story is that David _____ to kill Saul—even when he had a golden _____.

LETTER D: We have no _____ over how people _____ us, what they _____, and what they _____. But we do have complete control over how we _____.

Three Reasons Why David Didn't Take Revenge:

REASON #1: David did not seek revenge because he _____ Saul's _____ over him.

1 Samuel 24:8

8 David also arose afterward, went out of the cave, and called out to Saul, saying, My lord the king! And when Saul looked behind him, David stooped with his face to the earth, and bowed down.

1 Samuel 24:10

10 Look, this day your eyes have seen that the Lord delivered you today into my hand in the cave, and someone urged me to kill you. But my eye spared you, and I said, I will not stretch out my hand against my lord, for he is the Lord's anointed.

LETTER E: If a man is God's _____—good or bad—he is _____ to be _____.

REASON #2: David did not seek revenge because he was willing to _____ for God to _____ him.

1 Samuel 24:11-12

11 Moreover, my father, see! Yes, see the corner of your robe in my hand! For in that I cut off the corner of your robe, and did not kill you, know and see that there is neither evil nor rebellion in my hand, and I have not sinned against you. Yet you hunt my life to take it.

12 Let the Lord judge between you and me, and let the Lord avenge me on you. But my hand shall not be against you.

Two Interesting Facts:

FACT #1: David was not _____ about pointing out the _____.

FACT #2: When it comes to _____, God is much _____ at it than we are.

LETTER F: How many stupid _____ we make because we aren't willing to _____ for God.

REASON #3: David did not seek revenge, because he did not want to _____ to Saul's _____.

1 Samuel 24:13

13 *As the proverb of the ancients says, Wickedness proceeds from the wicked. But my hand shall not be against you.*

LETTER G: _____ makes you go through the _____ over and over again. You _____ really get over it.

Three Practical Suggestions:

SUGGESTION #1: Watch Your _____.

Proverbs 10:19

19 *Too much talk leads to sin. Be sensible and keep your mouth shut.*
(NLT)

SUGGESTION #2: _____ on the Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 2:21

21 *For God called you to do good, even if it means suffering, just as Christ suffered for you. He is your example, and you must follow in his steps.*

SUGGESTION #3: Lay your _____ down.