

## 1 Samuel 18:17-30 **Saul gave Michal his daughter to David – Plot to kill David**

### Saul offered Merab to David as a wife but gave her to Adriel

17 Then Saul said to David, "Here is my older daughter Merab; I will give her to you as a wife. Only be valiant for me, and fight the Lord's battles." For Saul thought, "Let my hand not be against him, but let the hand of the Philistines be against him."

18 So David said to Saul, "Who am I, and what is my life or my father's family in Israel, that I should be son-in-law to the king?" 19 But it happened at the time when Merab, Saul's daughter, should have been given to David, that she was given to Adriel the Meholathite as a wife.

### Saul Gave Michal to David as wife for a hundred foreskins of the Philistines

20 Now Michal, Saul's daughter, loved David. And they told Saul, and the thing pleased him. 21 So Saul said, "I will give her to him, that she may be a snare to him, and that the hand of the Philistines may be against him." Therefore Saul said to David a second time, "You shall be my son-in-law today."

22 And Saul commanded his servants, "Communicate with David secretly, and say, 'Look, the king has delight in you, and all his servants love you. Now therefore, become the king's son-in-law.'"

23 So Saul's servants spoke those words in the hearing of David. And David said, "Does it seem to you a light thing to be a king's son-in-law, seeing I am a poor and lightly esteemed man?" 24 And the servants of Saul told him, saying, "In this manner David spoke."

25 Then Saul said, "Thus you shall say to David: 'The king does not desire any dowry but one hundred foreskins of the Philistines, to take vengeance on the king's enemies.'" But Saul thought to make David fall by the hand of the Philistines.

26 So when his servants told David these words, it pleased David well to become the king's son-in-law. Now the days had not expired; 27 therefore David arose and went, he and his men, and killed two hundred men of the Philistines. And David brought their foreskins, and they gave them in full count to the king, that he might become the king's son-in-law. Then Saul gave him Michal his daughter as a wife.

28 Thus Saul saw and knew that the Lord was with David, and that Michal, Saul's daughter, loved him; 29 and Saul was still more afraid of David. So Saul became David's enemy continually.

30 Then the princes of the Philistines went out to war. And so it was, whenever they went out, that David behaved more wisely than all the servants of Saul, so that his name became highly esteemed. NKJV

### Facts Revealed:

#### Saul offered Merab to David as a wife but gave her to Adriel

- ✧ David's great success was evidence that God was with him which caused Saul to fear David. [1 Samuel 18:12-15]
- ✧ Saul then connived to have David killed by the hand of the Philistines so Saul would look innocent, so he offered David his eldest daughter as wife if David would fight the Lord's battles thinking the Philistines would kill David in battle. [1 Samuel 18:17]

- ✧ David felt unworthy to be son-in-law of the king, and when the time came Merab was given to Adriel the Meholathite instead of to David. [1 Samuel 18:18]

### Saul Gave Michal to David as wife for a hundred foreskins of the Philistines

- ✧ Saul still feared David, and when he learned that his daughter Michal loved David, he decided to give her to David so that through her he might set David up to be killed by the Philistines. [1 Samuel 18:20-21]
- ✧ Saul sent his servants to David to offer Michal as wife, but David felt unworthy to be the king's son-in-law until Saul said he did not desire a dowry, but would be satisfied with a hundred Philistine foreskins. [1 Samuel 18:22-25]
- ✧ When David heard these terms, he gladly accepted the offer because he would be destroying the enemies of the God of Israel. David and his men killed two hundred Philistines and gave their foreskins to Saul, double the requested number. Saul gave Michal to David as wife and David became son-in-law to the king. [1 Samuel 18:26-27]
- ✧ The plot to see David killed by the Philistines failed, and Saul saw that the Lord was with David, and his daughter Michal loved David, so Saul grew even more afraid of David and became David's enemy continually. [1 Samuel 18:28-29]
  - ✧ Fear generated resentment and envy is blind to the truth, to the destruction of promising relationships.
  - ✧ David was Saul's best friend, but out of fear Saul could not see it.

### David's fame grew

- ✧ Then the princes of the Philistines went out to war. And so it was, whenever they went out, that David behaved more wisely than all the servants of Saul, so that his name became highly esteemed. [1 Samuel 18:30]