



# "A Man After God's Own Heart"



## 5. "Has He Lost His Marbles?" (1 Samuel 18-24) Henry Clay January, 2009 Running from Saul: Facing deep valleys



David's relationship with Saul very quickly went south.

Saul quickly put two and two together. If God had rejected him and was looking for a better replacement, Saul knew the one God would pick was around there somewhere. So when he saw God's favor resting on David, he figured this must be the one. If I can get rid of him...

Look at Saul's attitude: Angry (18:8), Suspicious (vs. 9), Murderous (vs.11), Fearful (vs.12), Dread (vs.15), Conniving (vs.17,21), Even more afraid (vs. 29). So very soon David was on the run. And it continued that way for some 15 years.

David finally ends up in Gath, the home of Goliath! So they won't kill him, he pretends to be insane. This was perhaps his lowest point.

Look at what he had lost:

- 1. His \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. His \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. His \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. His \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. His \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. His \_\_\_\_\_

And all of this really had it's origin in one person. Maybe you have a very difficult person in your life that is against you. Perhaps it is someone you used to be close to. Look how it made David feel.:

Psalm 55:12-14 For it is not an enemy who reproaches me, then I could bear *it*; nor is it one who hates me who has exalted himself against me, then I could hide myself from him. But it is you, a man my equal, my companion and my familiar friend. We who had sweet fellowship together, walked in the house of God in the throng.

So it looks like David is losing his marbles. But is he? What is really going in his heart and mind? Wouldn't you like to really know? How would this man after God's own heart handle this situation?

Four main points to make:

- 1. Terribly difficult things can happen in our lives.
- 2. Often the most painful of these things will come from someone close to you.
- 3. God is in control and He allowed them.
- 4. He can use them for our good and for His glory, if we trust in Him.

Is there someone in your life that is causing you to lose your marbles? What do you think God is doing? Not saying that you should stay in a situation and unnecessarily expose yourself to abuse.

Psalm 34:1 Of **David**. When he pretended to be insane before Abimelech, who drove him away, and he left.

