

WHEN ALL IS STRIPPED AWAY

SEEKING GOD'S KINGDOM • PART 28 • 1 SAMUEL 29-30

“But David found strength
in the LORD his God.”

— 1 SAMUEL 30:6 —



“The LORD is close
to the brokenhearted
and saves those who are
crushed in spirit.”

PSALM 34:18

DAVID'S DARKEST MOMENT BEFORE BECOMING KING



His hometown was
destroyed.



His family and the families
of his men were taken.



His future was uncertain.



His men turned against him
and talked of stoning him.



David was pressed in on
every side—trapped by
circumstances beyond
his control.

1

UNCERTAINTY
(1 SAMUEL 29)



- David was prevented from fighting against Israel.
- He was forced to accept an uncertain future he could not control.
- He returned home, not knowing what he would find.

2

LOSS AND DISTRESS
(1 SAMUEL 30:1-6)



- David found Ziklag burned and everything taken.
- He and his men wept until they had no strength.
- His men blamed him and even talked of killing him.
- David was greatly distressed.

“distressed” (Hebrew: *teser*) = pressed on every side; trapped by circumstances beyond control.

3

TURNING TO THE LORD
(1 SAMUEL 30:6-8)



- Chapter 27: David thought to himself.
- Chapter 30: David turned to the LORD.
- David found strength in the LORD before anything was restored.
- He inquired of the LORD before taking action.

4

SEEKING GOD'S WISDOM
(1 SAMUEL 30:7-15)



- David asked for the ephod and inquired of the LORD.
- Saul also inquired of the LORD (1 Samuel 28), but he had rejected God long ago.
- David pursued the Amalekites only after receiving the LORD's instruction.
- Wisdom begins by seeking God's direction before taking action.

5

THE BATTLE BELONGS
TO THE LORD
(1 SAMUEL 30:16-31)



- David's exhausted men recovered everything.
- The victory was the LORD's.
- David gave credit to the LORD for protecting and delivering them.
- He ensured all shared equally.
- He generously blessed the towns of Judah.

6

LIFE CHANGES
WITHOUT WARNING



- Life can change suddenly and unexpectedly.
- Real strength in the LORD comes when we simply come to Him.
- The LORD strengthened David in his darkest moment—not after the crisis was over.
- The LORD is near to the brokenhearted.

MAIN TAKEAWAY

When life changes without warning,
real strength is found in the LORD when we simply come to Him.

REFLECTION QUESTION

When everything is stripped away,
where will we turn?

†
“Come to me, all you
who are weary and
burdened, and I will
give you rest.”

MATTHEW 11:28



Seeking God's Kingdom — Going Deeper

Part 28 — “When All Is Stripped Away” — 6.14.26

Main Scripture: 1 Samuel 29-30

→ When Everything Is Stripped Away — 1 Samuel 29–30:6a

- David was prevented from fighting against Israel
- David was forced to accept an uncertain future that he could not control
- David returned to Ziklag (his hometown) only to discover that everything he cared about had been taken (30:1–6a)

→ David Finds Strength in the LORD — 1 Samuel 30:6

- "distressed" (Hebrew: *teser*) = pressed on every side / trapped by uncontrolled circumstances
- David's men discussed stoning him because of their grief
- Chapter 27 — David "thought to himself"; Chapter 30 — David turned to the LORD
- David found strength by turning to the LORD

→ Seeking God's Wisdom Before Acting — 1 Samuel 30:7–15

- (v7–8) David inquired of the LORD before acting
- Saul also inquired of the LORD (1 Samuel 28), but he had rejected God long ago
- David pursued the Amalekites only after receiving the LORD's instruction
- Wisdom begins by seeking God's direction before taking action

→ The Battle Belongs to the LORD — 1 Samuel 30:16–31

- (v16–19) David's exhausted men recovered everything that had been taken
- The victory was not ultimately David's achievement—the battle belonged to the LORD
- (v23–24) David gave credit to the LORD for protecting and delivering them
- David ensured that those who stayed behind shared equally in the victory
- (v27–31) David generously blessed the towns of Judah where he had previously wandered and hidden from Saul

→ When Life Changes Without Warning

- Life can change suddenly and unexpectedly
- Real strength in the LORD comes when we simply come to Him
- The LORD strengthened David in his darkest moment—not after the crisis was over
- Jesus invites the weary and burdened to come to Him (Matthew 11:28)
- Psalm 34:18 reminds us that the LORD is close to the brokenhearted

→ **Main Takeaway** — When life changes without warning, real strength is found in the LORD when we simply come to Him.

→ **Next Step** — What burden, uncertainty, grief, or fear do you need to bring to the LORD this week instead of trying to carry it in your own strength?