

# Breakdown or Breakthrough

1 Samuel 27:1-4

## Introduction

- Now I can tell you right here that David is having a faith breakdown.
- Discouragement has gotten hold of him, and now David believes for the worst.
- Fear is faith in reverse.
- I want to talk to you today about:
  - **Discouragement**
  - **Where it can lead us**
  - **How to overcome it.**

## What Is Discouragement

- *Prefix “dis” – apart, away, having a negative/reversing force*
- *Courage - the quality of mind or spirit that enables a person to face difficulty, danger, pain, etc., without fear;*
- **Discourage –**
  - *to deprive of courage, hope, or confidence; dishearten; dispirit.*
  - *to deter by advice or persuasion;*
  - *to obstruct by opposition or difficulty; hinder:*
- Sometimes discouragement comes suddenly: A word or a deed.
- These words in our opening text are spoken by the man that faced a lion, a bear, and a giant.
- A man anointed by God to be King of Israel. If discouragement can get a hold on him, it can attack us, so we must know how to fight it.
- Breakdown or breakthrough. It's up to you.
- David said: I shall one day perish by Saul's hand. That's breakdown!
  - Elijah saying it is enough, take my life.
  - Peter after denying Christ;
  - Samson after losing his anointing
- By now you should be able to see that discouragement will stop your breakthrough.

## Why Is Discouragement Dangerous (Where It Leads)

- Let's look at where discouragement leads David back in our opening text.
- David went to live with the Philistines.
- He moved in with the enemy
- People become discouraged sometimes in church, or become hurt, pierced, and they want to run back out into the world.
- God is not causing your trouble and you won't escape the enemy by running into his kingdom.
- Oh yeah, don't worry, the enemy will take you back! But beware.
- That devil is a liar. Verse 12 lets us know what the king really had in mind for David. He said he shall be my servant forever.
- When the devil is tempting/discouraging you tells you:
  - They don't understand you
  - They don't love you
  - They don't want you
  - You're too...(fill in the blank)
- Just remember Samson:
  - All the devil really wants is for you to go to sleep for a little while and he get your chains ready. He wants you to be his servant forever.

# Why Is Discouragement Dangerous (Where It Leads)

- Even though comes by other means, it is an attack of the spirit so use spiritual weapons against discouragement.
- *Psalms 43:5 - Why art thou cast down O my soul? Why art thou disquieted within me? Hope in God: For I shall yet praise him who is the health of my countenance and my God.*
- Discouragement is never found until hope is lost or misplaced.
- Misplaced means hope placed somewhere other than in God: own ability, doctors, lawyers, bankers, retirements. These things are all right, but we should not put our hope in them.
- Now we are talking about Bible hope, not to be confused with wishing.
  - Bible hope means to be intensely expectant.
  - A pregnant woman isn't wishing for a baby, she's expecting.
- Scriptures of Hope
  - Proverbs 3:5-6
  - Jeremiah 29:11
  - John 16:33
  - Joshua 1:9
  - [Romans 15:13 \(expound\)](#)
  - 1 Corinthians 15:58
  - Romans 8:31 – If God is for us...

## Conclusion

- David never stayed discouraged and neither did Elijah, and you don't need to either!
- Paul and Silas praised their way out of prison and so can you.
- Listen, if you have been discouraged. Satan has said, Turn back. Maybe you have run into the enemy's camp. Today you can have breakthrough instead of breakdown.
- If you already had a breakdown, God can turn it into breakthrough today.
- It's up to you.