

Refiner's Fire – How we Become People after God's Own Heart – Week Eight

Letting God Settle the Score

1 Samuel 24:1-22

Introduction: In the refiner's fire people may commit acts of evil against us. Our temptation will be to get even! Opportunities might even arise that allow us to get even. We can easily distort those opportunities as possible signs of God's permission to do it. But the right thing is to let God right the injustice *in his time* and *in his way*.

- 1. DAVID'S CHOICE – David has a surprise opportunity to take vengeance if he so desires. 1 Samuel 24:1-7**
 - A. The scene: It would appear that God has placed Saul in David's hands. 24:1-7
 - B. The significance: Circumstances *alone* never suggest taking vengeance into your own hands.
 - C. The exception: Sometimes we must act in self-defense.

- 2. DAVID'S CHARACTER – David humbles himself before Saul and leaves vengeance in God's hands. 1 Samuel 24:8-15**
 - A. The action: David expresses prudent vulnerability...in humility. 24:8
 - B. The speech: David recounts his restraint in great detail. 24:9-11
 - C. The prayer: David prays in the presence of King Saul. 24:12-15

- 3. DAVID'S REWARD – David's enemy admits that David is a better man and the true heir to the throne. 1 Samuel 24:16-22**
 - A. The action: Whereas David had been humble & strong, Saul is pathetic & weak. 24:16
 - B. The speech: Saul praises David for his integrity. 24:17-20
 - C. The request: Saul asks David for something very narcissistic. 24:20-22