

THE CONQUERING KING

(12/3/2023; Life Group; 1 Samuel 29:1-31:13; Richie Pendred; Christ Proclamation Church)

Sermon Theme: David conquers his enemies, while Saul is conquered in utter despair. So, David's conquest points to the true king, Jesus Christ, who set the captives free by conquering sin, death, and the devil! Therefore, Christians can have hope in hardship because we are more than conquerors through Christ!

I. The Conquering King – Read 1 Samuel 29:1-30:31

- A. Read 1 Samuel 29:1-11. Why are the commanders of the Philistines opposed to David going up into battle with them? What is the main reason Achish gives the commanders to keep David in the line of battle?
- B. Read 1 Samuel 30:1-6. What observations do you make from the text? What is David's response to his men's murderous intentions? How do you interpret verse 6?
- C. What were the Amalekites doing when David and his men found them? What was the outcome of the battle? According to 1 Samuel 30:16-31, what did David gain from the battle, and who did he reward?
- D. In 1 Samuel 29 and 30, how is David showcased as blameless, a rescuer, and a rewarder? How do these depictions of David point us to the Lord Jesus?

II. The Conquered King – Read 1 Samuel 31:1-13

- A. Read 1 Samuel 31:1-13. What details strike you about the battle between the Israelites and the Philistines?
- B. How is Saul displayed as the conquered king in verses 1-13? What other instances have we seen throughout 1 Samuel where someone's head is "cut off"? Why is this a significant detail within the narrative?
- C. Read 1 Samuel 2:6-10. In what ways is Hannah's song partially fulfilled in the lives of David and Saul, as witnessed in 1 Samuel 29-31?
- D. How would you contrast David and Saul's responses to deadly and hopeless situations in chapters 30 and 31? How do our responses to challenging circumstances highlight where our hope is found?

III. More than Conquerors – Read Romans 8:31-39

- A. Read Romans 8:31-36. How does this text display the certainty of hardships? In times of difficulty, are you prone to look to your own strength or to the Lord's?
- B. Read Romans 8:37-39. How do we know that hardship will not separate us from the love of Christ? What does it mean that we are "more than conquerors through Christ"?
- C. How should the reality of Christ's victory at the cross and His future conquering of sin, death, and the devil stir hope in our hearts when we endure hardship? How would you like to grow in contemplating the victory already won on a daily basis?