

BTC - AUGUST 13, 1989

I SAMUEL 30:1-25

DAVID IS GENEROUS

NOT LONG AFTER DAVID TOOK SAUL'S WATER JUG AND SPEAR, DAVID AND MEN HAD PROBLEMS BECAUSE OF THE AMALEKITE ARMY, AT A PLACE CALLED ZIKLAG.

THE AMALEKITES CAME INTO ZIKLAG AND ATTACKED THE PEOPLE THERE AND BURNED THE CITY. THE AMALEKITES TOOK ALL THE WOMEN AND CHILDREN AS PRISONERS (CAPTIVES) AND LEFT ZIKLAG.

WHEN DAVID AND HIS MEN CAME TO ZIKLAG, THEY FOUND IT BURNED DOWN. NOW THIS CITY ZIKLAG WAS WHERE DAVID'S FAMILY AND THE FAMILIES OF HIS MEN WERE LIVING, SO IT WAS A VERY TERRIBLE THING FOR DAVID AND HIS MEN TO FIND ZIKLAG BURNED DOWN AND ALL THE PEOPLE GONE. THEY KNEW THEIR WIVES, AND SONS, AND DAUGHTERS HAD BEEN TAKEN CAPTIVES.

DAVID AND HIS MEN WERE SO UPSET THAT THEY SAT DOWN AND CRIED AND CRIED AND CRIED. HERE WERE THESE BRAVE, BRAVE SOLDIERS FEELING SO SAD AND UPSET THAT THEY CRIED AND CRIED AND CRIED.

THE MEN OF DAVID'S ARMY WERE SO UPSET THAT THEY EVEN THOUGHT ABOUT STONING DAVID! BUT DAVID TRUSTED

GOD FOR HELP IN THIS THING THAT HAD HAPPENED.

DAVID TOLD ABIATHAR THE PRIEST, "BRING THE EPHOD TO ME." ABIATHAR BROUGHT THE EPHOD TO DAVID. THE EPHOD WAS A SPECIAL PIECE OF CLOTHES WORN BY PRIESTS AND USED BY THE PRIESTS WHEN THEY SERVED GOD.

THEN DAVID ASKED GOD, "SHALL I GO AFTER THE THE AMALEKITE ARMY?"

GOD ANSWERED DAVID AND TOLD HIM, "GO AFTER THEM. YOU WILL CATCH THE ARMY, BEAT THEM, AND GET ALL YOUR FAMILIES BACK."

SO DAVID AND HIS MEN (600 MEN) CAME TO THE BROOK BESOR. DAVID AND 400 OF HIS MEN WENT AFTER THE AMALEKITE MEN; BUT THE OTHER 200 MEN STAYED AT THE BROOK TO REST AND GET TO FEELING BETTER.

THEY FOUND AN EGYPTIAN MAN ^{LAYING} OUT IN THE FIELD AS THEY TRAVELED ALONG. THEY BROUGHT THE EGYPTIAN MAN TO DAVID. THEY GAVE THE MAN FOOD AND WATER. WHEN HE WAS FEELING BETTER, DAVID TALKED TO THE MAN.

DAVID ASKED THIS EGYPTIAN MAN, "WHOM IS YOUR MASTER AND WHERE ARE YOU FROM?"

THE EGYPTIAN MAN SAID, "I AM A YOUNG EGYPTIAN MAN. I AM SERVANT FOR AN AMALEKITE MAN. MY MASTER LEFT

ME OUT IN THE FIELD THREE DAYS AGO
WHEN I GOT SICK."

"I WAS WITH THE AMALEKITES WHEN
THEY BURNED DOWN ZIKLAG."

DAVID ASKED HIM, "CAN YOU TAKE ME TO
THE PLACE WHERE THE ARMY IS CAMPING
NOW?"

THE EGYPTIAN MAN SAID, "PROMISE ME
THAT YOU WON'T KILL ME OR MAKE ME
GO BACK TO MY MASTER, THEN I WILL
TAKE YOU WHERE THEY ARE CAMPING."

THE EGYPTIAN MAN VERY CAREFULLY
TOOK DAVID TO THE CAMP OF THE
AMALEKITES. THEY COULD SEE THE
AMALEKITES HAVING A BIG CELEBRATION.
THEY WERE EATING, DRINKING, DANCING,
AND LAYING ALL AROUND ON THE GROUND.

DAVID ^{& HIS MEN} FOUGHT WITH THEM ALL THAT
NIGHT, ALL THE NEXT DAY, AND TILL THAT
NIGHT. ONLY 400 MEN OF THE AMALEKITE
ARMY ESCAPED ON CAMELS, DAVID ^{& HIS MEN} KILLED
ALL THE REST OF THEM.

DAVID ^{& HIS MEN} TOOK ALL THE THINGS ^{BACK} THAT THE
AMALEKITES HAD TAKEN AWAY FROM
ZIKLAG, AND DAVID RESCUED HIS FAMILY.

DAVID KEPT MANY ANIMALS AND THINGS
THAT BELONGED TO THE AMALEKITES.

DAVID ^{& HIS 400} MEN CAME BACK TO THE
BROOK BESOR TO THE 200 MEN WHO
WAITED THERE. THE 200 MEN WERE
GLAD TO SEE DAVID ^{& THE OTHERS} AGAIN.

DAVID WAS VERY KIND TO THE 200 MEN WHO WAITED AT THE BROOK BESOR, BUT SOME OF THE MEN WHO WENT WITH HIM AND FOUGHT THE AMALEKITES, SAID, "BECAUSE THEY DIDN'T GO WITH US AND FIGHT THE AMALEKITES, WE WILL NOT GIVE THEM ANY OF THE THINGS WE BROUGHT BACK. ALL THEY CAN IS THEIR WIVES AND CHILDREN."

DAVID KNEW THEY WERE BEING VERY SELFISH. DAVID SAID TO THEM, "DON'T BE THIS WAY. GOD GAVE US THE VICTORY AND GOD LET US HAVE THESE THINGS WE BROUGHT BACK. YOU WILL NOT BE THIS WAY. WE WILL ALL SHARE THESE THINGS AND WE WILL ALL HAVE JUST AS MUCH, WHETHER WE FOUGHT THE BATTLE OR STAYED BY THE BROOK."

DAVID EVEN SHARED SOME OF THE THINGS WITH THE LEADERS OF JUDAH AND WITH HIS FRIENDS. DAVID SAID, "HERE IS A PRESENT FOR YOU."

DAVID HAD LOVE AND KINDNESS IN HIS HEART AND WANTED TO SHARE THE THINGS HE HAD.

WILL YOU BE LIKE DAVID AND SHARE SOMETHING OF YOURS THIS WEEK?