

MAKING SENSE OF IT ALL! 1 SAM. 21:1-9; 22:6-20

David, King, Psalmist, organizer of worship....but...

I. We are fallen &/ finite people!

We all know this:

Psalm 51:5 Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Psalm 58:3 The wicked are estranged from the womb: they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies.

Romans 3:10 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Jeremiah 17:9 The heart *is* deceitful above all *things*, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

“I not only believe in total depravity, I practice it!” RLW

But I'm thinking in a deeper, more complex way:

- Sinful = fallen
- Limited as creatures = finite
- And in reality a combination / all entangled &/ tangled up!

Let's put the best possible face on two events:

G W Bush: invasion of Iraq

B Obama: pulling troops out of Iraq

2. Who **must** live in a fallen &/ finite world!

3. Who **must** make fallen &/ finite choices!!!

1 Samuel 21:1 Then came David to Nob to Ahimelech the priest: and Ahimelech was afraid at the meeting of David, and said unto him, Why art thou alone, and no man with thee?1 Samuel 21:2 And David said unto Ahimelech the priest, The king hath commanded me a business, and hath said unto me, Let no man know any thing of the business whereabout I send thee, and what I have commanded thee: and I have appointed *my* servants to such and such a place.

1 Samuel 21:3 Now therefore what is under thine hand? give *me* five *loaves of* bread in mine hand, or what there is present.1 Samuel 21:4 And the priest answered David, and said, *There is* no common bread under mine hand, but there is hallowed bread; if the young men have kept themselves at least from women.1 Samuel 21:5 And David answered the priest, and said unto him, Of a truth women *have been* kept from us about these three days, since I came out, and the vessels of the young men are holy, and *the bread is* in a manner common, yea, though it were sanctified this day in the vessel.1 Samuel 21:6 So the priest gave him hallowed *bread*: for there was no bread there but the shewbread, that was taken from before the LORD, to put hot bread in the day when it was taken away.

1 Samuel 21:8 And David said unto Ahimelech, And is there not here under thine hand spear or sword? for I have neither brought my sword nor my weapons with me, because the king's business required haste.1 Samuel 21:9 And the priest said, The sword of Goliath the Philistine, whom thou slewest in the valley of Elah, behold, it *is here* wrapped in a cloth behind the ephod: if thou wilt take that, take *it*: for *there is* no other save that here. And David said, *There is* none like that; give it me.

Immediately you feel (& should feel) uncomfortable!

What do we call this?

I much prefer living in a world of:

- Right & wrong
- True & false
- Good & evil

➤ Or good, better, best...!

But what about: bad, worse, worst...?

Proverbs 10:12 Hatred stirreth up strifes: but love covereth all sins.

1 Peter 4:8 And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.

Proverbs 17:9 He that covereth a transgression seeketh love; but he that repeateth a matter separateth *very* friends.

4. Who must live with fallen &/ finite people!!!

1 Samuel 21:7 Now a certain man of the servants of Saul *was* there that day, detained before the LORD; and his name *was* Doeg, an Edomite, the chiefest of the herdmen that *belonged* to Saul.

1 Samuel 22:6 When Saul heard that David was discovered, and the men that *were* with him, (now Saul abode in Gibeah under a tree in Ramah, having his spear in his hand, and all his servants *were* standing about him); **1 Samuel 22:7** Then Saul said unto his servants that stood about him, Hear now, ye Benjamites; will the son of Jesse give every one of you fields and vineyards, *and* make you all captains of thousands, and captains of hundreds; **1 Samuel 22:8** That all of you have conspired against me, and *there is* none that sheweth me that my son hath made a league with the son of Jesse, and *there is* none of you that is sorry for me, or sheweth unto me that my son hath stirred up my servant against me, to lie in wait, as at this day?

1 Samuel 22:9 Then answered Doeg the Edomite, which was set over the servants of Saul, and said, I saw the son of Jesse coming to Nob, to Ahimelech the son of Ahitub. **1 Samuel 22:10** And he enquired of the LORD for him, and gave him victuals, and gave him the sword of Goliath the Philistine.

5. And who must **also** live with fallen &/ finite consequences

1 Samuel 22:17 And the king said unto the footmen that stood about him, Turn, and slay the priests of the LORD; because their hand also *is* with David, and because they knew when he fled, and did not shew it to me. **But** the servants of the king would **not** put forth their hand to fall upon the priests of the LORD.

1 Samuel 22:18 And the king said to Doeg, Turn thou, and fall upon the priests. And Doeg the Edomite turned, and he fell upon the priests, and slew on that day fourscore and five persons that did wear a linen ephod. **1 Samuel 22:19** And Nob, the city of the priests, smote he with the edge of the sword, both men and women, children and sucklings, and oxen, and asses, and sheep, with the edge of the sword.

1 Samuel 22:20 And one of the sons of Ahimelech the son of Ahitub, named Abiathar, escaped, and fled after David. **1 Samuel 22:21** And Abiathar shewed David that Saul had slain the LORD'S priests. **1 Samuel 22:22** And David said unto Abiathar, I knew *it* that day, when Doeg the Edomite *was* there, that he would surely tell Saul: I have occasioned *the death* of all the persons of thy father's house. **1 Samuel 22:23** Abide thou with me, fear not: for he that seeketh my life seeketh thy life: but with me thou *shalt be* in safeguard.

Romans 8:37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

1 Corinthians 15:57 But thanks *be* to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.