### **VIDEO LECTURE MODULE:**

# BIBLE FOR 6TH GRADE STUDENTS

# **Old Testament**

Lesson 57:

The Last Days of Saul

Lecture Presenter: Mr. Daniel Van Brugge



Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide

#### John Knox Institute of Higher Education

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### Module

### **BIBLE FOR 6TH GRADE STUDENTS**

### **Old Testament**

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77 Lessons presented by Mr. Daniel Van Brugge 36 Lessons presented by Dr. Daniel Sweetman

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- 05. Cain and Abel
- 06. Only Noah Found Grace
- 07. The Coming Judgment –A Way of Escape
- 08. The Noahic Covenant
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- 10. Abram: Called by God
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- 13. Righteous by Faith
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- 17. Abraham Tested God's Provision
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- 20. Jacob the Deceiver
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- 26. Joseph and His Brethren
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- 50. Samson

- 51. Ruth the Moabitess
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- 57. The Last Days of Saul
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- 82. Jeremiah Opposed and Comforted
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- 84. Ezekiel's Comforting Visions
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- 86. Nebuchadnezzar's Forgotten Dream

- 87. Three Friends in the Fiery Furnace
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- 100. Hosea–The Minor Prophets
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- 105. Jonah's Mission
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- 108. Habakkuk's Questions, God's Replies
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- 110. Haggai Urges Building the Temple
- 111. Zechariah—The Night Visions
- 112. Zechariah Prophesies of Christ
- 113. Malachi—Last Old Testament Prophet

### Lesson 57

# The Last Days of Saul

## The First Book of Samuel, chapters 26 thru 31

#### **Memory Verse**

"Destroy him not, for who can stretch forth his hand against the Lord's anointed and be guiltless?"

1 Samuel 26:9

### **Historical Summary**

Once before, David could easily have killed Saul while he was in the cave. Now he receives another opportunity when Saul lay sleeping in his trench. Instead, he snuck into the camp and took Saul's spear, then called to him from the top of the hill to wake him. Once again, Saul realized David could have killed him, and he was ashamed of his conduct. This time he stopped pursuing David, and returned to his place.

Saul's repeated attempts to kill David made David very discouraged. He sought a safe place amid the Philistines with Achish in Gath. There he actually became a friend of Achish, and Achish gave him a place called Ziklag, where he could live with all his household. From there, he secretly attacked the enemies of Israel, and Achish did not know he was doing that.

So there was going to be a war between the Philistines and the Israelites while David and his men were living in Ziklag. Achish gathered his army, and David and his men were included. But the princes of Achish did not trust David to fight against Israel, and they wanted Achish to send David away. At first, Achish refused, but eventually he sent David back to Ziklag.

When David and his men returned to Ziklag, they found that the city had been burned, and their wives and children had been captured, and all their goods were stolen. David and his men were greatly distressed. But David asked counsel from God, and the Lord told him to pursue and to recover that which was lost. They found an Egyptian who told him where the army was. They conducted a surprise attack, and retrieved everyone and everything that had been taken.

Meanwhile, the Philistines gathered to make war against Saul in Israel. Saul inquired of the Lord about whether he should fight against them. But the Lord did not answer Saul. Saul then went to a witch in Endor to ask her advice. Her answer made Saul very afraid. He was told the Lord would deliver Israel into the hand of the Philistines. But when he was given some food, he seemed comforted and went on his way.

So the Philistine army went out to meet the army of Israel in Jezreel. In this war, Jonathan was killed, and Saul was badly wounded. To avoid being brutally killed by the Philistines, Saul committed suicide by falling on his own sword. When his body was found, it was abused and hung up to display before the Philistines. Thus ended the wicked life of the first king of Israel.

#### The Gospel in the Old Testament

The conflict between the lives of Saul and David contains some rich spiritual lessons. It pictures the contrast between the kingdom of darkness and the kingdom of light. Ever since the fall in paradise, man, by nature, lives out his enmity against God. He lives selfishly, for this world, for pleasure, for honor, for wealth. There is no fear of God in his life. That is what is pictured in the life of Saul. But in Genesis 3:15, God said that he would put enmity between the seed of the woman and the seed of the serpent. By grace, there will be a people who fear the Lord, and who have a desire to walk in his ways, and to obey his commandments. The deepest desire of their heart is to live without sin, and one day they will receive the fulfillment of that desire in eternal glory. That is pictured in the life of David.

Grace to live and grace to die is made possible only through the work, the suffering, and the death of the Lord Jesus Christ. By faith, David obtained righteousness and peace with God. His life reflected a desire for God's glory, and the advancement of God's kingdom. He also desired fellowship and communion with God. Read the Psalms—many of them are written by David. They reflect the heart of David, and the heart of all God's children, even today.

### Questions

- 1. How did David show the second time that he could easily have killed Saul?
  - a. He took Saul's spear while he was sleeping
  - b. David's army was much larger than Saul's army.
  - c. He had control of Saul's food supply
  - d. He had taken several of Saul's men captive.
- 2. What was the name of the place given for David and his men to live?
  - a. Gath
  - b. Ziklag
  - c. Endor
  - d. Gibeah
- 3. Why did Saul seek advice from the witch of Endor.
  - a. Because Samuel was visiting another country.
  - b. Because God would not answer him anymore.
  - c. He wanted to know where David was hiding.
  - d. Because he knew she would tell him the truth.

- 4. Why did the princes of the Philistines distrust David?
  - a. Because they were afraid he would take their food.
  - b. Because David's men were mighty men of valor.
  - c. Because they feared David would turn against them in battle.
  - d. Because he had betrayed them once before.
- 5. Why did David want to share the spoils of war with all his men, not just with those who had actually engaged in a battle?
  - a. Because the battle had been won by the Lord, not by men.
  - b. Because they were all hungry regardless of what they did or did not do.
  - c. Some of his own family were those who had not gone into battle.
  - d. It was always the custom for them to do it in this way
- 6. How did Saul die?
  - a. He was killed by his armor bearer.
  - b. He fell on his own sword.
  - c. He was hung on cross.
  - d. He was hit with a large tree.

#### **Discussions**

	How is David's conduct in 1 Samuel 26 a picture of the long-suffering mercy of God towards oners?
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2.	What happened while David was in Ziklag that caused Achish to trust David?
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3.	Why do you think the Lord would no longer answer Saul?
4.	How can you tell that Achish trusted David completely?

	What spiritual truth is pictured in the family of David being taken captive and then recovered in?
6.	Prove from this chapter that Satan will finally be defeated.
	Show that the life of Saul and of David reflects the kingdom of Satan and the kingdom of God his world.