

**The Workplace God's Way**  
**Eph 6:5-9**  
 Part 1

<b>I. Introduction</b>
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**A. Turn to Eph 6:5**

**B. Think about David's submission as we move to the workplace...**

Eph 6:5 Slaves, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in the sincerity of your heart, as to Christ; 6 not by way of eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart. 7 With good will render service, as to the Lord, and not to men, 8 knowing that whatever good thing each one does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether slave or free. 9 And masters, do the same things to them, and give up threatening, knowing that both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no partiality with Him.

**C. Remember – Last week's introduction ASKED: What do I talk about?**

- a) Walking in Wisdom = Eph 5:15-21 IS THE FOUNDATION to Marriage & Family AND EMPLOYMENT!
  - b) = The Spirit-controlled Life!
  - c) IF NOT Filled with the Spirit – None of this section is really possible
2. Summarizing Marriage & Family = SUBMISSION
- a) We all SUBMIT to The LORD JESUS CHRIST
  - b) Wives SUBMIT to HUSBANDS
  - c) Husband's SUBMIT to CHRIST
  - d) Children SUBMIT to PARENTS!
3. Guess what? There is a DIVINE PATTERN for the WORKPLACE! = SUBMISSION!

- a) Godly Employee – Employer Relations are built on AUTHORITY-SUBMISSION
- b) Just like all other relations
- c) Christian EMPLOYEES SUBMIT to EMPLOYERS
- d) Christian EMPLOYERS SUBMIT to CHRIST

***D. Keep this in mind!***

- 1. CONTEXT = WALKING in WISDOM = “Be filled with the Spirit” = HOLY-SPIRIT Controlled Life
- 2. DIVINE PATTERN for work relations = SUBMISSION (or Authority / Submission)

**II. The Submission of David**

***A. Seems we usually use King David as a BAD EXAMPLE!***

- 1. Remember – he was a man after God’s own heart
- 2. David is an excellent example for us in MANY WAYS!

***B. David provides for us a fairly graphic illustration of the right kind of SUBMISSION attitude.***

1 Samuel 16:1

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul, since I have rejected him from being king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and go; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have selected a king for Myself among his sons.”

***C. rejected Saul, he will no longer be king,***

- 1. Because of his disobedience to God a
- 2. His false kind of worship,
- 3. He actually tried to function as a priest and invaded the priestly office and there would never come out of his loins another ruler again,
- 4. Now begins VITALLY IMPORTANT PERIOD in REDEMPTIVE HISTORY
- 5. Watch the selection...

1 Samuel 16:11-15 <sup>11</sup>And Samuel said to Jesse, “Are

these all the children?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, and behold, he is tending the sheep." Then Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." <sup>12</sup>So he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, with beautiful eyes and a handsome appearance. And the LORD said, "Arise, anoint him; for this is he." <sup>13</sup>Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. And Samuel arose and went to Ramah.

6. Notice next verse – what happens to Saul

<sup>14</sup>Now the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD terrorized him. <sup>15</sup>Saul's servants then said to him, "Behold now, an evil spirit from God is terrorizing you.

- a) NOT the Lord sent the demon = Lord SINNED
- b) Lord permitted and actually in a sense I suppose dispatched that demon to terrorize that wicked man.
- c) God USING evil to do His good

***D. See how Saul begins to turn against David...***

1. David anointed- SEEMINGLY has right to reign
  - a) Becomes Saul's /Harp player/Armor bearer / Kills Goliath.../ Becomes Military Leader for Saul
2. Now Notice

1 Samuel 18:1-5

<sup>1</sup>Now it came about when he had finished speaking to Saul, that the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as himself. <sup>2</sup>Saul took him that day and did not let him return to his father's house. <sup>3</sup>Then Jonathan made a covenant with David because he loved him as himself. <sup>4</sup>Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was on him and gave it to David, with his armor, including his sword and his bow and his belt. <sup>5</sup>So David went out wherever Saul sent him, *and* prospered; and Saul set him over the men of war. And it

was pleasing in the sight of all the people and also in the sight of Saul's servants.

a) Important:

- (1) David is a powerful warrior, Saul is beginning to resent and hate David.
- (2) Jonathan becomes a tool of God to protect David from the murderous intentions of Saul.

3. Now – return from battle... [1 Samuel 18:6-9](#) <sup>6</sup>It happened as they were coming, when David returned from killing the Philistine, that the women came out of all the cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet King Saul, with tambourines, with joy and with musical instruments. <sup>7</sup>The women sang as they played, and said, "Saul has slain his thousands, And David his ten thousands." <sup>8</sup>Then Saul became very angry, for this saying displeased him; and he said, "They have ascribed to David ten thousands, but to me they have ascribed thousands. Now what more can he have but the kingdom?" <sup>9</sup>Saul looked at David with suspicion from that day on.

a) Oh boy!

b) "Now what more can he have but the kingdom?" = He has all the looks, he has all the power, he has all the ability as a warrior, he has defeated Goliath, he has defeated the Philistines and now all the women are singing his songs, what more can he have but the kingdom? "And Saul looked at David with suspicion from that day on.

### ***E. Attempted Murder: Things only get worse!***

[1 Samuel 18:10-11](#) <sup>10</sup>Now it came about on the next day that an evil spirit from God came mightily upon Saul, and he raved in the midst of the house, while David was playing *the harp* with his hand, as usual; and a spear was in Saul's hand. <sup>11</sup>Saul hurled the spear for he thought, "I will pin David to the wall." But David escaped from his presence twice.

1. First attempt of Saul to murder David.
2. THREE TIMES
3. Also - verse 28, it says Michal, Saul's daughter, loved him.
  - a) Then Saul was even more afraid of David.
  - b) Now not only is David in a deep friendship with Jonathan, the son of Saul,
  - c) but he is now loved by Michal, the daughter of Saul.
  - d) What opportunity will Saul have now with both of his children warning David of his evil intents?

[1 Samuel 19:1-2](#)

<sup>1</sup>Now Saul told Jonathan his son and all his servants to put David to death. But Jonathan, Saul's son, greatly delighted in David. <sup>2</sup>So Jonathan told David saying, "Saul my father is seeking to put you to death. Now therefore, please be on guard in the morning, and stay in a secret place and hide yourself.

- (1) Jonathan warned David.
- (2) Michal allowed David to escape, - put a false body in the bed to spare David.
- (3) Children of Saul did all they could to save David.

4. IMPORTANT INSIGHT here... [1 Samuel 19:3-6](#)

<sup>3</sup>"I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where you are, and I will speak with my father about you; if I find out anything, then I will tell you." <sup>4</sup>Then Jonathan spoke well of David to Saul his father and said to him, "Do not let the king sin against his servant David, since he has not sinned against you, and since his deeds *have been* very beneficial to you. <sup>5</sup>"For he took his life in his hand and struck the Philistine, and the LORD brought about a great deliverance for all Israel; you saw *it* and rejoiced. Why then will you sin against innocent blood by

putting David to death without a cause?" <sup>6</sup>Saul listened to the voice of Jonathan, and Saul vowed, "As the LORD lives, he shall not be put to death."

- a) =Flight NOT from act of gov't, but from attempted murder!

**F. Next attempted murder...1 Samuel 19:9-10**

<sup>9</sup>Now there was an evil spirit from the LORD on Saul as he was sitting in his house with his spear in his hand, and David was playing *the harp* with *his* hand. <sup>10</sup>Saul tried to pin David to the wall with the spear, but he slipped away out of Saul's presence, so that he stuck the spear into the wall. And David fled and escaped that night.

1. Remember:
  - a) David has been anointed king.
  - b) David has the right to rule the nation.
  - c) Saul, this wicked dispossessed man who has been given an evil spirit is trying to take his life.
  - d) Now you would assume that at some point in time David would start to cry for his rights.
  - e) From this point on, chapter 19, where he has to escape the third time, David becomes a fugitive.
2. Notice: Sense of God directing the action (evil spirit from the Lord...)
3. Almost like the testing of Job
4. See glimpses of God directing the action
  - a) God has anointed David
  - b) God has left Saul on the throne
  - c) God letting spirits incite the evil in Saul to attempt murder.
  - d) Is David
    - (1) Being tested? Refined?
    - (2) God showing the true heart of David to men through this trial?

(3) So we could see submission?

(a) NOT to Saul per say

(b) BUT to God

**G. David is tested before God...** 1 Samuel 20:1 <sup>1</sup>Then David fled from Naioth in Ramah, and came and said to Jonathan, "What have I done? What is my iniquity? And what is my sin before your father, that he is seeking my life?"

1 Samuel 20:8 <sup>8</sup>"Therefore deal kindly with your servant, for you have brought your servant into a covenant of the LORD with you. But if there is iniquity in me, put me to death yourself; for why then should you bring me to your father?"

1. =discerning the evil of Saul vs. wrong before the gov't

**H. Back to Saul – Insight that this is evil from gov't! – through one man! – COMPELS EVIL (God's command is David to be next King).**

1 Samuel 20:31-33 <sup>31</sup>"For as long as the son of Jesse lives on the earth, neither you nor your kingdom will be established. Therefore now, send and bring him to me, for he must surely die." <sup>32</sup>But Jonathan answered Saul his father and said to him, "Why should he be put to death? What has he done?" <sup>33</sup>Then Saul hurled his spear at him to strike him down; so Jonathan knew that his father had decided to put David to death.

**I. David sinfully takes matters into his own hand:**

1 Samuel 21:1-15

<sup>1</sup>Then David came to Nob to Ahimelech the priest; and Ahimelech came trembling to meet David and said to him, "Why are you alone and no one with you?" <sup>2</sup>David said to Ahimelech the priest, "The king has commissioned me with a matter and has said to me, 'Let no one know anything about the matter on which I am sending you and with which I have commissioned you; and I have directed the young men to a certain place.' ...

1. Even Acts insane...

## J. David Encounters Saul...

### 1 Samuel 23:15-17

<sup>15</sup>Now David became aware that Saul had come out to seek his life while David was in the wilderness of Ziph at Horesh.

<sup>16</sup>And Jonathan, Saul's son, arose and went to David at Horesh, and encouraged him in God. <sup>17</sup>Thus he said to him, "Do not be afraid, because the hand of Saul my father will not find you, and you will be king over Israel and I will be next to you; and Saul my father knows that also."

1. David is a fugitive. How long? A year and a half...a year and a half he's wandering. Saul is after him, Saul wants to kill him, but he is hiding.

1 Samuel 24:1 <sup>1</sup>Now when Saul returned from pursuing the Philistines, he was told, saying, "Behold, David is in the wilderness of Engedi."

=down by the Dead Sea...

### 1 Samuel 24:2-7

<sup>2</sup>Then Saul took three thousand chosen men from all Israel and went to seek David and his men in front of the Rocks of the Wild Goats. <sup>3</sup>He came to the sheepfolds on the way, where there was a cave; and Saul went in to relieve himself. Now David and his men were sitting in the inner recesses of the cave. <sup>4</sup>The men of David said to him, "Behold, *this is* the day of which the LORD said to you, 'Behold; I am about to give your enemy into your hand, and you shall do to him as it seems good to you.' " Then David arose and cut off the edge of Saul's robe secretly. <sup>5</sup>It came about afterward that David's conscience bothered him because he had cut off the edge of Saul's *robe*. <sup>6</sup>So he said to his men, "Far be it from me because of the LORD that I should do this thing to my lord, the LORD'S anointed, to stretch out my hand against him, since he is the LORD'S anointed." <sup>7</sup>David persuaded his men with *these* words and did not allow them to rise up against Saul. And Saul arose, left the cave, and went on *his* way.

- a) David's men are saying, *Can you believe this? Here is the man trying to kill you, here is the man whose throne you are to take and the whole idea was let's kill him, here he is in a very compromising situation.*
- b) Conscience! It bothered him that he had done that.
- c) David: "How could I ever cut a piece off the robe of the Lord's anointed? "
  - (1) And David persuaded his men with these words and didn't allow them to rise up against Saul and Saul...
  - (2) this is all going on while Saul is still there...
  - (3) And David felt bad that he had even cut his robe, that's how close he could get to him.

## 2. David's SUBMISSION to Saul...

### 1 Samuel 24:8-22

<sup>8</sup>Now afterward David arose and went out of the cave and called after Saul, saying, "My lord the king!" And when Saul looked behind him, David bowed with his face to the ground and prostrated himself. <sup>9</sup>David said to Saul, "Why do you listen to the words of men, saying, 'Behold, David seeks to harm you'?" <sup>10</sup>"Behold, this day your eyes have seen that the LORD had given you today into my hand in the cave, and some said to kill you, but *my eye* had pity on you; and I said, 'I will not stretch out my hand against my lord, for he is the LORD's anointed.'" <sup>11</sup>"Now, my father, see! Indeed, see the edge of your robe in my hand! For in that I cut off the edge of your robe and did not kill you, know and perceive that there is no evil or rebellion in my hands, and I have not sinned against you, though you are lying in wait for my life to take it. <sup>12</sup>"May the LORD judge between you and me, and may the LORD avenge me on you; but my hand shall not be against you. <sup>13</sup>"As the proverb of the ancients says, 'Out of the wicked comes forth wickedness'; but my hand shall not be against you. <sup>14</sup>"After whom has the king of Israel come

out? Whom are you pursuing? A dead dog, a single flea? <sup>15</sup>“The LORD therefore be judge and decide between you and me; and may He see and plead my cause and deliver me from your hand.” <sup>16</sup>When David had finished speaking these words to Saul, Saul said, “Is this your voice, my son David?” Then Saul lifted up his voice and wept. <sup>17</sup>He said to David, “You are more righteous than I; for you have dealt well with me, while I have dealt wickedly with you. <sup>18</sup>“You have declared today that you have done good to me, that the LORD delivered me into your hand and yet you did not kill me. <sup>19</sup>“For if a man finds his enemy, will he let him go away safely? May the LORD therefore reward you with good in return for what you have done to me this day. <sup>20</sup>“Now, behold, I know that you will surely be king, and that the kingdom of Israel will be established in your hand. <sup>21</sup>“So now swear to me by the LORD that you will not cut off my descendants after me and that you will not destroy my name from my father’s household.” <sup>22</sup>David swore to Saul. And Saul went to his home, but David and his men went up to the stronghold.

a) SUBMISSION! Do you understand?

### 3. Submission AGAIN...

1 Samuel 26:2-12

<sup>2</sup>So Saul arose and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, having with him three thousand chosen men of Israel, to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph. ... <sup>7</sup>So David and Abishai came to the people by night, and behold, Saul lay sleeping inside the circle of the camp with his spear stuck in the ground at his head; and Abner and the people were lying around him. <sup>8</sup>Then Abishai said to David, “Today God has delivered your enemy into your hand; now therefore, please let me strike him with the spear to the ground with one stroke, and I will not strike him the second time.” <sup>9</sup>But David said to Abishai, “Do not destroy him, for who can stretch out his hand against the

LORD'S anointed and be without guilt?" <sup>10</sup>David also said, "As the LORD lives, surely the LORD will strike him, or his day will come that he dies, or he will go down into battle and perish. <sup>11</sup>"The LORD forbid that I should stretch out my hand against the LORD'S anointed; but now please take the spear that is at his head and the jug of water, and let us go." <sup>12</sup>So David took the spear and the jug of water from *beside* Saul's head, and they went away, but no one saw or knew *it*, nor did any awake, for they were all asleep, because a sound sleep from the LORD had fallen on them.

### III. What's the point of all that?

#### A. David, here is a man whose

1. life was continually threatened,
2. INNOCENT MAN!
3. complete injustice inequity and unfairness who is being pursued by a wicked man
  - a) occupies a throne which he does not deserve
4. David 18 MONTHS a fugitive in the wilderness who has the right to be king of the nation
5. Who
  - a) will not rebel,
  - b) will not take things into his own hands,
  - c) waits patiently for the Lord to work,
  - d) says the Lord will avenge me,
  - e) Lord will take care of Saul,
  - f) I will not take that into my own hands,
  - g) I will respect his position,
  - h) I will respect his authority,
  - i) I will bow my knee to him,
  - j) I will not rebel.
6. Talk about rights.

- a) Greatest right of all, to be king.
- b) Our fallenness makes us want to fight back, want to demand our rights, to strike against authorities, to protest, to complain, to be insubordinate, to be un-submissive, but that is sin.
- c) Proper response would be the response of David,
- d) The response of simply committing oneself to the Lord for the care of the Lord.— As JESUS DID TOO

#### **IV. CONCLUSION**