

Waiting for God's Timing

Erwin Lutzer

I. Introduction.

A. Text: I Samuel 18.

B. David was willing to wait for God and Saul was not.

II. Three struggles in waiting for God.

A. The struggle of jealousy versus humility.

1. Saul was jealous over David's new popularity from defeating Goliath.
2. There is envy and jealousy in every evil thing.
3. Christ was crucified because He made the Pharisees look bad.
4. Those that cannot wait for God are filled with jealousy and anger. (John 8)

B. The struggle of manipulation versus trust.

1. Saul began to try to get rid of David so that he could secure his kingdom.
2. David waited for God to arrange the circumstances.
3. Even something such as friendship can become a means for manipulating people.

C. The battle of the evil spirit versus the Holy Spirit.

1. An evil spirit came upon Saul. (I Samuel 16)
2. A wicked spirit could come from God because all the wicked spirits are under God's control.
3. God sometimes uses Satan in the life of a believer to discipline him. (I Corinthians 5, II Corinthians 12)
4. David relied on the Holy Spirit in contrast.

III. Conclusion.

A. In waiting for God, no time is lost.

B. Those that wait upon God will renew their strength. (Isaiah 41)

Application questions:

1. What would you say to someone you know that is manipulating others for personal gain?

2. How can it be said that God sometimes sends an evil spirit to a believer? Explain.

3. How have you struggled to wait for God? What did you learn from the experience?
