

# **THE PROCESS IS PAINFUL (PART 2)**

## **1 SAMUEL 16:1-13**

*1 And the LORD said unto Samuel, How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? fill thine horn with oil, and go, I will send thee to Jesse the Bethlehemite: for I have provided me a king among his sons.*

*2 And Samuel said, How can I go? if Saul hear it, he will kill me. And the LORD said, Take an heifer with thee, and say, I am come to sacrifice to the LORD.*

*3 And call Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will shew thee what thou shalt do: and thou shalt anoint unto me him whom I name unto thee.*

*4 And Samuel did that which the LORD spake, and came to Bethlehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, Comest thou peaceably?*

*5 And he said, Peaceably: I am come to sacrifice unto the LORD: sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice. And he sanctified Jesse and his sons, and called them to the sacrifice.*

*6 And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, Surely the LORD's anointed is before him.*

*7 But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.*

*8 Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this.*

*9 Then Jesse made Shammah to pass by. And he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this.*

*10 Again, Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said unto Jesse, The LORD hath not chosen these.*

*11 And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all thy children? And he said, Thereremaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he keepeth the sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he come hither.*

*12 And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. And the LORD said, Arise, anoint him: for this is he.*

*13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah.*

## **2 Samuel 5:1-4**

*1 Then came all the tribes of Israel to David unto Hebron, and spake, saying, Behold, we are thy bone and thy flesh.*

*2 Also in time past, when Saul was king over us, thou wast he that leddest out and broughtest in Israel: and the LORD said to thee, Thou shalt feed my people Israel, and thou shalt be a captain over Israel.*

*3 So all the elders of Israel came to the king to Hebron; and king David made a league with them in Hebron before the LORD: and they anointed David king over Israel.*

*4 David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years.*

## **HEBREWS 11:6**

*But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.*

### **1 Samuel 21:1-9 (N.L.T.)**

*1 David went to the town of Nob to see Ahimelech the priest. Ahimelech trembled when he saw him. “Why are you alone?” he asked. “Why is no one with you?”*

*2 “The king has sent me on a private matter,” David said. “He told me not to tell anyone why I am here. I have told my men where to meet me later.*

*3 Now, what is there to eat? Give me five loaves of bread or anything else you have.”*

*4 “We don’t have any regular bread,” the priest replied. “But there is the holy bread, which you can have if your young men have not slept with any women recently.”*

*5 “Don’t worry,” David replied. “I never allow my men to be with women when we are on a campaign. And since they stay clean even on ordinary trips, how much more on this one!”*

*6 Since there was no other food available, the priest gave him the holy bread—the Bread of the Presence that was placed before the LORD in the Tabernacle. It had just been replaced that day with fresh bread.*

*7 Now Doeg the Edomite, Saul’s chief herdsman, was there that day, having been detained before the LORD.*

*8 David asked Ahimelech, “Do you have a spear or sword? The king’s business was so urgent that I didn’t even have time to grab a weapon!”*

9 *“I only have the sword of Goliath the Philistine, whom you killed in the valley of Elah,” the priest replied. “It is wrapped in a cloth behind the ephod. Take that if you want it, for there is nothing else here.”*  
*“There is nothing like it!” David replied. “Give it to me!”*

### **1 Samuel 22:1-5 (N.L.T.)**

1 *So David left Gath and escaped to the cave of Adullam. Soon his brothers and all his other relatives joined him there.*

2 *Then others began coming—men who were in trouble or in debt or who were just discontented—until David was the captain of about 400 men.*

3 *Later David went to Mizpeh in Moab, where he asked the king, “Please allow my father and mother to live here with you until I know what God is going to do for me.”*

4 *So David’s parents stayed in Moab with the king during the entire time David was living in his stronghold.*

5 *One day the prophet Gad told David, “Leave the stronghold and return to the land of Judah.” So David went to the forest of Hereth.*

6 *The news of his arrival in Judah soon reached Saul. At the time, the king was sitting beneath the tamarisk tree on the hill at Gibeah, holding his spear and surrounded by his officers.*

7 *“Listen here, you men of Benjamin!” Saul shouted to his officers when he heard the news. “Has that son of Jesse promised every one of you fields and vineyards? Has he promised to make you all generals and captains in his army?”*

8 *Is that why you have conspired against me? For not one of you told me when my own son made a solemn pact with the son of Jesse. You’re not even sorry for me. Think of it! My own son—encouraging him to kill me, as he is trying to do this very day!”*

*9 Then Doeg the Edomite, who was standing there with Saul's men, spoke up. "When I was at Nob," he said, "I saw the son of Jesse talking to the priest, Ahimelech son of Ahitub.*

*10 Ahimelech consulted the LORD for him. Then he gave him food and the sword of Goliath the Philistine."*

*11 King Saul immediately sent for Ahimelech and all his family, who served as priests at Nob.*

*12 When they arrived, Saul shouted at him, "Listen to me, you son of Ahitub!" "What is it, my king?" Ahimelech asked.*

*13 "Why have you and the son of Jesse conspired against me?" Saul demanded. "Why did you give him food and a sword? Why have you consulted God for him? Why have you encouraged him to kill me, as he is trying to do this very day?"*

*14 "But sir," Ahimelech replied, "is anyone among all your servants as faithful as David, your son-in-law? Why, he is the captain of your bodyguard and a highly honored member of your household!*

*15 This was certainly not the first time I had consulted God for him! May the king not accuse me and my family in this matter, for I knew nothing at all of any plot against you."*

*16 "You will surely die, Ahimelech, along with your entire family!" the king shouted.*

*17 And he ordered his bodyguards, "Kill these priests of the LORD, for they are allies and conspirators with David! They knew he was running away from me, but they didn't tell me!" But Saul's men refused to kill the LORD's priests.*

*18 Then the king said to Doeg, "You do it." So Doeg the Edomite turned on them and killed them that day, eighty-five priests in all, still wearing their priestly garments.*

19 Then he went to Nob, the town of the priests, and killed the priests' families—men and women, children and babies—and all the cattle, donkeys, sheep, and goats.

20 Only Abiathar, one of the sons of Ahimelech, escaped and fled to David.

21 When he told David that Saul had killed the priests of the LORD,

22 David exclaimed, "I knew it! When I saw Doeg the Edomite there that day, I knew he was sure to tell Saul. Now I have caused the death of all your father's family.

23 Stay here with me, and don't be afraid. I will protect you with my own life, for the same person wants to kill us both."

### **1 Samuel 27:1-4 (N.L.T.)**

1 But David kept thinking to himself, "Someday Saul is going to get me. The best thing I can do is escape to the Philistines. Then Saul will stop hunting for me in Israelite territory, and I will finally be safe."

2 So David took his 600 men and went over and joined Achish son of Maach, the king of Gath.

3 David and his men and their families settled there with Achish at Gath. David brought his two wives along with him—Ahinoam from Jezreel and Abigail, Nabal's widow from Carmel.

4 Word soon reached Saul that David had fled to Gath, so he stopped hunting for him.

### **1 Samuel 28:1-2 (N.L.T.)**

1 About that time the Philistines mustered their armies for another war with Israel. King Achish told David, "You and your men will be expected to join me in battle."

2 *“Very well!” David agreed. “Now you will see for yourself what we can do.” Then Achish told David, “I will make you my personal bodyguard for life.”*

### **1 Samuel 29 (N.L.T.)**

1 *The entire Philistine army now mobilized at Aphek, and the Israelites camped at the spring in Jezreel.*

2 *As the Philistine rulers were leading out their troops in groups of hundreds and thousands, David and his men marched at the rear with King Achish.*

3 *But the Philistine commanders demanded, “What are these Hebrews doing here?” And Achish told them, “This is David, the servant of King Saul of Israel. He’s been with me for years, and I’ve never found a single fault in him from the day he arrived until today.”*

4 *But the Philistine commanders were angry. “Send him back to the town you’ve given him!” they demanded. “He can’t go into the battle with us. What if he turns against us in battle and becomes our adversary? Is there any better way for him to reconcile himself with his master than by handing our heads over to him?”*

5 *Isn’t this the same David about whom the women of Israel sing in their dances, ‘Saul has killed his thousands, and David his ten thousands?’”*

6 *So Achish finally summoned David and said to him, “I swear by the LORD that you have been a trustworthy ally. I think you should go with me into battle, for I’ve never found a single flaw in you from the day you arrived until today. But the other Philistine rulers won’t hear of it.*

7 *Please don’t upset them, but go back quietly.”*

8 *“What have I done to deserve this treatment?” David demanded. “What have you ever found in your servant, that I can’t go and fight the enemies of my lord the king?”*

*9 But Achish insisted, “As far as I’m concerned, you’re as perfect as an angel of God. But the Philistine commanders are afraid to have you with them in the battle.*

*10 Now get up early in the morning, and leave with your men as soon as it gets light.”*

*11 So David and his men headed back into the land of the Philistines, while the Philistine army went on to Jezreel.*

### **1 Samuel 30:1-8 (N.L.T.)**

*1 Three days later, when David and his men arrived home at their town of Ziklag, they found that the Amalekites had made a raid into the Negev and Ziklag; they had crushed Ziklag and burned it to the ground.*

*2 They had carried off the women and children and everyone else but without killing anyone.*

*3 When David and his men saw the ruins and realized what had happened to their families,*

*4 they wept until they could weep no more.*

*5 David’s two wives, Ahinoam from Jezreel and Abigail, the widow of Nabal from Carmel, were among those captured.*

*6 David was now in great danger because all his men were very bitter about losing their sons and daughters, and they began to talk of stoning him. But David found strength in the LORD his God.*

*7 Then he said to Abiathar the priest, “Bring me the ephod!” So Abiathar brought it.*

*8 Then David asked the LORD, “Should I chase after this band of raiders? Will I catch them?” And the LORD told him, “Yes, go after them. You will surely recover everything that was taken from you!”*



## **2 Samuel 1 (N.L.T.)**

*1 After the death of Saul, David returned from his victory over the Amalekites and spent two days in Ziklag.*

*2 On the third day a man arrived from Saul's army camp. He had torn his clothes and put dirt on his head to show that he was in mourning. He fell to the ground before David in deep respect.*

*3 "Where have you come from?" David asked. "I escaped from the Israelite camp," the man replied.*

*4 "What happened?" David demanded. "Tell me how the battle went." The man replied, "Our entire army fled from the battle. Many of the men are dead, and Saul and his son Jonathan are also dead."*

*5 "How do you know Saul and Jonathan are dead?" David demanded of the young man.*

*6 The man answered, "I happened to be on Mount Gilboa, and there was Saul leaning on his spear with the enemy chariots and charioteers closing in on him.*

*7 When he turned and saw me, he cried out for me to come to him. 'How can I help?' I asked him.*

*8 "He responded, 'Who are you?'" "I am an Amalekite," I told him.*

*9 "Then he begged me, 'Come over here and put me out of my misery, for I am in terrible pain and want to die.'*

*10 "So I killed him," the Amalekite told David, "for I knew he couldn't live. Then I took his crown and his armband, and I have brought them here to you, my lord."*

*11 David and his men tore their clothes in sorrow when they heard the news.*

*12 They mourned and wept and fasted all day for Saul and his son Jonathan, and for the LORD's army and the nation of Israel, because they had died by the sword that day.*

*13 Then David said to the young man who had brought the news, "Where are you from?" And he replied, "I am a foreigner, an Amalekite, who lives in your land."*

*14 "Why were you not afraid to kill the LORD's anointed one?" David asked.*

*15 Then David said to one of his men, "Kill him!" So the man thrust his sword into the Amalekite and killed him.*

*16 "You have condemned yourself," David said, "for you yourself confessed that you killed the LORD's anointed one."*

*17 Then David composed a funeral song for Saul and Jonathan,*

*18 and he commanded that it be taught to the people of Judah. It is known as the Song of the Bow, and it is recorded in The Book of Jashar.*

*19 Your pride and joy, O Israel, lies dead on the hills! Oh, how the mighty heroes have fallen!*

*20 Don't announce the news in Gath, don't proclaim it in the streets of Ashkelon, or the daughters of the Philistines will rejoice and the pagans will laugh in triumph.*

*21 O mountains of Gilboa, let there be no dew or rain upon you, nor fruitful fields producing offerings of grain. For there the shield of the mighty heroes was defiled; the shield of Saul will no longer be anointed with oil.*

*22 The bow of Jonathan was powerful, and the sword of Saul did its mighty work. They shed the blood of their enemies and pierced the bodies of mighty heroes.*

*23 How beloved and gracious were Saul and Jonathan! They were together in life and in death. They were swifter than eagles, stronger than lions.*

*24 O women of Israel, weep for Saul, for he dressed you in luxurious scarlet clothing, in garments decorated with gold.*

*25 Oh, how the mighty heroes have fallen in battle! Jonathan lies dead on the hills.*

*26 How I weep for you, my brother Jonathan! Oh, how much I loved you! And your love for me was deep, deeper than the love of women!*

*27 Oh, how the mighty heroes have fallen! Stripped of their weapons, they lie dead.*

**2 Samuel 3:1 (N.L.T.)**

*“That was the beginning of a long war between those who were loyal to Saul and those loyal to David. As time passed David became stronger and stronger, while Saul’s dynasty became weaker and weaker.”*

**Exodus 23:27-30 (N.L.T.)**

*27 “I will send my terror ahead of you and create panic among all the people whose lands you invade. I will make all your enemies turn and run.*

*28 I will send terror ahead of you to drive out the Hivites, Canaanites, and Hittites.*

*29 But I will not drive them out in a single year, because the land would become desolate and the wild animals would multiply and threaten you.*

*30 I will drive them out a little at a time until your population has increased enough to take possession of the land.*

**Deuteronomy 7:19-22 (N.L.T.)**

*19 Remember the great terrors the LORD your God sent against them. You saw it all with your own eyes! And remember the miraculous signs and wonders, and the strong hand and powerful arm with which he brought you out of Egypt. The LORD your God will use this same power against all the people you fear.*

*20 And then the LORD your God will send terror to drive out the few survivors still hiding from you!*

*21 “No, do not be afraid of those nations, for the LORD your God is among you, and he is a great and awesome God.*

*22 The LORD your God will drive those nations out ahead of you little by little. You will not clear them away all at once, otherwise the wild animals would multiply too quickly for you.*

**Hebrews 2:9-10, 16-18 (N.L.T.)**

*9 What we do see is Jesus, who for a little while was given a position “a little lower than the angels”; and because he suffered death for us, he is now “crowned with glory and honor.” Yes, by God’s grace, Jesus tasted death for everyone.*

*10 God, for whom and through whom everything was made, chose to bring many children into glory. And it was only right that he should make Jesus, through his suffering, a perfect leader, fit to bring them into their salvation.*

*16 We also know that the Son did not come to help angels; he came to help the descendants of Abraham.*

*17 Therefore, it was necessary for him to be made in every respect like us, his brothers and sisters, so that he could be our merciful and faithful High Priest before God. Then he could offer a sacrifice that would take away the sins of the people.*

*18 Since he himself has gone through suffering and testing, he is able to help us when we are being tested.*

**Hebrews 5:7-10 (N.L.T.)**

*7 While Jesus was here on earth, he offered prayers and pleadings, with a loud cry and tears, to the one who could rescue him from death. And God heard his prayers because of his deep reverence for God.*

*8 Even though Jesus was God's Son, he learned obedience from the things he suffered.*

*9 In this way, God qualified him as a perfect High Priest, and he became the source of eternal salvation for all those who obey him.*

*10 And God designated him to be a High Priest in the order of Melchizedek.*

**James 1:2-4 (N.L.T.)**

*2 Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy.*

*3 For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow.*

*4 So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.*

**James 5:7-11 (N.L.T.)**

*7 Dear brothers and sisters, be patient as you wait for the Lord's return. Consider the farmers who patiently wait for the rains in the fall and in the spring. They eagerly look for the valuable harvest to ripen.*

*8 You, too, must be patient. Take courage, for the coming of the Lord is near.*

*9 Don't grumble about each other, brothers and sisters, or you will be judged. For look—the Judge is standing at the door!*

*10 For examples of patience in suffering, dear brothers and sisters, look at the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.*

*11 We give great honor to those who endure under suffering. For instance, you know about Job, a man of great endurance. You can see how the Lord was kind to him at the end, for the Lord is full of tenderness and mercy.*

**1 Peter 1:3-7 (N.L.T.)**

*3 All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is by his great mercy that we have been born again, because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Now we live with great expectation,*

*4 and we have a priceless inheritance—an inheritance that is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay.*

*5 And through your faith, God is protecting you by his power until you receive this salvation, which is ready to be revealed on the last day for all to see.*

*6 So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while.*

*7 These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.*

**1 Peter 2:18-23 (N.L.T.)**

*18 You who are slaves must submit to your masters with all respect. Do what they tell you—not only if they are kind and reasonable, but even if they are cruel.*

*19 For God is pleased when, conscious of his will, you patiently endure unjust treatment.*

*20 Of course, you get no credit for being patient if you are beaten for doing wrong. But if you suffer for doing good and endure it patiently, God is pleased with you.*

*21 For God called you to do good, even if it means suffering, just as Christ suffered for you. He is your example, and you must follow in his steps.*

*22 He never sinned, nor ever deceived anyone.*

*23 He did not retaliate when he was insulted, nor threaten revenge when he suffered. He left his case in the hands of God, who always judges fairly.*

**1 Peter 4:12-19 (N.L.T.)**

*12 Dear friends, don't be surprised at the fiery trials you are going through, as if something strange were happening to you.*

*13 Instead, be very glad—for these trials make you partners with Christ in his suffering, so that you will have the wonderful joy of seeing his glory when it is revealed to all the world.*

*14 If you are insulted because you bear the name of Christ, you will be blessed, for the glorious Spirit of God rests upon you.*

*15 If you suffer, however, it must not be for murder, stealing, making trouble, or prying into other people's affairs.*

*16 But it is no shame to suffer for being a Christian. Praise God for the privilege of being called by his name!*

*17 For the time has come for judgment, and it must begin with God's household. And if judgment begins with us, what terrible fate awaits those who have never obeyed God's Good News?*

*18 And also, “If the righteous are barely saved, what will happen to godless sinners?”*

*19 So if you are suffering in a manner that pleases God, keep on doing what is right, and trust your lives to the God who created you, for he will never fail you.*