

“Knowing And Seeing God Through His Word, Not Our Feelings”  
1 Samuel 23:1-29

*“Every word of God proves true; He is a shield to those who take refuge in Him. Do not add to His words, lest He rebuke you and you be found a liar” (Proverbs 30:5-6). “I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, ‘My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish my purpose’” (Isaiah 46:9c-10). “So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ” (Romans 10:17). “Behold the days are coming,’ declares the Lord God, ‘when I will send a famine on the land — not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD. They shall wander from sea to sea, and from north to east; they shall run to and fro, to seek the word of the LORD, but they shall not find it” (Amos 8:11-12).*

- **1 Samuel 23:1-5 — “Strength in the Word of the LORD.”**
  - *“The process of threshing was performed generally by spreading the sheaves on the threshing floor and causing oxen and cattle to tread repeatedly over them, loosening the edible part of cereal grain (or other crop) from the scaly, inedible chaff that surrounds it. On occasion, flails or sticks were used for this purpose. Then winnowing forks were used to throw the mixture into the air so the wind could blow away the chaff, leaving only the good grain on the floor.” (Got Questions)*
  - The looting of the threshing floors of Keilah would have deprived the people of the grain necessary for the following year's crop. It would have brought a massive hardship upon the people of Keilah.
  - Saul, as king, was called by God to protect the Israelites from their enemies (1 Samuel 10:1). Saul was too busy killing his own people (1 Samuel 22:17-19) to fight the Philistines.
  - God, in His grace, gave David the same answer twice, to give the men confidence in the LORD. The Word of the Lord is what gives us confidence to keep fighting in the midst of difficulty....*“My soul melts away for sorrow; strengthen me according to your word!” (Psalm 119:28). “If Your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction” (Psalm 119:92). “You are my hiding place and my shield; I hope in Your word” (Psalm 119:114).*
- **1 Samuel 23:6-18 — “Spiritual Delusion without the Word of the LORD.”**
  - *“Saul sought him every day, but God did not give him into his hand.”* Saul wanted David killed and this became his life's mission. He became obsessed with this plan....*“Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand.” (Proverbs 19:21)*
  - In Saul being away from the Word of the LORD he became delusional about who God is....*“God has given him into my hand....May you be blessed by the LORD, for you had compassion on me” (1 Samuel 23:7,21).* Saul knew what God's Word had said (1 Samuel 23:17; 24:20) but because of his sin he made up a totally different God according to his understanding.
- **1 Samuel 23:19-29 — “The Faithfulness of the Word of the LORD.”**
  - 1) God provided physical nourishment when David and his men trusted His Word (1 Samuel 23:5). 2) God provided wisdom to David and his men when they sought the Word of God (1 Samuel 23:13). 3) God provided spiritual strength to David by Jonathan's encouragement from the Word (1 Samuel 23:16). 4) Lastly, God provided a way of escape because God is faithful to His Word (1 Samuel 23:27-29). *“Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all.” (Psalm 34:19)*

**Worship:** Christ The Solid Rock — Norton Hall Band      All Glory Be To Christ — Kings Kaleidoscope

**Service Times:** Sundays: Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 6:30 & 7; Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

**Announcements:**

★**ANNUAL NEW YEARS EVE PARTY:** We will be having our annual New Year's Eve Party ***THIS*** Saturday, December 31st, at Andy Wesley's house (1062 National Drive SE; Hebron). The festivities will start at 6pm and last until midnight! Please plan on joining us for a fun night of games and food and fellowship! There is a sign-up list on the back table, please sign-up to bring your favorite appetizer, snack, finger food, or dessert.

★**COMMUNION:** We will be celebrating and partaking of communion together as a church body **THIS** Sunday, January 1st.