

Sermon Outline

Cat and Mouse

1 Samuel 23-24

Introduction/Context: A 4-year “cat and mouse game” between Israel’s first two kings spanning chapters 18-31 of 1 Samuel

The contrast between Saul and David

I. The turncoats at Keilah (23:1-14)

David makes use of God’s means – Abiathar the high priest

We have a greater high priest (Hebrews 4:14-16)

II. Treachery from Ziph to En Gedi (23:15-29)

Refreshment from a friend (15-18)

David rejected by his own (19-24)

Saul distracted by Providence (25-29)

God moves history for the good of His individual people

III. Psalm 54 (written during David’s flight from Ziph)

David is confident of deliverance because God is his help

Imprecatory prayers – should we ask for justice?

IV. God hands Saul over to David – but for what purpose? (24:1-15)

Saul is vulnerable (1-3)

David spares the life of “God’s anointed king” (4-7)

David understood authority – do you? (1 Peter 2:13-24)

Leaving vengeance to God (8-15)

V. Does Saul repent? (16-21)