

7 February 2016: Preached by Preacher Clement Chew

Topic: Guidance All The Way

Scripture Text: 1 Samuel 23:1-29

1. We are easily worried of our future when we hear news of economic recession or health scare. As Christians, we can remain confidence in the Lord even through the changing scenes of life as we have the guiding and unseen providential hand of God leading, protecting and providing for us all our days on earth.
2. In 2 Sam 23, we see the guiding hand of God upon David through the changing scenes of his life. From v.1-6, God guided David to overcome his fears. God told David to save Keilah, a city in Judah, from the Philistines. David was a fugitive with only 400 men with him. His men told him not to go as they were in fear and still running away from king Saul. Keilah was a city near to Saul. But David trusted in God and obeyed His will to go to defend Keilah. God gave the victory to David and his men.
3. From v.7-15, king Saul knew David was in Keilah and wanted to capture him there. David sought the Lord for guidance and the Lord told him to leave keilah as the people in Keilah will deliver him to king Saul. God's guiding hand was with David even in such difficult time when the city that he had saved would betray him.
4. From v.16-18, God guided David with encouragement from Jonathan. God used Jonathan to assure David that it was God's will for him to be the next king. David was encouraged to press on and persevere on for the Lord while fleeing from king Saul as a fugitive.
5. From v.19-29, God guided David to safety. David fled from Keilah to the wilderness of Ziph but the Ziphites reported him to king Saul. When king Saul came to Ziph, God led David and his men to the wilderness of Maon, about 5km from Ziph. Saul continued to pursue David and would have trapped him there. In God's sovereign protection over David, news came to Saul that the Philistines attacked his land. Saul had no choice but to return to his land and stopped pursuing David at Maon.