

## 1 Samuel 20:31

***For as long as the son of Jesse lives on the earth, you shall not be established, nor your kingdom. Now therefore, send and bring him to me, for he shall surely die.***

When I was reading 1 Samuel, something caught my eye that I never realized before. Now, if you have never read 1 Samuel before, it has the story of King Saul and David (who was not the king yet). But when you read it, you read of how Saul was made king over Israel, because the children of Israel wanted a man (a king) to rule over them instead of God. So God gave them the tallest most handsome man, who was Saul, because God knows man's heart and that man judges according to the flesh or appearance. But not long after Saul was made king, he became proud and disobedient towards God, and God told Samuel to anoint David as the next king over Israel. But it took years before Saul would die and David would become King. Buy until he did become king David was a man after God's own heart and obedient to the king, no matter how bad he was or what God had promised David, and that was to be the next king of Israel.

Well, Saul found out that David would be king after him so Saul tried on several occasions to kill David. Not just one on one, but hundreds on one, because Saul would go out with thousands of men to find and kill David. Well, you know the story and Saul and his sons eventually died in battle and David was made king over Israel.

"Ok, so what did you see Steve?" you may be wondering. ***For as long as the son of Jesse lives on the earth.*** Do you see it now (since I underlined it for you). If you still don't get it, I noticed that Saul was so anger and hated David so much that he couldn't even call him by his name, David, and instead called him ***the son of Jesse***, and it's not just this one time, but several times.

But that's what anger and hatred does to a person. It causes them to not only to hate that person, but not even recognize that he or she even exists. With that in mind, read over the next few verses about anger:

† **Proverbs 14:29 (NLT2)** *People with understanding control their anger; a hot temper shows great foolishness.*

† **Proverbs 24:17-18 (NLT2)** *Don't rejoice when your enemies fall; don't be happy when they stumble. For the LORD will be displeased with you and will turn his anger away from them.*

Now we all get anger at one time or another, but the question is, are you controlling your anger, or is your anger controlling you? Are you so angry with someone that you can't even call them by name or even talk to him or her?

It may be time to confess your anger to the Lord. Sure, go ahead and tell God why you are angry, you won't shock God, because He already knows, and while you are spewing your anger out to God, ask Him to change your heart to be in line with His heart. Then go to the person you are angry with and confront him or her (after you have cooled off) and go in the love of the Lord. Or, you can just let it continue to fester inside you and control you.

† **Ecclesiastes 7:9 (NLT2)** *Control your temper, for anger labels you a fool.*