

# A Covenant Friendship – David and Jonathan

*1<sup>st</sup> Samuel Chapters 18:1-4; 19:1-7; 20:12-42*

When David finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was knitted with the soul of David; and Jonathan loved him as his own soul. Saul took him that day, and would not let him return to his father's house. **Jonathan and David cut a covenant**, because he loved him as his own soul. Jonathan stripped off his robe and gave it to David; also his apparel, his sword, his bow and his belt.

After a short while, Saul spoke to his son Jonathan, and to all his servants, to kill David. Jonathan told David, “My father Saul is seeking to kill you. Please be on guard in the morning, and stay in the secret place, and hide. I will go out and stand by my father's side in the field where you are. I will speak of you to my father, and shall see what it is, and will tell you.”

Jonathan spoke good of David to his father Saul, and said to him, “Do not let the king sin against his servant David, because he has not sinned against you; also because his works for you are very good. He has put his life in his hand and killed the Philistine. And YAHWEH worked a great deliverance for all Israel. You saw it and rejoiced. Why do you sin against innocent blood, to put David to death for no reason?”

Saul listened to Jonathan's voice, and swore, “As YAHWEH lives he shall not die.” Jonathan called David, and Jonathan told him all these words.

Jonathan brought David to Saul, and he was before him as yesterday and the day before.

Again, Saul sought David's life and he fled to Ramah. Jonathan said to David, “YAHWEH the Elohim of Israel be witness when I search my father about this time tomorrow, or the third day, if there is good toward David and I do not send to you and do not tell you, so may YAHWEH do to Jonathan and do much more than this. If my father should think to do evil to you, then I will tell you and send you away. You will go in peace; and may YAHWEH be with you, as He was with my father. Not only when I live, but you shall not cut off the kindness from my house forever.”

Jonathan covenanted with the house of David, that YAHWEH should seek it from the hand of David's enemies. Jonathan again made David swear, because he loved him; for he loved him as he loved his own soul.

Jonathan said to him, "Tomorrow is the new moon, and you will be expected, for your seat will be empty. On the third day, quickly come down, and come to the place where you were hidden. Remain near the stone Ezel and I will shoot three arrows to the side, shooting at a mark for myself. I will send a boy and tell him to find the arrows! If I say to the boy, the arrows are on this side of you, take them; then you come, for there will be peace for you and there is nothing to happen, as YAHWEH lives. But, if I say to the young man, the arrows are away from you and onwards; you go away David, for YAHWEH has sent you away. As to the thing which we have spoken, you and I; YAHWEH is between you and me forever."

David was hidden in the field and it was the new moon.

The king sat down to eat on the seat by the wall. Jonathan rose up, and Abner sat at Saul's side. David's place was empty. Saul did not say anything on that day, for he said, "It is an accident; he is not clean; he is surely not clean."

It happened on the day after the new moon, David's place was empty. Saul said to his son Jonathan, "Why has the son of Jesse not come to the meal, either yesterday or today?"

Jonathan answered Saul, "David earnestly asked of me to go to Bethlehem. He said, please send me away, for we have a family sacrifice in the city, and my brother commanded me. And now, if I have found favor in your eyes, please let me be released, to see my brothers. So he has not come to the table of the king."

The anger of Saul glowed against Jonathan. And he said to him, "Son of a perverse rebelliousness! Do I not know that you have chosen the son of Jesse to your shame, and to the shame of the nakedness of your mother? For as long as the son of Jesse lives on earth you will not be established, you and your kingdom. Now bring him to me, for he is a son of death. Jonathan answered his father Saul, and said to him, "Why should he die? What has he done?"

Saul threw the spear at him, to strike him. Jonathan knew that it had been determined by his father to kill David. Jonathan rose up from the table in the heat of anger. He did not eat food on the second day of the new moon, for he was grieved for David. For his father had put him to shame.

It happened in the morning that Jonathan went out in the field to meet with David. A little boy was with him. He said to the boy, "Now run and find the arrow which I am shooting." The boy ran, and he shot the arrow, causing it to pass over him. The boy came to the place of the arrow which Jonathan had shot. Jonathan called after the boy and said, "Is the arrow not away from you and onwards?"

Jonathan called after the boy, "Hurry, make haste, do not stand!" Jonathan's boy gathered the arrow and came to his master. The boy did not know anything. Only Jonathan and David knew the matter.

Jonathan gave his weapons to the boy with him, and said, "Go, bring them to the city." The boy left, and David rose up from the south side. He fell on his face to the ground and bowed three times. They each one kissed his friend and wept, until David was overcome.

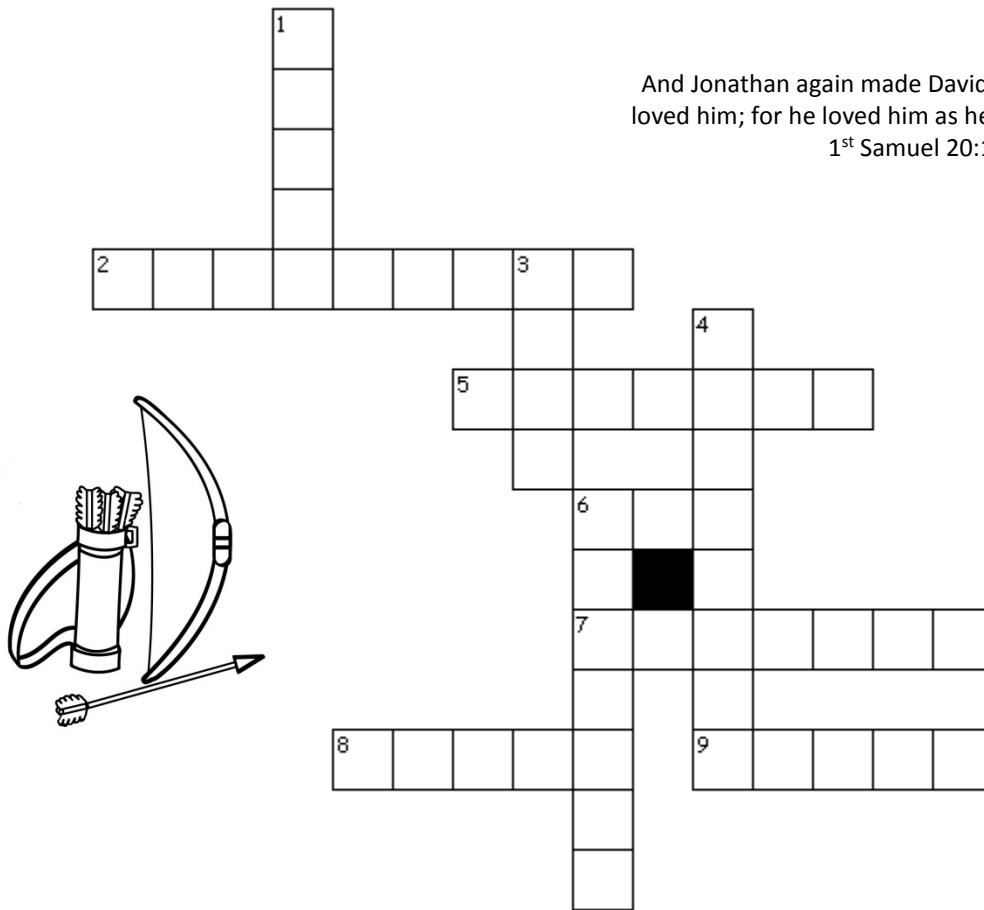
Jonathan said to David, "Go in peace, because we have sworn, the two of us, in the name of YAHWEH, saying, YAHWEH shall be between you and me, and between my seed and your seed forever." He rose up and went and Jonathan went into the city



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And Jonathan again made David swear, because he loved him; for he loved him as he loved his own soul.  
1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 20:17



## Across

2. Where did Jonathan tell Saul, David was?
5. What was the occasion they were celebrating when David's seat was empty?
6. How many arrows did Jonathan Shoot?
7. What did Jonathan give to the young boy and told him to take it to the city?
8. What did Saul throw at Jonathan when he was angry?
9. How many days was David gone?

## Down

1. Where was David Hiding?
3. What was the name of the stone David was hiding next to in the field?
4. What did Johnathan cut with David?
6. "Is the arrow not away from you and \_\_\_\_\_?"

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P J L G R H E T V N Z H T Q W  
M I V O I E N T D E T O B G O  
F W H D Y A G I C W A U F S R  
Z I D S N A V N L M E S M D R  
B E E E D A L E A O S E T K A  
N O V L D N Z T U O Y S A U L  
Q O Y H D E E E Y N T M P K Y  
C L E U M A S I G H P H P X S  
F E A S T B E L R D M A G P L  
J O N A T H A N L F E M E A B  
Q A E K E L B A T O V A I P J  
K P U A B B H W T O R R I N Q

Anger	Empty Seat	Hidden	Ramah
Arrow	Ezel	House	Samuel
Boy	Feast	Jonathan	Saul
Covenant	Field	Loyalty	Spear
David	Friendship	New Moon	Table

And Jonathan said to David, Go in peace, because we have sworn, the two of us, in the name of YAHWEH, saying, YAHWEH shall be between you and me, and between my seed and your seed forever. And he rose up and went. And Jonathan went into the city.

1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 20:42

