

Our text shows David seeking God – then recognizing what God was doing. This was the key to victory.

2 Samuel 5:17-25 ¹⁷Now when the Philistines heard that they had anointed David king over Israel, all the Philistines went up to search for David. And David heard of it and went down to the stronghold. ¹⁸The Philistines also went and deployed themselves in the Valley of Rephaim. ¹⁹So David inquired of the Lord, saying, "Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will You deliver them into my hand?" And the Lord said to David, "Go up, for I will doubtless deliver the Philistines into your hand." ²⁰So David went to Baal Perazim, and David defeated them there; and he said, "The Lord has broken through my enemies before me, like a breakthrough of water." Therefore he called the name of that place Baal Perazim. ²¹And they left their images there, and David and his men carried them away. ²²Then the Philistines went up once again and deployed themselves in the Valley of Rephaim. ²³Therefore David inquired of the Lord, and He said, "You shall not go up; circle around behind them, and come upon them in front of the mulberry trees. ²⁴And it shall be, when you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the mulberry trees, then you shall advance quickly. For then the Lord will go out before you to strike the camp of the Philistines." ²⁵And David did so, as the Lord commanded him; and he drove back the Philistines from Geba as far as Gezer.

I. HEARING FROM GOD

A. Our text mentions the fact of David praying: Inquiring of the Lord

1. **This is a posture of humility:** *I don't know everything! I can't see everything*
 - a. I need help in life: *I need God to show me what I don't know*
2. **This is common sense:** *Not every situation is the same!*
 - a. What worked in one place may not in another b. What worked at one time may not in another

B. So this must be our posture before God – for life

1. Seeking God in prayer needs to be daily: If you only seek God in emergency – you probably won't hear
 - a. *Psalm 86:3 Be merciful to me, O Lord, for I am calling on you daily/constantly.*
2. We need to ask God to give us wisdom and sensitivity
 - a. *1 Kings 19:12 after the earthquake a fire; but the LORD was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice.*
 - b. *Isaiah 50:4 The Sovereign Lord has given me an instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being taught.*
 - c. *1 Samuel 3:9 So he told Samuel, "Go to bed. If he calls you again, say, 'Speak, LORD. I am your servant and I am listening.'*

There are 3 kinds of people in the world: Those who make things happen, those who watch what happens, and those who wonder, "What happened?"

II. RECOGNIZING GOD'S MOVING

A. Our text shows that God moves in certain ways at certain times

1. *V24 when you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the mulberry trees*
 - a. This is what God is doing/wanting to do; Not just what we want God to do
- B. The key is to be able to recognize what God is doing
 1. **Pray in line with what God is prompting:** Causes people to want to pray for things He wants to happen
 - a. God stirs/prompts/drops things in our spirit: *Why them? Why that? Why now? GOD!!!*
 2. **Recognize Divine intersections:** When God is doing something – you often see it in multiple places
 - a. Confirmation: Something will be on my heart...Conversations/books/videos lining up
 1. God is trying to help me know what He wants to do!
 3. **Recognize God's moving:** *V24 when you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the mulberry trees*
 - a. What God is doing in a particular person b. What God is doing in the church c. A city/a nation
 1. *God is bringing people in our church in large numbers: 43 visitors in church last Sunday*
 2. *God is bringing young people 3. God can bring certain races/types of people*

III. SEIZING THE MOMENT

A. When God is revealing something/doing something: WE MUST ACT ON IT!!

1. God wants certain actions at certain times
 - a. *V19 go up – attack!* b. *V23-24 circle behind the enemy – wait till you hear the sound of marching – then attack!*
2. There are human actions that God honors – and trigger a miracle dimension
 - a. *David attacking Goliath* b. *Jonathan going towards the Philistines*
3. So what is it that God is showing you/stirring you to do – or what is God already doing?
 - a. What should you do in light of that? *Early days of Prescott: PM had long revivals/multiple concerts a week. I wanted to ride what God was doing – and get all I could out of it.*