

Our text: David asks: *Is there not a cause? We need to find the reason for our existence.*

**I. THE CAUSE**

A. In our text David was faced with a cause: **1 Samuel 17:29** *And David said... Is there not a cause?"*

1. A word/an answer...something that needs an answer
2. A cause is a need or a problem larger than yourself
  - a. Here: Lack of breakthroughs; God's people stuck – facing overwhelming odds
3. David wasn't a part of this – he was just visiting/delivering food
  - a. *While you are here – there are people in need/in trouble – somewhere else*

B. David's reaction Holy indignation: *You can tell a lot about a person by what bothers them/makes them angry*

1. Not personal: He was indignant For God/for other people/for himself as a child of God
2. We have a cause that should stir you/bother you...
  - a. It's wrong that so many are bound by addictions with no hope
    1. *While we here enjoying God's presence: People woke up w/out hope – don't know the answer*
  - b. It's wrong that there are states in US with no fellowship Church: AL/MS/ME/VT
  - c. It's wrong that there are so many cities in US w/out a clear Gospel witness

C. David comes to understand something about a cause: **I am the answer!**

1. You are someone's answer: *God plans for you to save people/change their lives*
  - a. **V32** *David said to Saul, "Don't let anyone be discouraged. I...will go and fight this Philistine!"*
    1. *You may be someone's answer to prayer!*
2. There may be cities waiting for the Gospel: *You are the answer!*
3. There may be nations that could be impacted: *You are the answer!*
  - a. *What could you do in life that could match that?*

**II. THE RESPONSE**

A. The bigger issue than the need is the calling: **What does God want you to do in life?**

1. **1 Samuel 16:12** ...the Lord said, "Arise, anoint him; for this is the one!
  - a. God planned for David to be King
  - b. When human need intersects with God's plans: *It becomes calling (invitation to a purpose)*
2. God has plans for your life: *Things He has chosen for you to do*
  - a. Called: Invitation to a purpose...to summons in order to give a task

B. But the plans of God can only come to pass when there is response on our part

1. **V32** *Then David said to Saul, "Let no man's heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight this Philistine."*
  - a. **Isaiah 6:8** *Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: "Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."* We have to say yes and we have to act yes: *Actions line up with our calling*

**III. THE REWARD**

A. David began by asking the question: What will I get if I respond to the cause?

1. **V26** *What shall be done for the man who kills this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel?*
  - a. Riches/a wife/exemption from taxes
  - b. We think of fame/benefits
2. David had no idea what his response would release: It was far beyond what he could imagine!
  - a. **1 Corinthians 2:9** *eye has not seen...things God has prepared for those who love Him*

B. Look at the reward of ministry

1. **People are the true reward of ministry:** *You can change people's lives! Can change their eternal destiny!*
  - a. Whether people wind up in heaven or hell
  - b. Seeing what they can become
    1. **1 Thessalonians 2:19** *For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming?*
  2. **Impact made for the Kingdom is a reward of ministry:**
    - a. Helping extend the Kingdom
    - b. Providing reference points for other people: We look at David today!
  3. **Pleasing God is the ultimate reward of ministry:** *Eric Liddell; I feel God's pleasure when I run*
    - a. God records David's story – to show us!
    - b. Ultimately we will stand before God
      1. Nothing else we could show God will be enough: We want to hear "Well done!"