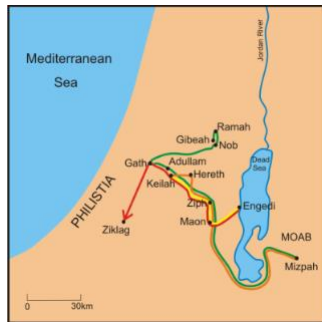


FROM PAIN TO GRACE

1 SAMUEL 30 | ERIC SIMPSON | JULY 14, 2019



1 Samuel 30:1

David and his men reached Ziklag on the third day. Now the Amalekites had raided the Negev and Ziklag. They had attacked Ziklag and burned it,

Ziklag = place of pain

- the Amalekites are raiding your life
- your loved ones are being stripped away
- your possessions are being carried away
- your home is being burned down
- you weep until you have no strength left to weep

1 Samuel 30:6

David was greatly distressed because the men were talking of stoning him; each one was bitter in spirit because of his sons and daughters. But David found strength in the LORD his God.

Two responses to Ziklag-like realities in our lives:

1. bitter/angry/resentful
2. take the trials, heartache, pain to the Lord

"There's an enormous amount of outrage in the world that's converted into angry plans of attack and destruction. A great deal of social action and political reform is fueled by anger; the results are nearly always worse than the conditions that provoked the action. If we're going to do something about what's wrong with the world—the spectrum of wrongs from marital fights to world wars, from disobedient children to destruction of rain forests—we have to acquire a better base to work from than our anger." – Eugene Peterson



1 Samuel 30:9

David and the six hundred men with him came to the Besor Ravine, where some stayed behind,

1 Samuel 30:23-24

²³ David replied, "No, my brothers, you must not do that with what the LORD has given us. He has protected us and handed over to us the forces that came against us. ²⁴ Who will listen to what you say? The share of the man who stayed with the supplies is to be the same as that of him who went down to the battle. All will share alike."

Besor Ravine = place of grace

- the guys who guarded the supplies are rewarded just as handsomely as the guys who raided the village
- you go from wondering if you'll ever see you loved ones again, to holding them in your arms
- circumstances unfold in a way you could have never imagined
- redemption gets the last word