

Knit My Heart to Yours

A reflection on Jonathan, David, and being joined to Christ

Jonathan and David

In 1 Samuel 18, Jonathan's soul is described as being knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved David as his own soul. Jonathan then made a covenant with David and gave him his robe, armor, sword, bow, and belt. Later, in 1 Samuel 23, Jonathan recognized what God was doing in David's life and told him, "You shall be king over Israel." Jonathan's love therefore involved more than affection: it included covenant loyalty, trust, surrender, and recognition of God's chosen king.

David and the Greater Son of David

David stands in the direct royal lineage that leads to Jesus, and the New Testament repeatedly presents Jesus as the Son of David and the fulfillment of God's promises concerning David's throne. David also received the consecrated bread when he was in need, an event Jesus Himself later recalled; Jesus ultimately declares, "I am the bread of life." In Luke 24, the risen Jesus taught His disciples that the Law, the Prophets, and the Psalms pointed forward to the Messiah. David's life, kingship, suffering, and covenant story therefore provide genuine biblical patterns that find their fullness in Christ.

My Reflection as a Gentile Believer

I do not understand Jonathan to be a prophetic type of the Gentile church. Rather, I see his relationship with David as a meaningful picture through which I can contemplate my own relationship with Jesus. As a Gentile, I was not naturally part of Israel's covenant people. Romans 11 describes Gentile believers as wild olive branches grafted in and allowed to share in the nourishing root. Ephesians 2 likewise says that those who were once strangers to the covenants of promise have been brought near through Christ.

Jonathan's response to David gives language to the posture I desire toward Jesus: to recognize Him as the rightful King, to relinquish my own claim to rule my life, to entrust my identity and future to Him, and to love Him with a heart that is wholly joined to His. Scripture gives this reflection an even deeper New Testament foundation: "He who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him" (1 Corinthians 6:17), and Jesus says, "Abide in me, and I in you" (John 15:4). Jonathan was knit to David; my prayer is that my own heart would be knit to David's greater Son - Jesus Christ.

My Prayer

Jesus, You are the rightful King.
Everything I thought belonged to me - my position, my strength, my identity,
my future - I lay before You.

Knit my heart to Yours.

Scripture for reflection: 1 Samuel 18:1-4; 20:14-17; 23:16-18; 2 Samuel 9; John 6:35; 15:4-5; Luke 24:27, 44; Romans 11:17-24; Ephesians 2:12-13; 1 Corinthians 6:17