

# David's Story

## A Dramatic Monologue

By Bradley Troutman

I remember the day my sister came out to the field and said the prophet was in town to make a sacrifice with my dad or something, and they were asking for me. What in the world would they want with a shepherd boy?

By the time I had arrived, some of my brothers had already come before the prophet and left. They were heading back to the battle against the Philistines. The ones left behind seemed upset about something. I even heard one of them say, "David, he is just a runt compared to Eliab."

When I was brought before the prophet Samuel, I was a little intimidated. I was about to meet with the man on earth that talked to the same God I talked to, but not with, yet. There were many times in the field where I would look at the morning sunshine and see the majesty of His great works. How was I to know the things that were to come in my future?

I went in to the entryway where Samuel and Dad were waiting, and greeted them both. I was a little embarrassed

because I had not even had the time clean up when I arrived back to town. I asked Dad what he wanted me to do. He said, "Just do what the prophet tells you to do." All he did was walk over to me, and anoint me with oil. Best I remember the oil was warm and soothing. Then he said something to God that I didn't understand. I felt like the God I had talked to in the fields had filled me with incredible abilities that I never knew I possessed.

Then the prophet left town with his entourage. The spirit didn't leave though. When I returned to the fields the next day, I felt more secure than I had ever felt before. The sheep even saw something different about me. I know it sounds strange, but it felt like they were more cooperative than before. When I led them down to the water one evening, they started acting strange and retreating slowly backward from the creek. I saw why pretty quick. There was a bear in the watering hole catching fish. He saw the sheep and decided he wanted mutton instead.

I met the bear as it approached the sheep, and then the bear paused. It stood upon its back feet and as erect as he could. He growled loud enough that the shepherds three fields over jumped. For some reason I was just calm. I had my sling and a few stones with me as well as my staff. The bear dropped back down to all fours and began to

charge again. Then about fifty paces out he stopped to stand, and he growled. I felt that Spirit come over me, and I slung the rock at the bear. The rock sailed right into the eye socket of the bear. I am not sure how it happened, but the bear fell in its tracks. The other shepherds were amazed when they saw the size of the bear. Some of them took it off and skinned it, and stored the meat. They wanted me to take the claw for a trophy but I told them it was God who should get the credit. Most of them kind of laughed as they returned to their fields.

I knew it was something real, whether they believed or not. They all avoided me after that day for some reason. It worked out really good for me, I had time to do some writing and play my music. My musical ability had increased with the Spirit living inside me. Sometimes I would write some music and then the words would come later. Other times the words came out and the music later. Any time I wasn't tied up with the sheep, I would sit down and write. At first, I would write about God and His Majesty. In one of my first ones, I wrote, "O Lord, our Lord how majestic is your name in all the earth." It was just a little after the bear incident. I just couldn't understand why the others didn't see what I did in God.

## **A psalm of David. #8**

<sup>1</sup> LORD, our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all  
the earth!

You have set your glory  
in the heavens.

<sup>2</sup> Through the praise of children and  
infants

you have established a stronghold  
against your enemies,

to silence the foe and the avenger.

<sup>3</sup> When I consider your heavens,

the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars,

which you have set in place,

<sup>4</sup> what is mankind that you are  
mindful of them,

human beings that you care for  
them?

<sup>5</sup> You have made them a little lower  
than the angels

and crowned them with glory and  
honor.

<sup>6</sup> You made them rulers over the works  
of your hands;

you put everything under their feet.

<sup>7</sup> all flocks and herds,

and the animals of the wild,

<sup>8</sup> the birds in the sky,

and the fish in the sea,

all that swim the paths of the seas.

<sup>9</sup> LORD, our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all  
the earth!

I learned early in life that the wicked in this world will not survive in the long run. "How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked." All throughout my life I have found that to be true. I am sorry to say that later in my life I gave in to the temptation of the evil one and was separated from fellowship with my Lord. Several of my writings came from the feelings of grief I was suffering at the time. From the time Samuel anointed me that day up to the very end, my heart would still grieve the times I let my Lord down.

I wrote one of the most comforting of my writings to remind me about that if I would just walk with my Lord my life would be so much easier. When the Lord is my Shepherd, I would have no want. When the Lord is my Shepherd His rod and His staff protect me. Even when I walked through a valley of darkness, I had no fear, when He was my Shepherd.

## A psalm of David. #23

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

<sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures,

he leads me beside quiet waters,

<sup>3</sup> he refreshes my soul.

He guides me along the right paths  
for his name's sake.

<sup>4</sup> Even though I walk

through the darkest valley,

I will fear no evil,

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff,

they comfort me.

<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.

<sup>6</sup> Surely your goodness and love will  
follow me

all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the  
LORD forever.



Every day and night I would spend in the field I grew closer to God. My musical skills were growing, I could play the harp better than ever before. I noticed several other skills developing, my strength was growing both physically and spiritually. People would come out from the town and ask me to play once in a while. I enjoyed the fanfare, and that is where I probably started drifting. One day a group of men from the town came to see me in the field. They said the King had sent them to bring me back to him, so he could be comforted by my music. When they arrived, I felt that same powerful Spirit inside me directing me to go with them. Dad had me take supplies to my brothers since I was going toward where they were fighting the Philistines. I think he was just worried about them.

When we arrived at Gibeah they took me straight to the King. I protested a little when they confiscated the supplies for my brothers, but they assured me that I would be allowed to deliver them once the King was at peace. Saul's son Jonathon was really nice to me when I arrived. We became close friends. I am sure he would have laid down his life to save me too, if I had been King at that time. They allowed me to keep my instruments and my writings. They knew it was music I was going to play for the King.

I think the first thing I played for the King was about how God is our refuge and our strength. I was hoping the words would help the King to remember how the Lord had protected him, when he first became King. I don't think he even paid attention to the words, it was the music that seemed to calm the King more than anything. I hope these words might be a comfort to someone else someday. I put the new song in the with the ones I had brought with me, thinking maybe the words were just not right for this occasion. I would later use them to comfort myself, when I was on the run. The men that had come with me to give me support would sometimes ask that I would quit playing because of their fear of the enemy.

“Surely someone will hear your music, and they will tell Saul, then your location will be revealed”.

I told them that God was on our side and just enjoy the music and relax, they never did. From the beginning of time mankind has depended upon their own strengths to provide for their needs. There were a few of the men with me that had realized God was real, the rest never really believed. I think the ones who did come to see who our God is, will be a great asset to our nation in the future. The rest of the men would follow because of their faith in me. That would be a big mistake. Maybe at the time I was

feeling a little arrogant after winning some battles we had won, or it was just head swollen pride, either way I had begun to fall away. In fact, I was no longer needed at the battlefield and would stay behind in my palace. I was certainly different than I was when I was a ruddy little kid that had played before the King. The men would see along the way how great is our God. The day we went into battle when we heard the trees shaking was an amazement even to me. We routed the Philistines and forced them out of their stronghold. Nobody saw anything in the trees, but you could see the trees bending almost to the ground. By the time we arrived to the battle the majority of the philistine soldiers were frozen in fear of something we could not see.

## A psalm of David. #27

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my light and my salvation  
whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life  
of whom shall I be afraid?

<sup>2</sup> When the wicked advance against me  
to devour me,

it is my enemies and my foes  
who will stumble and fall.

<sup>3</sup> Though an army besiege me,  
my heart will not fear;

though war break out against me,  
even then I will be confident.

<sup>4</sup> One thing I ask from the LORD,  
this only do I seek:

that I may dwell in the house of the LORD  
all the days of my life,

to gaze on the beauty of the LORD  
and to seek him in his temple.

5 For in the day of trouble

he will keep me safe in his dwelling;  
he will hide me in the shelter of his  
sacred tent

and set me high upon a rock.

6 Then my head will be exalted

above the enemies who surround me;  
at his sacred tent I will sacrifice with  
shouts of joy

I will sing and make music to the LORD.

7 Hear my voice when I call, LORD;

be merciful to me and answer me.

8 My heart says of you, "Seek his face!"

Your face, LORD, I will seek.

9 Do not hide your face from me,

do not turn your servant away in  
anger;

you have been my helper.

Do not reject me or forsake me,

God my Savior.

<sup>10</sup> Though my father and mother forsake me,

the LORD will receive me.

<sup>11</sup> Teach me your way, LORD;  
lead me in a straight path  
because of my oppressors.

<sup>12</sup> Do not turn me over to the desire of my  
foes,

for false witnesses rise up against me,  
spouting malicious accusations.

<sup>13</sup> I remain confident of this:  
I will see the goodness of the LORD  
in the land of the living.

<sup>14</sup> Wait for the LORD;  
be strong and take heart  
and wait for the LORD.

The first time I played music for the King he fell asleep, then Jonathon came in and asked if I was hungry. He had the servants bring us the best smoked meat I had ever tasted. I asked Jonathon if I could go ahead and take the supplies to my brothers at the war front, and he asked me if I wanted him to go with me. I told him I should be okay, he sent some soldiers with me to guard the supplies for my brothers anyway. When we approached the battle line there was some commotion going on, but no fighting. I could hear this huge guy yelling and taunting our soldiers. I told some of them they should go out there and kick his tail. Our God would have no trouble defeating this man. Then some of them told me that the King would give his daughter and lots of riches to the one who could defeat this guy. Well, I stood up right away and said I'll go. I think one of the guys that came with us, went back to tell King Saul that I was up there and challenging their giant.

My brother came out and chewed me out for not being back with the sheep, and accused me of just being there to see the battle. Then I told him about the bear that tried to get the sheep. He still wasn't happy about the challenge. I am sure he was just worried about me. Once the King agreed to allow me to fight the giant, my brother

had to back off and let me go. King Saul tried to get me to wear his armor but it was twice my size.

I approached the enemy, and immediately he began cursing me in his god's name. He said I was just a momma's boy, or something, and I would get torn to pieces by his bare hands. His shield bearer was laughing uncontrollably when he first saw me there, with just my sling and some stones. I gave the guy a chance to turn to the one true God that I served, and his life might be spared, but he refused. The giant depended on his own weapons and strength to win the battle. He was like so many people throughout time, God wanted to help them, but their pride kept them from surrendering.

My life was a whirlwind from that day until the day King Saul was killed in battle. My emotions were mixed at the time. I was relieved that the King's men would no longer be pursuing with me such a vigilance. Yet my heart was burdened over the loss of God's anointed one, and my friend Jonathon. I remember writing a song about how God would be my protector against my enemies. I knew that our God is a righteous God. When I wrote psalm 28, I was still grieving my friend's death. I was only beginning to see how the Lord would work in my life.



Some in Israel were accepting me as King, while others were trying to claim they were in charge. I paused for a day or so to get my focus on what had happened going all the way back to that day Samuel told me I was to be King. I talked to my Lord that day just like He was sitting beside me, and He talked to me. I asked Him to keep me as the apple in His eye, and to shelter me beneath His wings. I recalled all the times I was on the run from my enemies and His Spirit comforted me.

## **A psalm of David. #9**

<sup>1</sup> I will give thanks to you, LORD, with  
all my heart;

I will tell of all your wonderful  
deeds.

<sup>2</sup> I will be glad and rejoice in you;

I will sing the praises of your name,  
O Most High.

<sup>3</sup> My enemies turn back;

they stumble and perish before you.

<sup>4</sup> For you have upheld my right and my  
cause,

sitting enthroned as the righteous  
judge.

<sup>5</sup> You have rebuked the nations and  
destroyed the wicked;

you have blotted out their name for  
ever and ever.

<sup>6</sup> Endless ruin has overtaken my enemies,  
you have uprooted their cities;  
even the memory of them has  
perished.

<sup>7</sup> The LORD reigns forever;  
he has established his throne for  
judgment.

<sup>8</sup> He rules the world in righteousness  
and judges the peoples with equity

<sup>9</sup> The LORD is a refuge for the oppressed,  
a stronghold in times of trouble.

<sup>10</sup> Those who know your name trust in  
you,  
for you, LORD, have never forsaken  
those who seek you.

<sup>11</sup> Sing the praises of the LORD,  
enthroned in Zion: proclaim among

the nations what he has done.<sup>12</sup> For he who avenges blood remembers;

he does not ignore the cries of the afflicted.

<sup>13</sup> LORD, see how my enemies persecute me!

Have mercy and lift me up from the gates of death,

<sup>14</sup> that I may declare your praises in the gates of Daughter Zion, and there rejoice in your salvation.

<sup>15</sup> The nations have fallen into the pit they have dug;

their feet are caught in the net they have hidden.

<sup>16</sup> The LORD is known by his acts of justice;

the wicked are ensnared by the work

of their hands.

<sup>17</sup> The wicked go down to the realm of the dead,

all the nations that forget God.

<sup>18</sup> But God will never forget the needy;  
the hope of the afflicted will never perish.

<sup>19</sup> Arise, LORD, do not let mortals triumph;

let the nations be judged in your presence.

<sup>20</sup> Strike them with terror, LORD;

let the nations know they are only mortal.

I never struggled for words in my writings. The Spirit would just tell me what to write down, and I wrote. I was able to use those words to give me peace in troubled times. My hope was for the writings to comfort my family after I have passed. I wanted them to know my Lord. "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds." I reminded them in Psalm 147. How faithful our Lord is to us if we would just humble ourselves and accept His love.

Then I remembered the lowest point in my relationship with my Lord. I allowed the lust for forbidden love to separate me from God. One day Nathan the prophet came to visit me. He baited me in with a story about an evil rich man and a poor man with a lamb. I remember my anger at that rich man until Nathan pierced my heart.

"It was you," he declared. "You are that evil man".

I was torn apart when he pointed out how I had conspired to have Uriah the Hittite murdered. That was a harsh word, but the truth. I could never atone for the sins I had committed. It was during this time of separation from God the following words were given to me by the Spirit.

## **A psalm of David. #51**

- <sup>1</sup> Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your unfailing love;  
according to your great compassion  
blot out my transgressions.
- <sup>2</sup> Wash away all my iniquity  
and cleanse me from my sin.
- <sup>3</sup> For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is always before me,
- <sup>4</sup> Against you, you only, have I sinned  
and done what is evil in your  
sight,  
so you are right in your verdict  
and justified when you judge.
- <sup>5</sup> Surely, I was sinful at birth,  
sinful from the time my mother  
conceived me.

6 Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb;

you taught me wisdom in that secret place.

7 Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;

wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

8 Let me hear joy and gladness;

let the bones you have crushed rejoice.

9 Hide your face from my sins

and blot out all my iniquity.

10 Create in me a pure heart, O God,

and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

11 Do not cast me from your presence



or take your Holy Spirit from me.  
12 Restore to me the joy of your  
salvation

and grant me a willing spirit, to  
sustain me.

13 Then I will teach transgressors your  
ways,

so that sinners will turn back to  
you.

14 Deliver me from the guilt of  
bloodshed, O God,

you who are God my Savior,  
and my tongue will sing of your  
righteousness.

15 Open my lips, Lord,

and my mouth will declare your  
praise.

16 You do not delight in sacrifice, or I  
would bring it;

you do not take pleasure in burnt  
offerings.

17 My sacrifice, O God, is a broken  
spirit;

a broken and contrite heart  
you, God, will not despise.

18 May it please you to prosper Zion,  
to build up the walls of Jerusalem.

19 Then you will delight in the  
sacrifices of the righteous,

in burnt offerings offered whole;  
then bulls will be offered on your  
altar.

Oh, how I pray that my children and their children's children, will not stray away from the Shepherd that loves them so much. A good Shepherd who would lay down His life for their salvation. Of all my treasures that I have to leave behind, the most valuable one is my relationship with God. If they could just possess the faith of a small seed, this nation will move mountains. I pray my ancestors will live in a peace that surpasses understanding. I pray they will humble themselves before God and turn from their wicked ways when they go astray. Then the Good Shepherd will bring them back into the fold. It is the Shepherd's will, that none would be lost, no not one.

I told them to record in our history archives of how many times God has given us victory in the battle against the evil one. Record how we marched triumphantly into Jerusalem. It was the biggest celebration we had since all the tribes of Israel gathered to declare me King. This was truly our greatest accomplishment to date. The musicians had the whole crowd fired up for God with their harps, lyres, tambourines, and anything else that would make a noise. I think God shared his Spirit with a lot of people that day. I guess maybe I got a little too excited for some people. Michal sure thought I looked foolish, I think she was still depressed about her father Saul. I am sure she

has always had mixed emotions about the day she aided me in escaping her father's grip. I think he treated her pretty harshly until she arrived to be with me. She never did let herself fit in with the family. I don't think she loved me as much as high society life. I am sure she didn't feel the same powerful Spirit that most of the rest of experienced during those celebrations. I said some pretty nasty things to her looking back on the situation. I even accused her of being upset because God had chosen me over her dad. Our relationship was never the same after that day. Even though she was able to witness the great things God did, she never surrendered. Perhaps if I had not sinned openly in front of her, I could have been a better witness. We can justify any sin we commit in our own mind to get peace, that does not make it okay. We all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, even the King.

## A psalm of David. #15

<sup>1</sup> LORD, who may dwell in your  
sacred tent?

Who may live on your holy  
mountain?

<sup>2</sup> The one whose walk is blameless,  
who does what is righteous,  
who speaks the truth from their  
heart;

<sup>3</sup> whose tongue utters no slander,  
who does no wrong to a  
neighbor,  
and casts no slur on others;

<sup>4</sup> who despises a vile person  
but honors those who fear the  
LORD;

who keeps an oath even when it hurts,

and does not change their mind;

<sup>5</sup> who lends money to the poor without interest;

who does not accept a bribe against the innocent.

Whoever does these things will never be shaken.

When I knew my time was drawing near, I called my son Solomon to me, and told him he would need to walk close to God. I told him keep God's ordinances and, to make sure those same laws would be followed for generations to come, in order for God to save the world. I told him of the promise to Abraham once again. Then I told him that he was part of the plan, and to use his wisdom to help God complete His works. I told him if all the things God had done for me were recorded, there wouldn't be enough ink to write it down. Every day when I walked with the Lord, He provided for me a sanctuary away from my enemies. He filled my stomach when I hungered. He comforted me with His Spirit in my times of turmoil and pain. I assured Solomon, God would do the same all the days of his life. I told him he should not grow weary, but to run the good race, and allow God to be God.

## **A psalm of David. #20**

<sup>1</sup> May the LORD answer you when you are in distress;

may the name of the God of Jacob protect you.

<sup>2</sup> May he send you help from the sanctuary

and grant you support from Zion.

<sup>3</sup> May he remember all your sacrifices and accept your burnt offerings.

<sup>4</sup> May he give you the desire of your heart

and make all your plans succeed.

<sup>5</sup> May we shout for joy over your victory

and lift up our banners in the name of our God.



May the LORD grant all your requests.

<sup>6</sup> Now this I know:

The LORD gives victory to his  
anointed.

He answers him from his heavenly  
sanctuary

with the victorious power of his  
right hand.

<sup>7</sup> Some trust in chariots and some in  
horses,

but we trust in the name of the  
LORD our God.

<sup>8</sup> They are brought to their knees and  
fall,

but we rise up and stand firm.

<sup>9</sup> LORD, give victory to the king!

Answer us when we call!

This monologue is based on the scripture found in the Bible, in the books of 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel chapter 16 through 1<sup>st</sup> Kings chapter 2. My hope is that this writing will help you relate to David's struggles, and what he recorded in the book of Psalms. I pray that the words recorded in the book of Psalms will come to life the next time you read them.

Psalm 8      God's glory and man's honor

Psalm 23     The Shepherd Psalm

Psalm 27     David's song of confidence

Psalm 9      Praise for deliverance

Psalm 51     The Penitent's Psalm

Psalm 15     The Happiness of Holy

Psalm 20     A Prayer for the King