

The Book Of
1 SAMUEL
THE ROAD TO BROKENNESS
1 Samuel 18:17-30

Introduction

David's Destiny

David was destined to be king

- He had been called of God
- He had been anointed by Samuel

Yet, the time of his reign would have to wait

- Until King Saul's reign had ended
- Until David had been tested and proven ready for the role

The turning point in David's life

- The defining point – an Ebenezer
- The slaying of Goliath the Philistine

This brought Israel a tremendous victory over the Philistine threat

- It brought David great acclaim and status in the eyes of Israel
- It brought David front and centre to the attention of Saul

Saul's Paranoia

Saul eyed David suspiciously

Saul wanted the praise and approval of men

- When David received the praise instead
- Saul became jealous

Saul wanted the credit for leading Israel in victory

- When David received the credit instead
- Saul became angry

Saul had been known as God's anointed

- When David evidently had the anointing of the Holy Spirit on his life instead
- Saul became afraid

- Saul's jealousy
- Saul's anger
- Saul's fear
- Gave birth to a paranoia that David would usurp him

Thus, Saul determined in his heart to get rid of David

Saul's Affliction

God had sent a distressing spirit to afflict Saul

- Giving place to dark emotions such as jealousy, anger and fear
- Not only opened the door to paranoia
- It opened the door to the distressing spirit to have greater influence over Saul's life than it otherwise would

Combined, the spirit and the paranoia compelled Saul to attempt to take David's life

- In the court room of Saul's palace, twice the king hurled a spear at David
- Twice David avoided the spear and escaped Saul's presence

There is a change in fortune for Saul

- Instead of David being able to calm the spirit, and cause it to leave him, as before
- Now David is having the opposite effect, of stirring up the spirit, and causing it to enrage Saul

Question: How did Saul deal with this change?

1 Samuel 18:12-13

Now Saul was afraid of David, because the Lord was with him, but had departed from Saul. Therefore Saul removed him from his presence, and made him his captain over a thousand; and he went out and came in before the people.

Thus, although being in his late teens

- David became a captain in the army
- Even though the Law of Moses stated you don't serve in the military until your twenty

David & Merab

1 Samuel 18:17-19

The Promised Hand

1 Samuel 18:17

Then Saul said to David "Here is my older daughter Merab; I will give her to you as a wife. Only be valiant for me, and fight the Lord's battles." For Saul thought, "Let my hand not be against him, but let the hand of the Philistines be against him."

Saul's Offer

Now you might remember that:

- King Saul had made a vow to give three things to the man who slew Goliath
1. Riches
 2. Tax exemption for the family home
 3. The king's daughter in marriage

We don't know if Saul made good on the first two

- Here, it seems, he is trying to make good on the third
- At least in the eyes of the people
- Afterall, it doesn't do well for a king to go back on his word in the eyes of the people

Thus, Saul offers the hand of his older daughter, Merab, to David in marriage

- However, Saul places conditions on the union
- *"Only be valiant for me, and fight the Lord's battles."*
- Do good by me
- Do good by God

What this new condition does is,

- It undervalues the vow Saul had formerly made
- Revealing the duplicity and manipulation at work in Saul

Saul's Heart

The Holy Spirit shows us in the text what Saul's motivation really was

- It was not to honour the vow he made on the battlefield
- It was to make David a target for the Philistines that they may kill him

If David was brought into the royal house by marriage

- I imagine, he would wear royal colours on the battlefield
- On top of being captain, he would be a national figurehead

Both would have the effect of painting a big bullseye on David

- Making him a principle target for the Philistines in any battle
- Thus, Saul could get the Philistines to do his dirty work for him

The Withdrawn Hand

1 Samuel 18:18-19

So David said to Saul, "Who am I, and what is my life or my father's family in Israel, that I should be son-in-law to The king?" But it happened at the time when Merab, Saul's daughter, should have been given to David, that she was given to Adriel the Meholathite as a wife.

David's Humility

David responds to Saul's offer with great humility

Question: Who am I?

- Although praised among the people, David holds himself in low esteem

Question: What is my life?

- I suspect David still saw himself as the youngest boy who cared for sheep
- How could a lowly shepherd-boy be worthy to marry the princess?

Question: What is my father's family in Israel?

- Although, an honourable tribe and family, they were not great
- Probably poor
- And having a recent history of marrying into the Moabites via Ruth, perhaps some stigma?

Saul's Duplicity

However, Saul broke his promise to David

- And withdrew the hand of his daughter at the last minute
- And gave it to another

This was a great affront to David

- Potentially wounding his pride
- Stirring up his anger at being dealt with so deceitfully

Question: What was Saul doing?

Answer: Trying to provoke David (into the same emotions, he had experienced at the hands of David)

Trying to make David

- Jealous
- Angry
- Afraid (of this duplicitous king)

Then through the stirring of these emotions

- Perhaps David would forget himself
- Say something libellous or defamatory against the King
- Then Saul could get rid of David on a sentence of treason

Saul was acting very much in the character of Satan

- Dragon - Aggression - Spears
- Serpent - Subtly - Promise of marriage

David & Michal

1 Samuel 18:20-30

The Opportune Hand

1 Samuel 18:20-21

Now Michal, Saul's daughter loved David. And they told Saul, and the thing pleased him. So Saul said, I will give her to him, that she may be a snare to him, and that the hand of the Philistines may be against him." Therefore Saul said to David a second time, "You shall be my son-in-law today."

Michal's Love

Time passed

- Saul's plan to use Merab against David
- Didn't yield the results he had planned

Then it comes to light

- That Saul's younger daughter Michal had eyes on David

Question: What's not like?

- He's young, ruddy and handsome
- He's the youngest captain in the army
- He has the favour of all in Israel
- He has the fame and reputation of slaying the giant and saving the nation

Answer: He's a catch

When word reaches Saul

- We are told, "*the thing pleased him.*"
- Not because David would make a good husband for his daughter
- But because it presented a further opportunity to get rid of David

Saul's Scheming

Again, the Holy Spirit shows us what is in Saul's heart:

First Saul says, "*I will give her to him, that she may be a snare to him*"

- That's nice, isn't it?
- My daughter's got something about her that will be a snare to David
- I'll let him have her!

Michal may have loved David, for all the virtues I stated

- He's young, ruddy and handsome
- A captain in the army
- Popular in Israel
- Famous for slaying Goliath and saving the nation

Spiritually she was not a good match for David

- Michal was cut from the same mould as her father
- She wanted fame and reputation
- When her husband would later show all abandonment in worship to the Lord
- She was offended and despised her husband in her heart
- Michal didn't want a worshipper for a husband
- She wanted a trophy for a husband

It would seem Saul saw this

- He thought maybe Michal will trip David up for me
- That's a nice Dad, isn't it?

Second Saul says, "*I will give her to him...that the hand of the Philistines may be against him.*"

- If at first you don't succeed...
- Again, Saul is thinking I'll make David a target for the Philistines
- So that on the day of the battle there would be an inordinate amount of effort to kill him over other soldiers

The Negotiating Hand

1 Samuel 18:22-26a

And Saul commanded his servants, "Communicate with David secretly, and say, "Look, the king has delight in you, and all his servants love you. Now therefore, become the king's son-in-law." So Saul's servants spoke these words in the hearing of David. And David said, "Does it seem to you a light thing to be a king's son-in-law, seeing I am poor and lightly esteemed man? And the servants of Saul told him saying, "In this manner David spoke." Then Saul said, "Thus you shall say to David: 'The king does not desire any dowry but one hundred foreskins of the Philistines, to take vengeance on the king's enemies.'" But Saul thought to make David fall by the hand of the Philistines. So when his servants told David these words, it pleased David well to become the king's son-in-law.

Saul's Proposal

Negotiations to arrange a marriage are opened

- Traditionally the negotiations should take place between father of the bride and father of the groom
- However, Saul employs the use of his servants to speak secretly to David
- Saul is clearly bucking convention to serve his own agenda

Again, we see Saul operating in the character of Satan

- Not only has he been deceptive
- He is now commanding his servants to operate in secret

The servants of Saul start by buttering David up:

- *“Look, the king has delight in you, and all his servants love you”*
- No mention of Michal’s love
- That’s because marriage in the ancient world was not about love
- Marriage was a business deal between families

Then the servants make the offer:

- *“Now therefore, become the king’s son-in-law.”*
- A business deal is proposed

David responds with the same humility as he did with Merab

- *“Does it seem to you a light thing to be a king’s son-in-law, seeing I am poor and lightly esteemed man?”*

This is not mere humility

- It is recognition on David’s part he cannot afford the bride price on a daughter of the king
- *“I am poor”* he says

Michal’s Price

Question: What is the bride price?

Answer: Dowry

In the ancient world, sons and daughters both had value to a family

- Sons were future heirs and workers in the family business
- Daughters produced offspring to extend the family strength
- While a son stayed with the family, a daughter was given to another family

So, the family of the groom

- Paid the family of the bride
- For taking the daughter away from the family

The bride price (the dowry)

- Was a statement of the worth of the bride, in the eyes of the family she would join
- If too little was offered, it would be an insult to the bride and the family

David knew this

- He was poor, he could not afford the bride price of a princess
- Anything he offered would be an insult to the king and his daughter

David is both humble and shrewd

- He doesn’t insult the king by declining the offer
- He doesn’t insult the king by offering what little he had

Father’s Examination

This is all alien to us in our culture

However, father’s, this does not mean

- You have no place in negotiating your daughter’s future hand in marriage
- You have a duty to make sure your daughter makes a good match

My father-in-law examined me before I could marry Abby

- He wanted to know my financial standing
- My spiritual standing
- My political standing

Father's you have right to do the same to any potential son-in-law that turns up

Father's it is your responsibility

- To provide for your daughter
- To protect your daughter

To examine any suitor for your daughter

- If he is not a good physical and spiritual match
- You must let your daughter know

Don't let our fallen culture dictate your actions

- Let the principles of the word of God dictate your actions
- Let your responsibility before God dictate your actions

Saul's Counter-Proposal

David, sincerely, doesn't see himself as worthy of Michal

However, Saul has a counter-proposal

- Instead of a traditional dowry of money
- He proposes a dowry of 100 Philistine foreskins

Question: Can you imagine this on a wedding gift list?

Answer: You can't get this on a John Lewis gift card!

But this is something that appeals to David

- He might not have the financial means to win Michal
- He does have the military means to win Michal

It pleases David to accept this offer

- A time limit is fixed
- To obtain these Philistine foreskins

Saul's Strategy

Question: Why a hundred foreskins, you may ask?

Question: Why not a hundred scalps?

Circumcision is the sign of the Abrahamic Covenant

- It is what defined Israel as God's people
- It is also what defined the Philistines as God's enemy
- The removal of the foreskin, for the Israelite, was a sign of submission to God
- The removal of the foreskin, for the Philistine, was a sign of God's supremacy over His enemies
- It would be insulting to the Philistine to be slayed by the Jew
- It would be doubly insulting to be mutilated after death

Yes, I truly believe Saul was expecting

- David and his troops to walk between the carcasses of the slain
- To cut off one hundred foreskins

Question: Can you imagine how vulnerable that would make David?

Question: How much danger that would place him and his men?

They would have to down their swords

- To remove the Philistine armour and dress
- To get Michal's dowry

The Philistines would not let this happen easily

- They would launch their arrows
- They would fight with renewed venom
- To stop this insult occurring

We can Saul's objective clearly

- I'll offer David the ultimate prize
- For an impossible mission
- That will almost certainly result in his death

The Marrying Hand

David's Doubling

1 Samuel 18:26b-27

Now the days had not expired; therefore David arose and went, he and his men, and killed two hundred men of the Philistines. And David brought their foreskins, and they gave them in full count to the king, that he might become the king's son-in-law. Then Saul gave Michal his daughter as a wife.

The Lord is clearly with David

- As he returns from this suicide mission
- Not with the prescribed dowry, but double

The text paints a very graphic picture of

- David presenting Michal's bride price to the king
- *"they gave them in full count to the king"*

This is not something you will see in the illustrated Bible!

King Saul now has no choice

- But to honour his vow
- So David is married to Michal

Saul's Embitterment

1 Samuel 18:28-30

Thus Saul saw and knew that the Lord was with David, and that Michal, Saul's daughter loved him; and Saul was still more afraid of David. So Saul became David's enemy continually. Then the princes of the Philistines went out to war. And so it was, whenever they went out, that David behaved more wisely than all the servants of Saul, so that his name became highly esteemed.

Saul is not a stupid man, he's smart and he's sees what is happening

First, he sees, *"that the Lord was with David"*

- There is no way someone kills 200 Philistines in this manner if the Lord is not with them
- This only serves to increase Saul's fear of David

This is a fear of the Lord

- It is also a fear driven by sin
- Saul knows the Lord is moving against him
- Instead of swift hand of judgement
- It is proving to be a slow boring judgement
- And it is driving him mad!

Second, he sees, *"that Michal, Saul's daughter loved him"*

- I believe this must have truly grated on Saul
- Now he had two children, both a son and a daughter
- That loved David
- That had made a covenant relationship with David

It would seem the entire nation was on David's side

- *"his name became highly esteemed"*
- No matter what Saul tried to do to trap or kill David
- David always came out on top
- *"David behaved more wisely than all the servants of Saul,"*

So, in conclusion to this episode we see:

- *Saul became David's enemy continually.*

- Saul goes from blowing hot and cold toward David
- To be all out his enemy
- Which sets up the mood for the next chapter

Brokenness

Defining Brokenness

Brokenness is process that the Lord uses to make His people holy

- It is another way of describing sanctification
- The process of making people more like Jesus

Question: Who has heard of brokenness?

Question: Who knows what brokenness is?

Question: Who has experienced brokenness?

David knew what brokenness was - he wrote about it in the Psalms

Psalm 34:18

The Lord is near to those who have a broken heart and saves such as have a contrite spirit.

God desires an intimate relationship with His people

- The way for God to be near you, to share intimate relationship, is via a broken heart and a contrite spirit
- Conversely, the Lord is not near the person who does not have a broken heart and contrite spirit

A person with a contrite spirit is someone who

- Has been humbled
- Has been brought down low
- Has recognised their weakness and need of God

There are some things in our lives that need to be broken:

- Pride
- Self-will
- Stubbornness
- Sinful habits

If we are not broken in these areas

- Pride
- Self-will
- Stubbornness
- Sinful habits

Will keep us distant from God

“God breaks you to make you”

The Road To Brokenness

Step 1: Conversion

The process of brokenness starts the moment we are born again

Matthew 21:44

And whoever falls on this stone will be broken; but on whomever it falls, it will grind him to powder.”

The stone here is Jesus!

- Whoever falls on Him, in saving faith, is broken
- Those who reject Christ, will have Him fall on them, with obliterating judgment

Conversion involves the brokenness of repentance.

Matthew 5:3-4

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Every step on the Road to Brokenness requires humbling

- At the moment of conversion
- We are humbled (through saving faith)
- To acknowledge our need of Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour

But this is only the start of the journey along the Road to Brokenness

- If you speak with seasoned saints you will hear this reoccurring theme
- “God breaks you to make you”
- It’s a painful process
- It’s a necessary process
- It rewards you with a closer walk with Jesus

Isaiah 57:15

I live in a high and holy place, but also with him who is contrite and lowly in spirit

Step 2: Conviction

The process of brokenness continues through the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives

John 16:7-8

Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

God has given us the Holy Spirit who indwells the believer:

- While He is the Helper
- He also the Convicter
- The Holy Spirit will highlight issues in your life that need to be broken
- He will convict you of sin

The faithful and obedient Christian

- Will bring that issue, that sin to the cross
- Will confess their sin
- Will be forgiven their sin
- As a result something of its power is broken in our lives

Yet, we are stubborn

- Resistant to the issues the Lord is highlighting in our life
- In our defiance, we fail to be broken

In such circumstances, instead of recognising God speaking to you

- You blame the Pastor for having a bee in his bonnet about something
- You see it as an issue of life that you need to find a way to overcome in your strength and wisdom

Christian’s get into arguments

- Leave churches
- Become embittered in themselves and toward others through such things
- Because they refuse to fall on the stone and be broken
- They refuse to heed the conviction of the Holy Spirit
- “God breaks you to make you”

Step 3: Affliction & Trial

The Road to Brokenness has a third stage, and this is affliction and trial

- Where a person becomes hard-pressed
- Faces trial and adversity
- God uses circumstances to break the person

Psalms 34:18-22

*The Lord is near to those who have a broken heart
And saves such as have a contrite spirit.
Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
But the Lord delivers him out of them all.*

*He guards all his bones;
Not one of them is broken.
Evil shall slay the wicked,
And those who hate the righteous shall be condemned.
The Lord redeems the soul of His servants,
And none of those who trust in Him shall be condemned.*

God will bring circumstances to bear on the life of the believer

- Which causes them to reach a breaking point
- Although they may use every part of their human ingenuity to escape
- Ultimately the affliction they feel will cause them to seek the Lord more sincerely

The goal of the Lord in such situations

- Is for the person to submit to God in the midst of the trial and affliction
- To worship Him and serve Him, despite the hardship

Illustration

Let's say that you have an unhealthy reliance on your friends

- God wants to break this issue in your life

So, God engineers circumstance where

- You are cut off from your friendships
- Perhaps you are forced to move
- Perhaps they are forced to move
- Perhaps they let you down or reject you

For a season you are in pain and anguish

- You try to maintain or repair those friendships
- You try to build new friendships
- But nothing you do seems to succeed

- You rage at God
- You cry and retreat
- You take comfort in ice cream and television

Then finally, one day, you come to God and say

- I will go to church this Sunday and worship you despite you having taken my friends away
- I will pray and read my Bible even though I am deeply unhappy

You have allowed yourself to be broken

- For that crutch of friendship to be taken away
- Your service to God to not be dependent on having friends

From that moment forward

- Whether God grants you friends or He does not
- Your walk and service to God is more consistent
- You have become more reliant on God

- You know what it is to be broken in spirit
- You know what it is to be nearer to God

“God breaks you to make you”

Step 4: Repeat

The Road to Brokenness has a fourth stage

- Repeated conviction
- Repeated affliction

The Lord is forever working in our lives

- To break us free from our old man sinful nature and ungodly character traits
- To make us more like Jesus

- To draw us deeper into our walk with Him

When you get to that stage in your walk where say

- I will go to church this Sunday and worship you despite my affliction
- I will pray and read my Bible even though I am deeply unhappy

It is amazing the Scriptures that will open up to you:

Hosea 6:1

Come, and let us return to the LORD; For He has torn, but He will heal us; He has stricken, but He will bind us up.

You don't know the power of this verse

- Until you feel the heat of God's furnace
- Until you feel the flame of God's affliction your life

Job 13:15

Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him.

Charles Spurgeon knew well of this process, he said:

Charles Spurgeon

Whenever God means to make a man great, he always breaks him in pieces first.

Step 5: Wilderness

God has one final process in His arsenal on the Road to Brokenness, that is the wilderness

This is a long drawn out passage of time

- Where affliction and trial are your constant companion
- Where the process of affliction and trial is elongated

The wilderness is God's tool to

- Bring brokenness in your life
- In readiness for some greater task or calling
- It is God's training ground for an enlarged ministry

- It might be six months
- It might be three years
- It might be ten years

For Moses it took forty years in Midian

- After which he was ready to be called and used as an instrument of salvation for Israel from Egypt

Question: What was Moses like before the wilderness?

Answer: *And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and in deeds. Acts 7:22*

Question: How did Moses respond when called after being broken in the wilderness?

Answer: *O my Lord, I am not eloquent,...I am slow of speech and slow of tongue. Exodus 4:10*

That's what the wilderness does

- It breaks you
- It strips you of self-confidence
- Installs a complete reliance on God
- Moses had died to self

This process is not for the select few

- For those destined to be greater leaders or ministers of the gospel
- It is for the least to the greatest in the kingdom of God

Question: How do I know this?

Matthew 16:24-26

Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?"

Charles Spurgeon

Have none of you ever noticed, in your own lives, that whenever God is going to give you an enlargement and bring you out to a larger sphere of service, or a higher platform of spiritual life, you always get thrown down? That is His usual way of working! He makes you hungry before He feeds you! He strips you before He robes you! He makes nothing of you before He makes something of you!

Conclusion

David's Brokenness

Question: Why are you telling me all this?

Question: Aren't we supposed to be studying **1 Samuel 18**?

- Moses knew what brokenness was
- Spurgeon knew what brokenness was
- David knew what brokenness was

Psalm 51:16-17

You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it;

You do not delight in burnt offering.

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit,

A broken and a contrite heart - These, O God, You will not despise.

It is here, **1 Samuel 18** that David starts on the Road to Brokenness

- A road that he will be on for the next ten to fifteen years
- At the end he will have a crown and a kingdom
- Before that he will have conflict, pain and a death sentence hanging over his head

- In our text, it is easy to see what is happening in the physical realm
- It is much harder to see what is happening in the spiritual realm

I believe:

- Satan had asked if he could sift David like wheat
- Satan had presented himself before God, like he had done in the days of Job
- God had granted him permission to afflict David

The Lord permitted this affliction and sifting to occur through the agency of King Saul

- As the distressing spirit exerted its influence over the king
- As Saul grew in paranoia
- So the affliction on David increased

However, God was in control the whole time

- He used that affliction to break David
- To mould him and make him into the person he needed to become a king after God's own heart

While David served in the court of the King

- His eyes were on the King of Kings

David's Three Trials

Trial Of The Spears

When the spears were flying at David, seeking to take his life

- Instead of taking his life in his own hands and taking the road out of Israel
- Giving into fear and fleeing for his life

He learnt to submit to God in the situation

- He took the road of brokenness

- He put his life in God's hands

Martin Luthor

I have held many things in my hands and I have lost them all; But whatever I have placed in God's hands, that I still possess.

Trial Of Broken Promises

When the injustice of broken promises came over Merab

- David did not give way to anger and vengeance in verbal or physical form
- David did not repress or internalise the anger so that it twisted his soul
- David brought the matter to God

He let the insult, the humiliation, the disappointment break him

- He submitted to God instead of the anger

Psalm 16:8

I have set the Lord always before me; because He is at my right hand I shall not be moved.

Trial Of The Dowry

When David was asked to produce a dowry of one hundred Philistine foreskins

- David could have refused
- He could have demanded Michal on the grounds of slaying Goliath
- "Hey, Saul; there's a ten-foot long grave in the Valley of Elah - that's my dowry!"
- Instead, he died to his rights, in favour of remaining in fellowship with God
- He yielded - he allowed himself to be broken

You might be forgiven that David was a fool

- Allowing himself to be played by Saul
- In truth, David was allowing himself to be broken by God
- By submitting in the situation instead of resisting

The Giant Wins

The Battleground

We like to preach David and Goliath

- We like to see the giant being felled and destroyed
- We like to win

- Question:** What if life is not like that?
Question: What if life is a battleground?
Question: What if you feel like you're losing instead of winning?
Question: What if you feel like you're being played for a fool?

- Question:** What if trusting the Lord, obeying the Lord, means:
- You lose a job?
 - You lose your health?
 - You lose a friend?
 - You lose a loved one?
 - You lose your marriage?

- Question:** Can I tell you something you don't want to hear?
Answer: Sometimes, the giant wins!

Sometimes after you have done all that you can

- You've prayed
- You've committed it to the Lord
- You've walked in obedience
- You still lose
- What you were afraid might happen, happens

The giant wins!

Today's Battle

The valley of Elah was yesterday

- Goliath is distant history

Who cares if the women are singing songs about your valour in the battle

- If you're losing in the court of the king, having spears hurled at you
- If you're losing in the court of love, having your bride taken from you
- If you're losing in the court of justice, having what is yours withheld from you

- Today's battle is submitting to God despite the pain
- Today's battle is serving the Lord despite the loss
- Today's battle is the road of brokenness

Job 13:15

Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him.

If you are in the midst of pain this morning

- If you are facing affliction of some sort
- Maybe the Lord has you on the road to brokenness

Let me tell you:

- I know it's a lonely road
- Nobody knows what you are going through!

It's well-worn road

- Moses has been there
- Spurgeon has been there
- David has been there

Let me tell you something

- God brought them through to the other end
- God will bring you through too

Psalm 23:4

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil;

For You are with me;

Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

The road of brokenness

- Takes you through the valley of the shadow of death

Question: What happens when you come through the other side?

Psalm 23:5-6

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;

And I will dwell in the house of the Lord, forever.

- David had a table waiting for him in a palace yet to be built
- David had an anointing awaiting him in a ministry yet to be realised
- David had a cup that would overflow that was currently filled with pain
- David had an intimacy with God that he was only just beginning to know
- Before every crown there comes a cross