

MICHAL, DAVID'S FIRST WIFE
1 SAMUEL 18:20-27

The first wife should be the only wife (Genesis 2:24, "Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave to his wife, and they shall be one flesh," but if a man has several wives he is not "one flesh" with them.

1 Samuel 18:12, "Saul was afraid of David" because he recognized that David was favored by God and feared that somehow David would become king, but there was no evidence of such ambition in David's conduct.

"Michal Saul's other daughter loved David; and it was said to Saul, and the thing pleased him. **21And Saul said, I will give her to him, that she may be by a snare to him,** *(what a corrupt motive for getting a husband for his daughter!)* and that the hand of the Philistines may be against him. So Saul said to David a second time, "You will be my son-in-law today." **22And Saul commanded his servants: Speak secretly to David, saying, Behold, the king loves you, and all his servants love you well; therefore be the king's son-in-law.** **23**Saul's servants spoke these words into David's ears. And David said, Does it seem to you a little thing to be the king's son-in-law, (when I am a poor man and of no esteem? *That he was poor and could not afford the dowry. Was it an honor to be the king's son-in-law? There is much more honor for us who are sons, not sons-in-law, of the King (Christ)* **24And Saul's servants gave him the answer, saying, Such words has David spoken.** **25** And Saul said, Say thus to David, The king does not desire the dowry, but a hundred foreskins of Philistines, that vengeance may be taken on the king's enemies. **But Saul planned to bring David into the hands of the Philistines.** **26**When his servants declared these words to David, it seemed right in David's eyes to be the king's son-in-law *(no doubt the king thought that if David began to fulfill this requirement, he would be killed by the Philistines and if he had accomplished his purpose, not the Philistines but he himself would have been the murderer. He had the same plan for his eldest daughter but it wasn't successful.)* And before the time was up, **27David arose and went with his people, and killed two hundred men of the Philistines; and David brought their foreskins and gave them all to the king, that he might become the king's son-in-law.** *(Not just a hundred but two hundred.)* And Saul gave him his daughter Michal for a wife."

MICHAL HELPS DAVID FLEE, David won another victory over the Philistines, and Saul went even more insane with envy and "sought to spear David to the wall." But Michal helped him escape.

1 SAMUEL 19:12-17. "And Michal let David down through a window; And he went away and fled, and escaped. **13Then Michal took a statue and put it on the bed, and put a pillow of goat's hair on it and covered it with clothes. 14**And when Saul sent messengers to seize David, she answered, He is sick. **15Saul again sent messengers to see David, saying, "Bring him to me on the bed to kill him."** **16**And when the messengers came in, behold, the statue was on the bed, and a pillow of goat's hair at its bedside. **17Then Saul said to Michal, "Why have you deceived me like this, and let my enemy escape?" And Michal answered Saul, For he said unto me, Let me go; if not, I will kill you."** *No doubt Michal felt desperate and determined to save her husband. It is very hard to believe that she actually made such a threat against her husband.*

RESTORED TO DAVID, 2 SAMUEL 3:13-16

It is obvious that David loved Michal (and also that she loved David. Abner (general of Saul's army) tells David that he can be king over Israel and David agreed as long as his wife was restored to him.

3And David said, "Well, I will make a covenant with you, but one thing I ask of you: Do not come to me unless you first bring Michal the daughter of Saul, when you come to see me. **14**After this David sent messengers to Ishbosheth son of Saul, saying, "Restore to me my wife Michal, whom I betrothed to myself for a hundred Philistine foreskins. **15**Then Ishbosheth sent and took her from her husband Paltiel son of Laish. **16** And her husband went with her, following her and weeping to Bahurim. *(It's very sad but surely he knew she was David's wife. No doubt there is much sadness and bitterness of spirit among those who do not respect the sacredness of marriage.)* And Abner said to him, Go, return. Then he returned."

MICAL DESPISES DAVID AND IS REBUKED, 2 SAMUEL 6:16-23 When the ark of the Lord arrived in the city of David, it came to pass that Michal, daughter of Saul, looked out of a window, and saw King David jumping and dancing before the Lord; **Psalm 150:4, "Praise him with tambourine and dance."**

--- **and looked down on him in her heart.** *Saul did not respect the ark and it seems that Michal instead of sharing David's spirit of devotion she shared Saul's spirit of indifference.*

17 So they brought the ark of the Lord in, and put it in its place in the middle of a tent that David had set up for it; and David sacrificed burnt offerings and peace offerings before the Lord. **18** And when David had finished offering the burnt offerings and peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord of hosts. **19** And he distributed to all the people, and to all the multitude of Israel, both men and women, to each a loaf of bread, and a piece of meat and a cake of raisins. And the whole village went, each one to his own house. **20** Then David returned to bless his house; and Michal went out to meet David, saying, How honored the king of Israel was today, uncovering himself today before the maids of his servants, as one of the base fellows shamelessly uncovers himself! **21** Then David answered Michal, "It was before the Lord, who chose me in preference to your father and all your household, to make me a prince over the Lord's people, over Israel. Therefore, I will dance before Jehovah. **2** And I will still become more vile than this time, and I will be low in your sight; but I will be honored before the maids of whom you have spoken."

What a pity that this story of Michal had such an end! How sad that David had to be honored by Michal's maids and not be honored by his beloved Michal.

23 And Michal, daughter of Saul, never had children until the day of his death."

Wayne Partain, August 10, 2023