

David and Jonathan's Relationship

Background: It is important to keep in mind that David has been announced to be the next king of Israel and has just defeated Goliath.

Comments on I Samuel 18:1-4 and 20:17

1. "The soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David" (18:1) - This is the same phrase describing J_____ love for B_____ (Genesis 44:30-34).
2. "Loved him as his own soul" (18:1, 3 and 20:17). This does not n_____ require a s_____ a_____. Consider what our L_____ called the second g_____ c_____ (Matthew 22:34-39).
3. David and Jonathan's c_____ was based on a p_____ of m_____ protection of l_____ (18:1-2 and 20:12-17). See also II Samuel 9 and John 15:12-14.
4. Two Explanations of 18:4
 - "Jonathan was obviously smitten with David. A social superior is making a public display of his love." Tom Horner, Episcopal priest
 - Jonathan a_____ David's m_____ s_____ and/or r_____ to the t_____ by turning over his w_____ to him.
 - Bonus Reading: Homer's *Illyiad* when Glaucus and Diomedes exchange armor to show mutual respect after engaging in battle.

Comments of I Samuel 20:41-42

1. David's t_____ bows shows he does not find himself to be s_____ to Jonathan who has just taken measures to p_____ his life.
2. K_____ and w_____ frequently took place during emotional times of g_____ and d_____ in the Bible (Genesis 33:4 and 45:14-15, II Samuel 15:5-6 and 19:39).

II Samuel 1:25-26 "Very pleasant you have been to me; your love to me was extraordinary, surpassing the love of women."

1. David is uttering the e_____ language of a poetic l_____.

2. David is grieving over the loss of his b_____ f_____ who willingly t_____ over the kingdom and r_____ his l_____ for him (Proverbs 17:17 and 18:24).
3. David may be a_____ to a m_____ love for a c_____ in this phrase.

Two Further Points

1. To accept that Jonathan and David were “gay lovers” is to concede that “a man after God’s own heart” could unashamedly practice homosexuality.
2. To accept that Jonathan and David were “gay lovers” is to concede that David was bisexual.