

Michal

Michal was Saul's younger daughter [1 Samuel 14:49] instead of her older sister Merab she was married to David, [1 Samuel 18:12-22].

Michal's love for David, her hero, did not have time to be tested by the realities of marriage, instead she became involved in saving David's life, [1 Samuel 19:9-17].

Michal's prompt action and resourcefulness saved David from the demon-influenced Saul.

During David's exile, Michal was given in marriage to Paltiel, son of Laish, who was from Gallim, but eventually took her back after Saul's death.

In a treaty with Abner, David insisted that Michal should be returned to him, [2 Samuel 3:12-15].

Unlike her brother Jonathan and David, Michal did not have a deep relationship with the Creator God that would have helped her through the difficulties in her life.

2 Samuel 6:16 [New King James] *"Now as the ark of the LORD came into the City of David, Michal, Saul's daughter, looked through a window and saw King David leaping and whirling before the LORD; and she despised him in her heart."*

Michal is called "*daughter of Saul*" although she was David's first wife, possibly to show how similar her attitude was to that of her father Saul.

Michal's contempt for David probably did not start with this incident where she thought it undignified for David as king to display such emotion.

She may have resented being a pawn in both her marriage to David and then being taken from her husband Paltiel.

This resentment towards David escalated into a difficult confrontation, she could not share David's joyful worship of God, as a result she never bore David any children, [2 Samuel 6:20-23].

Beyond feeling sorry for Michal, we need to see her as a person who quickly and easily became bitter with life's unexpected turns.

Bitterness can never remove or change the bad things that happen to us. Often bitterness only makes a bad situation worse.

On the other hand, a faith in the Creator God gives Him the opportunity to bring good out of difficult situations.

Such faith in the Creator God has two parts, asking Him for guidance and then looking for that guidance in His Word, the Christian Bible.

Lessons we can learn from the recorded life of Michal –

We are not responsible for all that happens to us in life, but we are responsible before the Creator God as how we react to circumstances.

Any disobedience to God, such as her lie, [1 Samuel 19:17] almost always harms us as well as other people.

Never allow bitterness to take control of our actions, or attitudes towards people who may express their thanks to God in a way that seems foolish to us.