

# Fit for a King

1 Samuel 14

June 22, 2025

































“I did what I was told, as well as I could.  
There would be no Finland unless  
everyone had done the same.”

(Simo Häyhä, as quoted in the  
forward to Tapio A. M. Saarelainen's  
biography *The White Sniper*)







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# Tragic Hero

The Shakespearean  
Tragedy of King Saul

Summer 2025





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**1 Samuel 14:6-7 (ESV): “Jonathan said to the young man who carried his armor, ‘Come, let us go over to the garrison of these uncircumcised. It may be that the Lord will work for us, for nothing can hinder the Lord from saving by many or by few.’ 7 And his armor-bearer said to him, ‘Do all that is in your heart. Do as you wish. Behold, I am with you heart and soul.’”**

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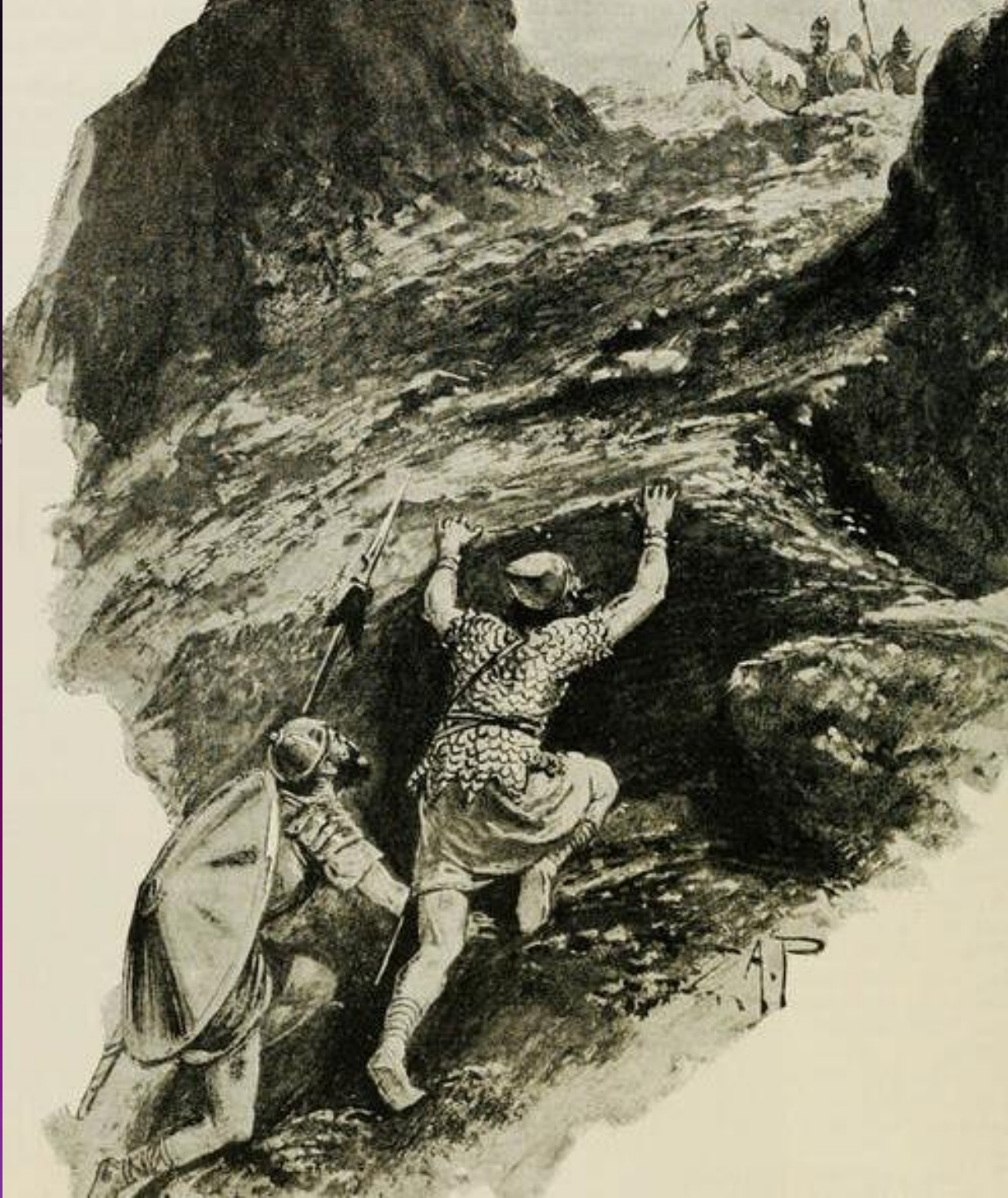


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1 Samuel 14:13-14 (ESV): “Then Jonathan climbed up on his hands and feet, and his armor-bearer after him. And they fell before Jonathan, and his armor-bearer killed them after him. 14 And that first strike, which Jonathan and his armor-bearer made, killed about twenty men within as it were half a furrow’s length in an acre of land.”

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**1 Samuel 13:5 (ESV): “And the Philistines mustered to fight with Israel, thirty thousand chariots and six thousand horsemen and troops like the sand on the seashore in multitude.”**

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**1 Samuel 14:15-16 (ESV): “And there was a panic in the camp, in the field, and among all the people. The garrison and even the raiders trembled, the earth quaked, and it became a very great panic. 16 And the watchmen of Saul in Gibeah of Benjamin looked, and behold, the multitude was dispersing here and there.”**

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**1 Samule 14:20-23 (ESV): “Then Saul and all the people who were with him rallied and went into the battle. And behold, every Philistine’s sword was against his fellow, and there was very great confusion. 21 Now the Hebrews who had been with the Philistines before that time and who had gone up with them into the camp,...”**

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“...even they also turned to be with the Israelites who were with Saul and Jonathan. 22 Likewise, when all the men of Israel who had hidden themselves in the hill country of Ephraim heard that the Philistines were fleeing, they too followed hard after them in the battle. 23 So the Lord saved Israel that day. And the battle passed beyond Beth-aven.”

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**ONE MAN'S  
IMPROVISATION  
PLUS THE LORD'S  
AMPLIFICATION  
EQUALS THE PEOPLE'S  
PARTICIPATION.**

**Main Point**



**Matthew 13:31-32 (ESV): “He put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field. 32 It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is larger than all the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”**

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**1 Corinthians 3:6 (ESV): “I planted...but  
God gave the growth.”**

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**1 Samuel 14:24-27 (ESV): “And the men of Israel had been hard pressed that day, so Saul had laid an oath on the people, saying, ‘Cursed be the man who eats food until it is evening and I am avenged on my enemies.’ So none of the people had tasted food. 25 Now when all the people came to the forest, behold, there was honey on the ground...”**

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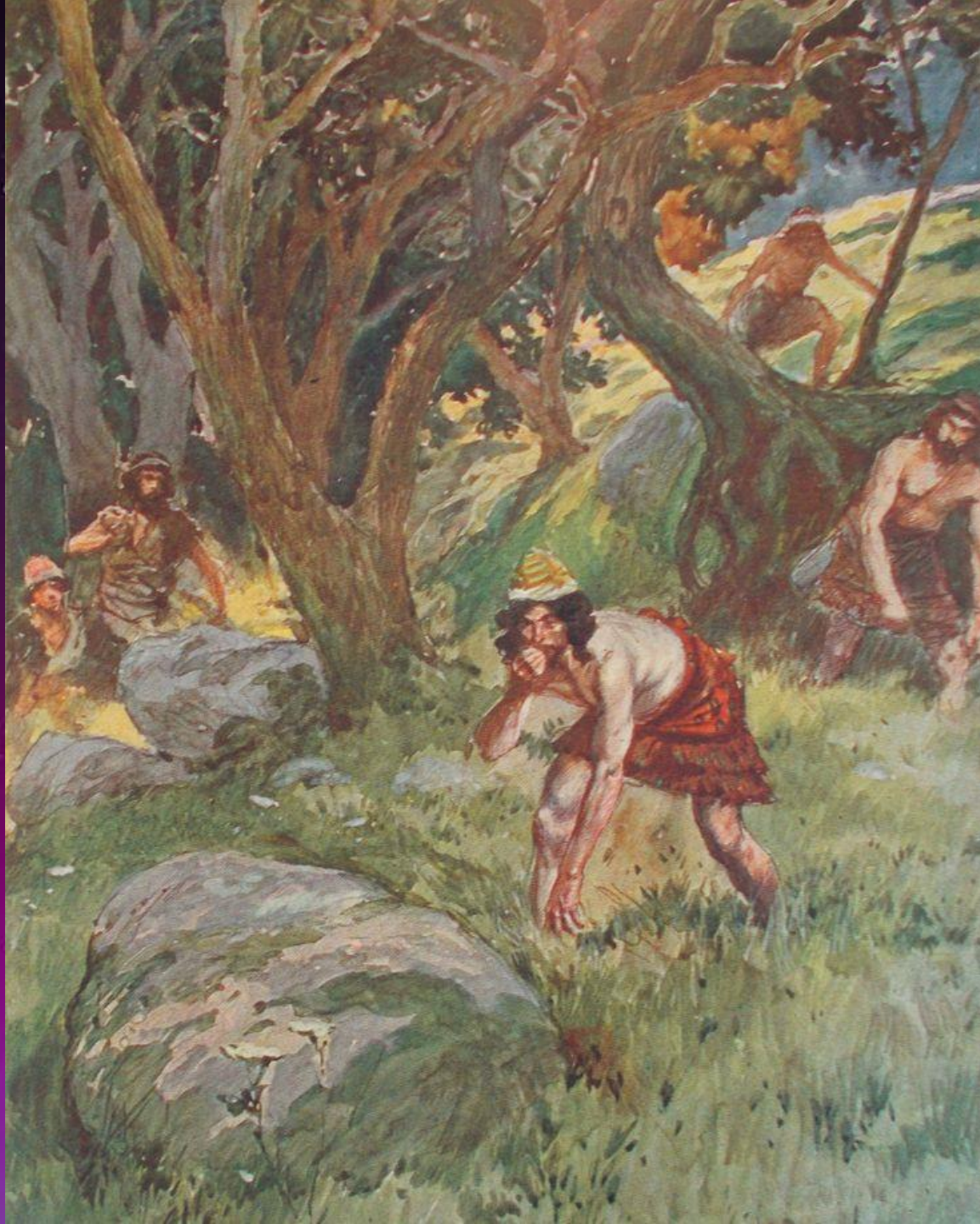
**“...26 And when the people entered the forest, behold, the honey was dropping, but no one put his hand to his mouth, for the people feared the oath. 27 But Jonathan had not heard his father charge the people with the oath, so he put out the tip of the staff that was in his hand and dipped it in the honeycomb and put his hand to his mouth, and his eyes became bright.”**

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**“...“Cursed be the man who eats food this day.”  
And the people were faint. 29 Then Jonathan said,  
‘My father has troubled the land. See how my eyes  
have become bright because I tasted a little of this  
honey. 30 How much better if the people had eaten  
freely today of the spoil of their enemies that they  
found. For now the defeat among the Philistines  
has not been great.’”**

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**1 Samuel 14:43-45 (ESV): “Then Saul said to Jonathan, ‘Tell me what you have done.’ And Jonathan told him, ‘I tasted a little honey with the tip of the staff that was in my hand. Here I am; I will die.’ 44 And Saul said, ‘God do so to me and more also; you shall surely die, Jonathan.’ 45 Then the people said to Saul, ‘Shall Jonathan die, who has worked this great salvation in Israel? Far from it! As the Lord lives, there shall not one hair of his head fall to the ground, for he has worked with God this day.’ So the people ransomed Jonathan, so that he did not die.”**

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**FOR A MEANINGFUL  
END,  
BE SURE TO MAKE  
FRIENDS.**

**Application**

**Matthew 18:19-20 (ESV): “Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. 20 For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”**

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**Proverbs 17:17 (ESV): “A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.”**

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Next Week: 1 Samuel 16-19

