

Right and wrong should always be bl
White dog, black dog illustration
 Sometimes life's decisions seem
 to be more like a penguin...
 Right or wrong not so clear.
 But what if you are interpreting
 someone else's action, if their
 right or wrong? It's more difficult.
 As in our text:



Was David right with God in his decisions?

- Here's the question that we want to wrestle with...
- Was he making the best of his "desperate" situation? – Right? *Or*
- Was he wrong, making carnal decisions?
- Was he operating out of fear or faith?**
- Here is the key to interpreting God's word
- There are 2 possible interpretations...

Interpretation, what is the text saying? (27:1)

Then David said to himself, "Now I will perish one day by the hand of Saul. There is nothing better for me than to safely escape into the land of the Philistines. Then Saul will despair of searching for me anymore in all the territory of Israel, and I will escape from his hand." NASB

But David kept thinking to himself, "Someday Saul is going to get me. The best thing I can do is escape to the Philistines. Then Saul will stop hunting for me in Israelite territory, and I will finally be safe." NLT

David said to himself, "One of these days I'll be swept away by Saul. There is nothing better for me than to escape immediately to the land of the Philistines. Then Saul will stop searching for me everywhere in Israel, and I'll escape from him." HCSB

2 So David took his 600 men and went over and joined Achish son of Maach, the king of Gath. NLT

David right	David wrong
Verse 1: planning ahead,	Verse 1: allowing despair to creep in, feeling sorry for self (<i>what did God say?</i>)
Verses 1-3: a trial, time of testing	
Verses 2-3: moving ahead with no open door, wisely makes clever plan to get protection.	Verses 2-3: opting for carnality, carnal choices going outside of God's blessing.
Verse 3: God intervenes, honors his decision	
Verse 4: it works!	Verse 4: false sense of security

David right	David wrong
Verses 5-6: requests Ziklag to get away from pagan influence,	Verses 5-6: requests Ziklag to not be a burden, calls himself a <i>servant</i> of Achish!
Verse 7: time of growth,	Verse 7: time he backslides
Verses 8-9: uses campaigns to destroy Israel, Judah's enemies. (the Canaanites were under God's Judgment anyway)	Verses 8-9: while pretending to serve Achish, he is fighting for Judah, and they are loving him. (Note verse 12)
Verse 10: deception was ok during time of war	Verse 10: he lies, deception, very vague.

David right	David wrong
Verses 9,11: made good points with Judah (to be king later)	Verse 11: killed all to be not found out!
Verse 12: God uses Achish' lack of smarts,	Verse 12: 2 faced, one thing on inside, another on outside
Chapter 29: God protects David in a difficult position and tight spot.	Chapter 28:1-2: I'm with you!
	Chapter 29: Another horrible and compromising position. David is displaced, no place to go (sent away).

David right	David wrong
<i>In chapter 30 they are sent back to Ziklag, it's destroyed and burned with fire. Families were taken captive.</i>	<i>In chapter 30 they are sent back to Ziklag, it's destroyed and burned with fire. Families were taken captive.</i>
Chapter 30: God's trial on them, protecting families, strengthening David and his men, & victory!	Chapter 30: punishment, comes back to God (30:6) <i>Finally</i> inquires of God! (v.7ff)

Conclusion:

- So, was David right or wrong?
- Are there times when we make decisions?
- That we can make them carnally? Are they always white or black?
- How do you interpret these verses based on what I showed you?
- How does this passage speak to your heart?
- What do you do when you get discouraged?
- How do you interpret what you read in the word daily?