

## When Life Throws You Lemons; Make Lemonade!!!

**1 Samuel 30** King James Version (KJV)

**30** And it came to pass, when David and his men were come to Ziklag on the third day, that the Amalekites had invaded the south, and Ziklag, and smitten Ziklag, and burned it with fire; <sup>2</sup>And had taken the women captives, that were therein: they slew not any, either great or small, but carried them away, and went on their way. <sup>3</sup>So David and his men came to the city, and, behold, it was burned with fire; and their wives, and their sons, and their daughters, were taken captives.<sup>4</sup>Then David and the people that were with him lifted up their voice and wept, until they had no more power to weep. <sup>5</sup>And David's two wives were taken captives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite. <sup>6</sup>**And David was greatly distressed; for the people spake of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters: but David encouraged himself in the LORD his God.** <sup>7</sup>And David said to Abiathar the priest, Ahimelech's son, I pray thee, bring me hither the ephod. And Abiathar brought thither the ephod to David. (*1 : a linen apron worn in ancient Hebrew rites; especially : a vestment for the high priest. 2 : an ancient Hebrew instrument of the priestly order.*)<sup>8</sup>And David enquired at the LORD, saying, Shall I pursue after this troop? shall I overtake them? And he answered him, *Pursue: for thou shalt surely overtake them, and without fail recover all.*

Giving honor to God, Jesus the Christ, and the Holy Spirit. Giving honor to the men, women, and children of God. Good morning to my fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. As we look at today's text; 1 Samuel 30, it allows us to understand the importance of having the proper mindset life's situations and circumstances. There is a unique power in the mindset to encourage one's self in the midst of everything that's going on in life, family, community, school, on the job, in the relationship, etc. The ability to stop and spend the time that's necessary to encourage yourself in the Lord is a remarkable gift. **In verse 5, the text shares that David was greatly distressed. The people had received some terrible news. Their homes had been burned, many family members were carried off as hostages, and many were killed. They news was so devastating that the people cried until they couldn't cry anymore. They had lost so much. King David was concerned because the people were already talking about killing him. They were discussing stoning him; and he was greatly concerned or distressed. He realized that he needed to encourage himself in the Lord, his God.** Have you ever found yourself in a situation or circumstance where you needed God right then? Have you ever just sit down and cried, until you couldn't cry anymore? Have you ever felt like David, in that others wanted to see you stumble or fall? Have you ever been in trouble with your family, peers, co-workers because of a decision that you made or even a decision that you didn't make? Have you ever been wrongfully accused? Brothers and sisters everyday may not be like Christmas and every night may not be like the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Understanding that there may be good days and some

challenging days, I would like to tag this meditation with the topic, “**When life throws you lemons; make lemonade.**”

**According to the text...** Let’s read a little further; picking up at verse 9. “So David went, he and the six hundred men that were with him, and came to the brook Besor, where those that were left behind stayed. <sup>10</sup>But David pursued, he and four hundred men: for two hundred abode behind, which were so faint that they could not go over the brook Besor. **(They were tired)** <sup>11</sup>And they found an Egyptian in the field, and brought him to David, and gave him bread, and he did eat; and they made him drink water; <sup>12</sup>And they gave him a piece of a cake of figs, and two clusters of raisins: and when he had eaten, his spirit came again to him: for he had eaten no bread, nor drunk any water, three days and three nights. <sup>13</sup>And David said unto him, To whom belondest thou? and whence art thou? And he said, I am a young man of Egypt, servant to an Amalekite; and my master left me, because three days ago I fell sick. <sup>14</sup>We made an invasion upon the south of the Cherethites, and upon the coast which belongeth to Judah, and upon the south of Caleb; and we burned Ziklag with fire. <sup>15</sup>And David said to him, Canst thou bring me down to this company? And he said, *Swear unto me by God, that thou wilt neither kill me, nor deliver me into the hands of my master, and I will bring thee down to this company.* <sup>16</sup>And when he had brought him down, behold, they were spread abroad upon all the earth, eating and drinking, and dancing, because of all the great spoil that they had taken out of the land of the Philistines, and out of the land of Judah. <sup>17</sup>And David *smote them from the twilight even unto the evening of the next day: and there escaped not a man of them, save four hundred young men, which rode upon camels, and fled.* <sup>18</sup>And David recovered all that the Amalekites had carried away: *and David rescued his two wives.* <sup>19</sup>And there was nothing lacking to them, neither small nor great, neither sons nor daughters, neither spoil, nor any thing that they had taken to them: **David recovered all.”**

**The Thought for Today - *When life throws you lemons; make lemonade.***

***The recipe: 2 Quarts of Water; 7 fresh squeezed lemons, and (2 cups) All the Sugar You Can Find...***

***Here are three points that will help you make spiritual lemonade.***

**1. *Trust in the Lord – David trusted and inquired of the Lord***

In Proverbs 3:5-6 The word teaches us to Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. <sup>6</sup>In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

**2. *Give God the Praise – David was after God’s Own Heart***

Psalm 100 (KJV)

**100** Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. <sup>2</sup>Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing. <sup>3</sup>Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. <sup>4</sup>Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him; and bless his name. <sup>5</sup>For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.

**3. *Encouraging Yourself in the Lord – (David encouraged himself in the Lord; his God)***

Romans 8:35-39 says, “Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? <sup>36</sup>As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. <sup>37</sup>Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, <sup>39</sup>Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Beloved, you can be encouraged knowing that you can't be separated from the Lord. David recovered everything that he lost. The bible said that David recovered “All.”

***I came to tell you this morning that “When life throws you lemons; Make Lemonade.”***

I shared earlier, beloved, that every day may not be like Christmas and every night may not be like the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. In life we have some experiences on the mountain top, but Baby, every now and then, there will be some days where you have to go down into the valley. Can I get a witness this morning? I thank God for the experiences in the valley and on the mountain top. Hallelujah, It's on the mountain where I can sound my voice and tell the world about the love, power, grace, and mercy of my God. But I came to tell you, it's in the valley, where I witnessed His presence in the midst of my trials and tribulations. O' Yes. Good God Almighty. It was in the valley where I wrestled with myself and found that God was faithful. It was in the valley, that I found that God was my provider. It was when everything broke up and I broke down, that I found out that if He has to reach way down; Jesus will pick you up. It was in the valley, that I needed a healing and Jesus touched my body. I looked at my hands and they looked new. I looked at my feet and they did too. Hallelujah. Then, I had to run and tell that. Beloved, I could rejoice on the mountain top. Yessss; I could go and tell that.... Over the hills and everywhere that Jesus Christ was born, died on a cross for the sins of the entire world; was resurrected... I mean He got up with all power in His hands. Hallelujah to the Lamb of God. (Won't He Do It) God, You're worthy of the Praises of Your people. (I'm trying the keep calm; but I just can't hold my peace). I thank God that I don't look like what I've been through. Tell your neighbor. You may see my glory, but you really don't know my story. God Saved My Soul. YEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEESSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSS!!!

In closing, When, When, WHENNNNN, LIFE throws you Lemons; Make Lemonade!!!

You might have some obstacles in your way. Jesus is a burden bearer. Your money may have been acting funny. I know a Savior that owns the cattle on a thousand hills. Your body may have been in pain. Jesus is the balm in Gilead. He is the chief physician there. Somebody may have dragged your name through the mud. Jesus is a forgiving, loving Savior. You may feel all alone... Jesus is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother. Hallelujah to the Lamb of God.

You see the water is representative of a water flowing into everlasting life (Jesus). The lemons represent our trials, shortcomings, sin, and falling short of the mark. The sugar represents the Godhead (God the father, God the Son (Jesus), and God the Holy Spirit). You can turn all those lemons, with the washing of the word, that cleanses your soul, along with the Blessing of the Sweetness of the Lord. The sweetness brings about a change. When life throws you lemons; make lemonade. "It's going to get better. God's going to make it better." Hallelujah. Amen.

If you have not accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as your savior. Today is the day of Salvation. Romans 10:8-11 says, "But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; <sup>9</sup>That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. <sup>10</sup>For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. <sup>11</sup>For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed."

### **Benediction**

Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began, <sup>26</sup>But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith: <sup>27</sup>To God only wise, be glory through Jesus Christ forever. Amen.