



David Spares Saul's Life

1 Samuel 24:1-13

"Hi, Scoop!" called a voice from nearby.

Scoop Gibson looked up from his typewriter to see Kingdom Crusader on the fire escape outside his office window.

"Kingdom Crusader!" he greeted. "I've been waiting to hear your special announcement!"

"It's so amazing," Kingdom Crusader said, "you won't believe it. This is gonna' knock your socks right off. If there was a 'news of the century' award, this news would get it. If..."

"Could you please get on with it?" Scoop interrupted.

Kingdom Crusader stepped through the window and leaned across Scoop's desk to look him in the eyes. "The Philistine has contacted me personally. He says if we agree to forgive him for his past crimes, he will abandon his evil plans for world domination!"

"What?" Scoop rose from his chair so fast that it flipped and crashed to the floor. "You expect me to believe the Philistine is no longer a threat to King City?"

Kingdom Crusader held her ground. "He has promised to behave himself and try not to use his power to get revenge on King City."

"Try not to?!" Scoop cried out. He stared at the young superhero. "Come on, you don't really expect our readers to believe that a super villain is suddenly going to be nice?"

"It could happen," Kingdom Crusader encouraged. "I believe..."

She was interrupted when an evil laugh erupted behind her. Scoop jumped and then raced out the door. "I'll call for back up!"

"Ha, ha! Run away little man!" Philistine called after him. "I never get tired of that!"

"Philistine! You can't keep doing that!" Kingdom Crusader scolded. "I'm trying to convince King City you've changed your ways and you ruin it when you act that way."

The Philistine looked down at his feet. "Oh, fiddle-dee-dee! I sure am sorry. It's not that easy, you know, when you've spent five years developing a really cool evil persona to just drop it over night."

"Philistine! You promised you would try to change your ways," Kingdom Crusader reminded. "Now, don't you want people to trust you?"

Philistine sat down and rested his head in his hand. "Hmm! What's my other choice?"

"Philistine! Cut it out!" Kingdom Crusader demanded.

The Philistine grinned and sat up straight. "Kidding! Kidding! Gosh, lighten up. You super heroes are so uptight! I'm trying to change my image...it's just, well," he pulled his ray gun out of his waistband and held it up. "What am I supposed to do with my freeze ray? And my stink bombs and my rubber chicken gun...?"

"Put down those weapons, Philistine, or I shall blast you!" Scripture Guy jumped from the fire escape through the window into the open room, his gun leveled and ready.

"Scripture Guy!" Philistine exclaimed.

Scripture Guy fired a freezing ray over the Philistine's head. "I warned you."

Kingdom Crusader grabbed his arm as Scripture Guy fired two more shots. "No!!" she shrieked. The freeze rays missed their target as the Philistine ran away.

Scripture Guy turned to stare in disbelief at his partner in crime fighting. "Crusader! You let him get away!"

"I know. I didn't want you to fight him," Kingdom Crusader pleaded. "You see, he's trying to change."

"Change into what?" Scripture Guy asked sarcastically.

"The Philistine is trying to become a better person," she replied.

"Who told you that?" Scripture Guy scoffed.

"He did," she said firmly.

"Well, I for one, do not trust him!" Scripture Guy stated strongly.

"Well, I don't either," Kingdom Crusader agreed, "but I do trust God."

Scripture Guy tucked his ray gun into his belt and sat down on the window ledge. "What are you talking about?"

"Well, it's just that...David trusted God even when his enemies were against him," Kingdom Crusader explained. She noticed Scripture Guy's blank look and picked up a Bible from the corner of Scoop's desk. "I think God's Word explains what I am trying to say. Here's a good example: there was this one time when King Saul was searching for David. So, David and his men went up into the mountains..."

"Yes, I remember," Scripture Guy added. "King Saul was trying to kill David, so David and his men had to sleep in caves."

Yes," she continued, "and Saul came into the cave where David and the mighty men were hiding. But Saul did not know they were there! Then David crept up behind him and quietly cut off a corner of his robe. Saul did not even know he was there."

"If the Philistine ever tried to cut my cape, I'd give him trouble!" Scripture Guy promised.

Kingdom Crusader continued, "David didn't even touch Saul! He knew it would be wrong to hurt him because God had anointed Saul and chosen him to be king."

"Just like you let the Philistine escape?" Scripture Guy asked.

"Yes," Kingdom Crusader confirmed. "Then, David showed Saul the piece he had cut from his robe to prove he had the chance to hurt him, but had chosen not to."

"The Bible does say we should love our enemies. But, shouldn't the Philistine be punished for the wrong things he has done?" Scripture Guy asked.

"Yes! And that's where trusting God comes in handy! Look what David said to Saul." Kingdom Crusader read, "May the Lord judge between you and me. And may the Lord avenge the wrongs you have done to me, but my hand will not touch you."

"I see," Scripture Guy responded slowly. "Instead of getting revenge, David trusted God to judge King Saul for the wrongs he had done."

"David trusted God with everything," Kingdom Crusader confirmed.

"And I trust God with all my heart!" Scripture Guy proclaimed.

"Do you think you could learn to trust that God is working on the Philistine's heart?" Kingdom Crusader asked.

Scripture Guy hesitated. "Do you really think he's trying to change?"

"I really do," Kingdom Crusader said solemnly.

Scripture Guy stood tall. "Then I'll trust your word and I'll trust God. Let's go catch up to the Philistine and give him another chance."

"That's the spirit!" Kingdom Crusader cheered. "Let's give everything to honor our King!"