

*“Perhaps the Lord Will Work For Us”*

*1 Sam. 14:1-23*

I. The Circumstances surrounding the event

Israel stands against their perpetual nemesis - the Philistines. Chapter 13 tells us that there is an enormous amount of Philistines (13:5) against the puny number of Israelites (13:2).

Two other issues are brought to light in chapter 13.

- **First**, Saul disobeys Samuel and makes an inappropriate offering (13:8-14).
- **Second**, only Saul and Jonathan have a sword or spear. No one else in the nation has an instrument of war (13:22).

This shows us the bleakness of the situation.

II. The Conviction of one man

- A. Jonathan did not place any confidence in his ability or the ability of his armor bearer.
- B. Jonathan knew that if the Lord did not work all would be lost and he would die.
- C. Jonathan did not know what the Lord would do only what the Lord could do.
- D. Jonathan knew that the Lord was not restrained to work by many or by few.
- E. Jonathan was willing to walk through the doors opened to Him by the Lord (vv. 11-12).
- F. Jonathan worked hard to preserve his life knowing that it was God, who was working both to will and to do according to His own good pleasure (vv.13, 14).

Living by faith and resting in grace in, not spiritual apathy, but spiritual vitality.

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III. The Consequences of his stand

- A. Their enemies were confused (vv. 15-20 [see also 13:6, 7]).
- B. The hypocrites were restored (v.21).
- C. The cowardly found courage (v.22).
- D. The nation was delivered (v.23).

I find it fascinating that no word is spoken concerning the reception of those who had earlier deserted.

Perhaps today you might say, "I'm no Jonathan, I cannot do what he did." You know, the beauty of this story is that you do not have to be a Jonathan. Remember, there was an unnamed individual who simply supported the desire to obey God and go forward (14:7). He was the armor bearer.