



*"Do not take revenge,
my dear friends, but
leave room for God's
wrath, for it is written: 'It is
mine to avenge; I will
repay,' says the Lord."*

— Romans 12:19

DEVOTION:

David had already been chosen. He had already been anointed. The promise of kingship was real — yet the throne remained occupied by Saul. In the desert caves of En Gedi, David wasn't living like a king; he was living like a fugitive. Hunted, hiding, and misunderstood — yet still holding onto a promise from God.

One day, David had the perfect opportunity to seize the throne by force. Saul walked into the very cave where David and his men were hiding. With one swift move, David could end his suffering and take what was rightfully his. His men even encouraged him to act, believing God had delivered Saul into his hands.

But David chose patience over power. Trust over timing. He knew that forcing God's promise to come true on *his* terms would not honor the God who gave it. So instead of striking Saul down, he cut a corner of his robe, a symbolic act showing that while he *could* act, he *chose* to wait.

In our own lives, God often gives us a vision, a calling, or a promise — but then allows us to walk through wilderness seasons. It's in these times we are tempted to take shortcuts or to rush His plan. But like David, we are called to trust that God's timing is perfect, even when it feels painfully slow.

The wilderness is not a sign that God has forgotten you — it's often the place He prepares you.

David came out of the cave not just with a robe's corner, but with his character proven. He passed the test of waiting, and in doing so, honored God in the process.

Reflection Questions:

1. Are you currently in a "wilderness" season, waiting on God's promises?
2. In what ways are you tempted to "take matters into your own hands"?
3. How can David's example inspire you to trust God's timing today?

Prayer:

Father, thank You for Your promises, even when I cannot yet see them fulfilled. Help me to trust You in the waiting. Give me the strength to resist shortcuts and the wisdom to know that Your timing is always best. Refine me in the wilderness, so that when the promise comes, I am ready to carry it with humility and faith. In Jesus' name, amen.