

The Conscience Question

Better Decisions, Fewer Regrets: Part 4

Nathaniel Sorensen * January 21, 2024 * New Life Vineyard Church

*A sensible person sees danger and takes cover,
but the inexperienced keep going and are punished.*

Proverbs 22:3

QUESTION #3

3. Is there a _____
that deserves my _____?

Tension can be a signal that there may be
more _____ in play.

_____ of Origins

When Saul returned from pursuing the Philistines, he was told, "David is in the wilderness near En-gedi." So Saul took 3,000 of Israel's choice men and went to look for David and his men in front of the Rocks of the Wild Goats. When Saul came to the sheep pens along the road, a cave was there, and he went in to relieve himself.

David and his men were staying in the back of the cave, so they said to him, "Look, this is the day the LORD told you about: 'I will hand your enemy over to you so you can do to him whatever you desire.'"

1 Samuel 24:1-4

We believe that in certain circumstances we can
_____ the future.

Then David got up and secretly cut off the corner of Saul's robe.

Afterward, David's conscience bothered him because he had cut off the corner of Saul's robe. He said to his men, "I swear before the LORD: I would never do such a thing to my lord, the LORD's anointed. I will never lift my hand against him, since he is the LORD's anointed." With these words David persuaded his men, and he did not let them rise up against Saul.

Then Saul left the cave and went on his way. After that, David got up, went out of the cave, and called to Saul, "My lord the king!" When Saul looked behind him, David bowed to the ground in homage. David said to Saul... "May the LORD judge between you and me, and may the LORD take vengeance on you for me, but my hand will never be against you... May the LORD be judge and decide between you and me. May He take notice and plead my case and deliver me from you."

...Then Saul wept aloud and said to David, "You are more righteous than I, for you have done what is good to me though I have done what is evil to you... May the LORD repay you with good for what you've done for me today."

...Then Saul went back home, and David and his men went up to the stronghold.

1 Samuel 24:4-22

Talk It Over With Someone

1. What is *your* name for your internal warning system?
2. Have you ever been really close to saying yes on a big decision, but at the last minute you bailed for no other reason than something just didn't sit right with you? Describe what you experienced in that situation.
3. In what way does our memory verse from Proverbs support the habit of paying attention to this inner tension? What's the relationship between the verse and this principle?

* All scriptures from HCSB unless otherwise noted