

Before the THRONE

The Devotional

Volume 1

Books of the Law & History

1 Samuel 22:16-19

“And the king (Saul) said, “You shall surely die Abimelech, you and all your house.” And the king said to the footmen that stood around him. “Kill the priests of the LORD because their hand is with David...” But the servants of the king would not kill the priests of the LORD, so Saul commanded Doeg the Edomite to kill them. And that day he killed eighty-five priests along with their families and livestock.” 1 Samuel 22:16-19 paraphrased

There is a fear that will keep you from sin, but the fear of the LORD will also cause you to act against evil. These servants of Saul knew that to obey their king would mean to sin against the LORD. To stand by and allow the wholesale slaughter of the innocent and righteous people of this village made them just as culpable as if they had obeyed Saul. “To him that knows to do good, and doesn’t do it, to him it is sin.” (James 4:17).

Passivity is a subtle evil, appearing so self-righteous, but by its nature of inaction aids the unrighteous cause! “... if the salt has lost it’s savor... it is thereafter good for nothing...” (Matthew 5:13). To hide behind a guise of religious formalities while evil is increasing is a sin of most grievous proportions!

“LORD Jesus, forgive me for having lost my saltiness. Forgive my inaction. Forgive my fear of standing tall and for acting for righteousness. (1 John 1:9)