

1 Samuel 21 - 24

David Becomes a Fugitive

Lesson 7

Everything David did resulted in Saul becoming more jealous. Military victories resulted in songs of the peoples' love of David. No matter how difficult the task Saul gave, the result was always a success. Twice, while David tried to soothe Saul with his harp, Saul threw his spear attempting to kill him, but David escaped. Then Saul enlisted the help of his servants, his son Jonathan and his soldiers but all these attempts failed. David was firmly in the hand of his God.

David at Nob - 21:1-9

1. David fled to God's prophet Samuel at Ramah to seek counsel. From Ramah, David went to Nob. To whom did David go to seek help? (vs. 1a)
2. How was David received? (vs. 1b)
3. How did he answer? (vs. 2)
4. After this vague answer, David asked for food. What was available? (vs. 4 - 6)
5. Who was nearby and saw David? (vs. 7)
6. David also requested a weapon. What was the only thing available? (vs. 8-9)

With food and a weapon, David set out for a new location, the Philistine city of Gath.

David at Gath - 21:10-15

7. Why David fled to the Philistines is a mystery. It would appear he thought by arriving alone, no one would recognize him. But he was mistaken. Using vs. 10 & 11:
 - Who recognized David?
 - What title did he use in referring to David?

8. David, recognized and inside a walled enemy city, was "very much afraid." Thinking fast on his feet, what did David do to prevent being taken prisoner? (vs. 12, 13)
9. Did his plan work? (vs. 14, 15)

David On the Move - 22:1-5

10. From Gath, David went to the Cave of Adullam. Who joined him there?
- vs. 1
 - vs. 2a
 - How many came? (vs. 2b)
11. What was David's purpose in going to Moab? (vs. 3, 4)
12. Even though David was fleeing from Saul, he was still God's man. Using vs. 5:
- Who did God send to David?
 - What was his message?

Trouble for Nob - 22:6-23

13. David obeyed God's message and fled to the Forest of Hereth. While Saul was "seated under the tamarisk tree," he received news of David's location. What did Saul say to his faithful soldiers?
- vs. 7
 - vs. 8a
 - vs. 8 b, c

14. What did Doeg the Edomite reveal to Saul? (vs. 9, 10)
15. Saul immediately sent word to Nob and the priests quickly arrived. How did the priest Ahimelech address Saul? (vs. 12)
16. Referring back to 1 Samuel 21:2, what do you think Ahimelech may have expected?
17. When Saul accused him of conspiring with David against the king, what was a surprised Ahimelech's answer about:
 - David (vs. 14)
 - Himself (vs. 15)
18. When it came to David, King Saul was irrational and refused to listen. What was Saul's response to Ahimelech's defense? (vs. 16, 17a)
19. How did the guards react to Saul's order? (vs. 17b)
20. Who was willing to step forward and obey the king? (vs. 18a, b)
 - Who did he kill that day? (vs. 18c, 19)
21. The Lord protected one priest named Abiathar who fled to David. What was David's response when told what Saul had done? (vs. 22, 23)

David at Keilah - 23:1-12

22. Sometime later David learned the Philistines were fighting against the people of Keilah. What was the first thing David did? (vs. 2a)

- What was the answer? (vs. 2b)

23. But Keilah was in the territory of Judah, under the rule of King Saul. How did David's men feel about this? (vs. 3)

24. What was David's response? (vs. 4)

25. What happened when David and his men did go to Keilah? (vs. 5)

A parenthesis was added to explain how Abiathar was able to inquire of the Lord. He had the ephod, a pocket type garment worn by the High Priest that contained the Urim and Thummin, stones used to determine God's yes or no.

26. When Saul heard David was at Keilah, what did Saul:

- Believe (vs. 7)

- Do (vs. 8)

27. When David learned Saul's plan, what did he do? (vs. 9)

28. What was David's concern? (vs. 10)

29. What two questions did David ask of the Lord? (vs. 11)

30. The answer to both his questions was "yes." How many men were with David at this time? (vs. 13)

31. David and his men left the city and moved from place to place. What was Saul doing during this time? (vs. 14)

32. David was now responsible for a 600 man army - - and their families. These people had come to David while he was fleeing from Saul. Knowing that David needed some extra encouragement, whom did God send to him? (vs. 15, 16)
33. Summarize his message to David. (vs. 17, 18)
34. What did they do before parting? (vs. 18)
35. Later David and his men hid in the Desert of Ziph. Its rough terrain and many inaccessible places made this the perfect hiding place - - except for the locals. What did the Ziphites:
- Do (vs. 19)

 - Promise (vs. 20)
36. What was Saul's reply?
- vs. 21 The Lord _____
 - vs. 22 Find out _____
 - vs. 23a Come back _____
 - vs. 23b Then I will _____
37. Once again the hunt was on. David had moved to the Desert of Maon and just as Saul was closing in with no escape for David, whom did the Lord use to prevent capture? (vs. 26, 27)

Saul called off the pursuit and David went up and lived in the strongholds of En Gedi.

David at En Gedi - 24:1-22

38. Saul didn't wait long before he resumed the hunt, this time with 3,000 hand-chosen men. On one occasion, Saul went alone to relieve himself and went into the cave where David and his men were hiding. Seeing the king alone, what did David's men say? (vs. 4a)

- What did David do? (vs. 4b-7)

39. Saul left the cave and when he was far enough away, David stepped out into the open and called out to him. What did David say and do to get Saul's attention? (vs. 8)

40. David asked the king why he would listen to those who said he was out to harm him, and then David pleaded his case. Using vs. 11-15

- How did David address the king this time?
- What did he show Saul?
- Using this as proof, what did David want Saul to understand?
- Who did David say would serve as their judge?

41. When David finished speaking, what did Saul call him? (vs. 16a)

42. What did Saul do? (vs. 16b)

43. What was Saul's judgment about David's character? (vs. 17, 18)

44. Using vs. 19-21

- What does someone's enemy not do?
- What was Saul's request of the Lord?

- What did Saul declare before all the soldiers, (Saul's and David's)?
- What oath did Saul ask David to take?

45. Did David agree to this oath? (vs. 22a)

46. After this emotional exchange was David willing to trust Saul? (vs. 22b)