

No Good Deed (c. 1022 – c. 1012 BC)

1 Samuel 23:9–24

David Escapes from Keilah

9 Now David knew that Saul was plotting evil against him; so he said to Abiathar the priest, “Bring the ephod here.”

10 Then David said, “O LORD God of Israel, Your servant has heard for certain that Saul is seeking to come to Keilah to destroy the city on my account.

11 Will the men of Keilah surrender me into his hand? Will Saul come down just as Your servant has heard? O LORD God of Israel, I pray, tell Your servant.” And the LORD said, “He will come down.”

12 Then David said, “Will the men of Keilah surrender me and my men into the hand of Saul?” And the LORD said, “They will surrender you.”

13 Then David and his men, about six hundred, arose and departed from Keilah, and they went wherever they could go. When it was told Saul that David had escaped from Keilah, he gave up the pursuit.

David Hides in the Wilderness of Ziph

14 David stayed in the wilderness in the strongholds, and remained in the hill country in the wilderness of Ziph. And Saul sought him every day, but God did not deliver him into his hand.

15 Now David became aware that Saul had come out to seek his life while David was in the wilderness of Ziph at Horesh.

Jonathan Visits David at Horesh

16 And Jonathan, Saul’s son, arose and went to David at Horesh, and encouraged him in God.

17 Thus he said to him, “Do not be afraid, because the hand of Saul my father will not find you, and you will be king over Israel and I will be next to you; and Saul my father knows that also.”

18 So the two of them made a covenant before the LORD; and David stayed at Horesh while Jonathan went to his house.

The Ziphites Betray David

19 Then Ziphites came up to Saul at Gibeah, saying, “Is David not hiding with us in the strongholds at Horesh, on the hill of Hachilah, which is on the south of Jeshimon?”

20 Now then, O king, come down according to all the desire of your soul to do so; and our part *shall be* to surrender him into the king’s hand.”

21 Saul said, “May you be blessed of the LORD, for you have had compassion on me.

22 Go now, make more sure, and investigate and see his place where his haunt is, *and* who has seen him there; for I am told that he is very cunning.

23 So look, and learn about all the hiding places where he hides himself and return to me with certainty, and I will go with you; and if he is in the land, I will search him out among all the thousands of Judah.”

24 Then they arose and went to Ziph before Saul. Now David and his men were in the wilderness of Maon, in the Arabah to the south of Jeshimon.

Save Me, O God, by Your Name (c. 1022 – c. 1012 BC)

Psalm 54

For the choir director; on stringed instruments.

A Maskil of David, when the Ziphites came and said to Saul, “Is not David hiding himself among us?”

1 Save me, O God, by Your name,
And vindicate me by Your power.

2 Hear my prayer, O God;
Give ear to the words of my mouth.

- 3 For strangers have risen against me
And violent men have sought my life;
They have not set God before them. *Selah*.
- 4 Behold, God is my helper;
The Lord is the sustainer of my soul.
- 5 He will recompense the evil to my foes;
Destroy them in Your faithfulness.
- 6 Willingly I will sacrifice to You;
I will give thanks to Your name, O LORD, for it is good.
- 7 For He has delivered me from all trouble,
And my eye has looked *with satisfaction* upon my enemies.

Help, LORD, for No One Is Faithful Anymore (c. 1022 – c. 1012 BC)

Psalm 12

For the choir director; upon an eight-stringed lyre.

A Psalm of David.

- 1 Help, LORD, for the godly man ceases to be,
For the faithful disappear from among the sons of men.
- 2 They speak falsehood to one another;
With flattering lips and with a double heart they speak.
- 3 May the LORD cut off all flattering lips,
The tongue that speaks great things;
- 4 Who have said, "With our tongue we will prevail;
Our lips are our own; who is lord over us?"
- 5 "Because of the devastation of the afflicted, because of the groaning of the needy,
Now I will arise," says the LORD; "I will set him in the safety for which he longs."
- 6 The words of the LORD are pure words;
As silver tried in a furnace on the earth, refined seven times.
- 7 You, O LORD, will keep them;
You will preserve him from this generation forever.
- 8 The wicked strut about on every side
When vileness is exalted among the sons of men.

The Wilderness of Maon (c. 1022 – c. 1012 BC)

1 Samuel 23:25

25 When Saul and his men went to seek *him*, they told David, and he came down to the rock and stayed in the wilderness of Maon. And when Saul heard *it*, he pursued David in the wilderness of Maon.

Hide Me in the Shadow of Your Wings (c. 1022 – c. 1012 BC)

Psalm 17

A Prayer of David.

- 1 Hear a just cause, O LORD, give heed to my cry;
Give ear to my prayer, which is not from deceitful lips.
- 2 Let my judgment come forth from Your presence;
Let Your eyes look with equity.
- 3 You have tried my heart;
You have visited *me* by night;

You have tested me and You find nothing;
 I have purposed that my mouth will not transgress.

4 As for the deeds of men, by the word of Your lips
 I have kept from the paths of the violent.

5 My steps have held fast to Your paths.
 My feet have not slipped.

6 I have called upon You, for You will answer me, O God;
 Incline Your ear to me, hear my speech.

7 Wondrously show Your lovingkindness,
 O Savior of those who take refuge at Your right hand
 From those who rise up *against them*.

8 Keep me as the apple of the eye;
 Hide me in the shadow of Your wings

9 From the wicked who despoil me,
 My deadly enemies who surround me.

10 They have closed their unfeeling *heart*,
 With their mouth they speak proudly.

11 They have now surrounded us in our steps;
 They set their eyes to cast *us* down to the ground.

12 He is like a lion that is eager to tear,
 And as a young lion lurking in hiding places.

13 Arise, O LORD, confront him, bring him low;
 Deliver my soul from the wicked with Your sword,

14 From men with Your hand, O LORD,
 From men of the world, whose portion is in *this* life,
 And whose belly You fill with Your treasure;
 They are satisfied with children,
 And leave their abundance to their babes.

15 As for me, I shall behold Your face in righteousness;
 I will be satisfied with Your likeness when I awake.

The LORD Is My Strength and My Shield (c. 1022 – c. 1012 BC)

Psalm 28

A Psalm of David.

1 To You, O LORD, I call;
 My rock, do not be deaf to me,
 For if You are silent to me,
 I will become like those who go down to the pit.

2 Hear the voice of my supplications when I cry to You for help,
 When I lift up my hands toward Your holy sanctuary.

3 Do not drag me away with the wicked
 And with those who work iniquity,
 Who speak peace with their neighbors,
 While evil is in their hearts.

4 Requite them according to their work and according to the evil of their practices;
 Requite them according to the deeds of their hands;
 Repay them their recompense.

5 Because they do not regard the works of the LORD

- Nor the deeds of His hands,
He will tear them down and not build them up.
- 6 Blessed be the LORD,
Because He has heard the voice of my supplication.
- 7 The LORD is my strength and my shield;
My heart trusts in Him, and I am helped;
Therefore my heart exults,
And with my song I shall thank Him.
- 8 The LORD is their strength,
And He is a saving defense to His anointed.
- 9 Save Your people and bless Your inheritance;
Be their shepherd also, and carry them forever.

The Strongholds of En Gedi (c. 1022 – c. 1012 BC)

1 Samuel 23:26–29

- 26 Saul went on one side of the mountain, and David and his men on the other side of the mountain; and David was hurrying to get away from Saul, for Saul and his men were surrounding David and his men to seize them.
- 27 But a messenger came to Saul, saying, “Hurry and come, for the Philistines have made a raid on the land.”
- 28 So Saul returned from pursuing David and went to meet the Philistines; therefore they called that place the Rock of Escape.
- 29 David went up from there and stayed in the strongholds of Engedi.

Be Gracious to Me, O God (c. 1022 – c. 1012 BC)

Psalms 57

- For the choir director; set to Al-tashheth.*
- A Mikhtam of David, when he fled from Saul in the cave.**
- 1 Be gracious to me, O God, be gracious to me,
For my soul takes refuge in You;
And in the shadow of Your wings I will take refuge
Until destruction passes by.
- 2 I will cry to God Most High,
To God who accomplishes *all things* for me.
- 3 He will send from heaven and save me;
He reproaches him who tramples upon me. *Selah.*
God will send forth His lovingkindness and His truth.
- 4 My soul is among lions;
I must lie among those who breathe forth fire,
Even the sons of men, whose teeth are spears and arrows
And their tongue a sharp sword.
- 5 Be exalted above the heavens, O God;
Let Your glory be above all the earth.
- 6 They have prepared a net for my steps;
My soul is bowed down;
They dug a pit before me;
They *themselves* have fallen into the midst of it. *Selah.*

- 7 My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast;
I will sing, yes, I will sing praises!
- 8 Awake, my glory!
Awake, harp and lyre!
I will awaken the dawn.
- 9 I will give thanks to You, O Lord, among the peoples;
I will sing praises to You among the nations.
- 10 For Your lovingkindness is great to the heavens
And Your truth to the clouds.
- 11 Be exalted above the heavens, O God;
Let Your glory be above all the earth.

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