

The Cave of Adullam (c. 1022 – c. 1012 BC)

1 Samuel 22:1–2

1 David went from there and escaped to the cave of Adullam. When his brothers and all his father's household heard, they came down to him there.

2 Every man in distress and every man who had a creditor and every embittered man gathered to him, and he became their commander. Now there *were* about four hundred men with him.

You Are My Refuge (c. 1022 – c. 1012 BC)

Psalm 142

A maskil of David. When he was in the cave. A prayer.

- 1 I cry out with my voice to Yahweh;
I implore favor with my voice to Yahweh.
- 2 I pour out my complaint before him;
I declare my trouble before him.
- 3 When my spirit faints within me,
you know my way.
On the path where I walk,
they have hidden a trap for me;
- 4 look to *my* right and see.
There is no one looking out for me;
there is no escape for me;
no one cares for my soul.
- 5 I cry out to you, O Yahweh.
I say, "You *are* my refuge,
my portion in the land of the living."
- 6 Attend to my cry,
for I am brought very low.
Deliver me from my pursuers,
for they are stronger than I.
- 7 Bring me out of prison,
that I may give thanks to your name.
The righteous will encircle me,
because you will deal bountifully with me.

Saul Slaughters the Priests of Nob (c. 1022 – c. 1012 BC)

1 Samuel 22:3–23

David Moves His Parents to Safety in Moab

3 And David went up from there to Mizpah of Moab. He said to the king of Moab, "Please let my father and my mother stay with you until I know what God will do for me."

4 So he brought them before the king of Moab, and they stayed with him all the days David was in the stronghold.

5 Then Gad the prophet said to David, "You should not stay in the stronghold; leave and go into the land of Judah." So David left and came to the forest of Hereth.

Saul Complains of Treachery

6 Now Saul heard that David and the men who *were* with him had been located. Saul *was* sitting at Gibeah under the tamarisk tree at Ramah. Now his spear *was* in his hand and all his servants *were* stationed around him.

7 Then Saul said to the servants who *were* standing around him, "Please listen, Benjaminites! Will the son of Jesse give you all fields and vineyards? Will he make all of you commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds?"

8 For all of you have conspired against me, and no one discloses to me the making of *an agreement* between my son and the son of Jesse! None of you have had sympathy for me or disclosed to me *that* my son commissioned my servant against me to ambush me as *has been done* this day!"

9 But Doeg the Edomite, who *was* stationed among the servants of Saul, answered and said, "I saw the son of Jesse going to Nob, to Ahimelech the son of Ahitub.

10 And he inquired of Yahweh for him and gave him provisions and gave him the sword of Goliath the Philistine."

Saul Sends for the Priests of Nob

11 So the king sent to summon Ahimelech the son of Ahitub the priest, and all his father's household, the priests who *were* at Nob. So all of them came to the king.

12 Saul said, "Listen please, son of Ahitub." He said, "Here I *am*, my lord."

13 Then Saul said to him, "Why did you conspire against me, you and the son of Jesse, when you gave to him bread and a sword, and by inquiring of God for him so that he might arise against me to ambush *me as has been done* this day?"

14 But Ahimelech answered the king and said, "And who among all your servants *is* as faithful as David? He *is* the son-in-law of the king who moves *quickly* to safeguard you and is honored in your house.

15 *Only* today I began to inquire of God for him. Far be it from me that the king should impute anything against his servant or against my father's household, for your servant has not known any of this matter, little or much."

Saul Slaughters the Priests and the Entire City of Nob

16 Then the king said, "You must certainly die, Ahimelech, you and all your father's household!"

17 So the king said to the runners *who were* stationed around him, "Turn and kill the priests of Yahweh, because they also support David and because they knew that he was fleeing and did not disclose it to me." But the servants of the king *were* not willing to raise their hand to attack the priests of Yahweh.

18 Then the king said to Doeg, "You turn and attack the priests!" So Doeg the Edomite turned and attacked the priests himself, and on that day he killed eighty-five men who wore *the* linen ephod.

19 And he put to the sword Nob, the city of the priests, from man to woman, from child to infant, and ox and donkey and sheep; *all* to the sword.

Abiathar Escapes to David

20 But, one of the sons of Ahimelech the son of Ahitub, whose name was Abiathar, escaped and fled after David.

21 Abiathar told David that Saul had killed the priests of Yahweh.

22 Then David said to Abiathar, "I knew on that day that Doeg the Edomite was there, that he would certainly tell Saul. I am responsible for the deaths of all your father's household!

23 Stay with me! Do not fear, because he who seeks my life seeks your life. You are in good care with me."

The Steadfast Love of God Endures (c. 1022 – c. 1012 BC)

Psalm 52

For the music director.

A maskil of David. When Doeg the Edomite came and informed Saul. And he said to him, "David has come to the house of Ahimelech."

- 1 Why do you boast about evil, O mighty man?
The loyal love of God *endures* continually.
- 2 Your tongue plans destruction,
like a sharp razor, working deceit.
- 3 You love evil more than good,
a lie more than speaking what is right. *Selah*
- 4 You love all devouring words,
O deceitful tongue,
5 but God will pull you down forever.
He will snatch you and tear you away from *your* tent,
and *he* will uproot you from *the* land of *the* living. *Selah*
- 6 And *the* righteous will see and fear,
and will laugh at him, *saying*,
- 7 "Look, the man *who* would not make God his refuge,
but he trusted in the greatness of his wealth;
he took refuge in his destructiveness."
- 8 But I *am* like an olive tree flourishing
in the house of God.
I trust the loyal love of God forever and ever.
- 9 I will give thanks to you forever, because *of what* you have done,
and I will wait on your name, because *it is* good,
in the presence of your faithful ones.

No Good Deed (c. 1022 – c. 1012 BC)

1 Samuel 23:1–13

1 Now they told David, “Look, *the* Philistines *are* fighting in Keilah and they *are* raiding the threshing floors.”

2 So David inquired of Yahweh, saying, “Shall I go and attack these Philistines?” And Yahweh said to David, “Go and attack the Philistines and save Keilah.”

3 But David’s men said to him, “Look, we *are* afraid here in Judah. How much more *if* we go *to* Keilah to the battle lines of *the* Philistines?”

4 So David again inquired of Yahweh, and Yahweh answered him and said, “Get up, go down *to* Keilah, for I *am* giving *the* Philistines into your hand.”

5 So David and his men went to Keilah and fought with *the* Philistines. They drove off their livestock and dealt them a heavy blow. So David saved the inhabitants of Keilah.

6 Now when Abiathar the son of Ahimelech fled to David *at* Keilah, he went down *with* an ephod in his hand.

7 When it was told to Saul that David had gone to Keilah, Saul said, “God has given him into my hand, because he has shut himself in by going into a city *with* two barred gates.

8 Saul then summoned all of the army for the battle, to go down *to* Keilah to lay a siege against David and his men.

9 When David learned that Saul *was* plotting evil against him, he said to Abiathar the priest, “Bring the ephod here.”

10 And David said, “O Yahweh, God of Israel, your servant has clearly heard that Saul *is* seeking to come to Keilah to destroy the city because of me.

11 Will the rulers of Keilah deliver me into his hand? Will Saul come down as your servant has heard? O Yahweh, God of Israel, please tell your servant!” And Yahweh said, “He will come down.”

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

13 So David and his men got up, about six hundred men, and went out from Keilah and wandered wherever they could go. When it was told to Saul that David had escaped from Keilah, he stopped his pursuit.

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

1 Samuel 23:14–25

David Hides in the Wilderness of Ziph

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

15 When David realized that Saul had gone out to seek his life, David was in the wilderness of Ziph at Horesh.

Jonathan Visits David at Horesh

16 So Jonathan the son of Saul got up and went to David *at* Horesh, and encouraged him through God.

17 He said to him, “Do not be afraid, for the hand of my father Saul will not find you. You will be king over Israel, and I will be second to you. My father Saul knows *this* also.”

18 Then the two of them made a covenant before Yahweh. David remained at Horesh, and Jonathan went to his house.

The Ziphites Betray David

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

20 So then, O king, whenever you want to come down, come down, and *it will be* for us to deliver him into the hand of the king.”

21 And Saul said to them, “May you be blessed by Yahweh, for you have shown me compassion!

22 Go, please, make certain again! Find out and see exactly where he is and who has seen him there! For they have said to me, ‘He *is* very cunning.’

23 Look, find out all of the hiding places where he hides. Then return to me with dependable information, and I will go with you. And then if he *is* there in the land, then I will seek him among all the thousands of Judah.”

24 Then they got up 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.

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

The Lord Upholds My Life (c. 1022 – c. 1012 BC)

Psalm 54

For the music director, with stringed instruments.

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

- 1 O God, by your name save me,
and by your power vindicate me.
- 2 O God, hear my prayer;
heed the words of my mouth.
- 3 For foreigners have risen against me,
and ruthless *men* seek my life.
They have not set God before them. *Selah*
- 4 See, God *is* my helper;
The Lord *is* with those who sustain my life.
- 5 He will repay my enemies for their evil;
in your faithfulness destroy them.
- 6 I will freely sacrifice to you;
I will give thanks *to* your name,
O Yahweh, because *it is* good.
- 7 Because he has delivered me from all trouble,
and my eye has looked *with satisfaction* on my enemies.

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 went on the other side of the mountain. David was hurrying to get away from Saul, while Saul and his men *were* closing in on David and his men to capture them.

27 But a messenger came to Saul, saying, “Hurry and come, because *the* Philistines have made a raid on the land!”

28 So Saul returned from pursuing David, and he went to confront *the* Philistines. Therefore, they called that place the Rock of Division.

29 David went up from there and stayed in the strongholds of En Gedi.

Let Your Glory Be Over All the Earth (c. 1022 – c. 1012 BC)

Psalm 57

For the music director, according to Do Not Destroy.

Of David. A miktam. When he fled from Saul into the cave.

- 1 Be gracious to me, O God, be gracious to me,
because in you my soul takes refuge.
In the shadow of your wings I will take refuge
until destruction passes by.
- 2 I will call to God Most High,
to God who accomplishes *things* concerning me.
- 3 He will send from heaven and save me;
he will reproach *the* one who tramples me. *Selah*
God will send his loyal love and his faithfulness.
- 4 My soul *is* among lions.
I lie down *among those who* devour—
the children of humankind whose teeth *are* spears and arrows
and whose tongues *are* sharp swords.
- 5 Be exalted above the heavens, O God.
Let your glory *be* above all the earth.
- 6 They have set a net for my steps;
my soul is bowed down.
They have dug a pit before me;
they have fallen into the midst of it. *Selah*
- 7 My heart *is* steadfast, O God;
My heart *is* steadfast.

- I will sing and give praise.
- 8 Awake, my glory;
Awake, harp and lyre.
I will awake *the* dawn.
- 9 I will give you thanks among the peoples, O Lord;
I will give you praise among *the* nations.
- 10 Because your loyal love *is* high to *the* heavens,
and your faithfulness to *the* clouds.
- 11 Be exalted above *the* heavens, O God.
Let your glory *be* above all the earth.

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