

Ziklag is Raided by the Amalekites (c. 1010 BC)

1 Samuel 30:1–25

David Returns to Find Ziklag in Ruins

- 1 Now when David and his men came to Ziklag on the third day, *the* Amalekites had raided *the* Negev and Ziklag. When they attacked Ziklag, they burned it with fire.
- 2 They took captive the women who were in it, from the youngest to the oldest. They did not kill anyone, but carried *them* off and went on their way.
- 3 When David and his men came to the city, they saw, and *it* was burned with fire, and their wives, their sons, and their daughters had been taken captive.
- 4 Then David and the people who *were* with him raised their voices and wept until there was not *enough* strength in them to weep.
- 5 Two of David's wives had been taken captive. Ahinoam from Jezreel and Abigail, the wife of Nabal the Carmelite.

David Pursues the Raiders

- 6 And David was in a very precarious situation, for the people spoke of stoning him, for the souls of all the people were bitter, each *one* over his sons and his daughters. But David strengthened himself in Yahweh his God.
- 7 Then David said to Abiathar the priest, the son of Ahimelech, "Please bring the ephod here for me." So Abiathar brought the ephod to David.
- 8 And David inquired of Yahweh, saying, "Should I pursue after this band of *raiders*? Will I overtake them?" He said to him, "Pursue *them*, for you will certainly overtake them, and you will certainly rescue them."
- 9 So David went, he and the six hundred men who were with him, and they came to the Wadi Besor, but the rest remained.
- 10 David pursued, he and four hundred men; but two hundred men stayed because they were too exhausted to pass over the Wadi Besor.
- 11 Then they found an Egyptian man in the open country and brought him to David, and they gave him food and he ate; they also gave him water.
- 12 They gave him a slice of fig cake and two raisin cakes; he ate and this revived him, because he had not eaten food or drunk water for three days and three nights.
- 13 Then David said to him, "To whom do you belong, and from where *are* you? The young man said, "I am an Egyptian young man, a servant of an Amalekite man, but my master abandoned me because I became ill three days ago.
- 14 We raided the Negev of the Kerethites and that *which belongs* to Judah and then the Negev of Caleb, and we burned Ziklag with fire."
- 15 So David asked him, "Will you take me down to this band of *raiders*?" He said, "Swear to me by God that you will not kill me and that you will not deliver me into my master's hand! Then I will take you down to this band."
- 16 So he took him down, and there they were, spread out over the surface of all the land, eating and drinking and dancing because of all of the abundant plunder which they had taken from the land of *the* Philistines and from the land of Judah.

David Defeats the Amalekites

- 17 Then David attacked them from twilight until the evening of the next day. Not a man of them escaped except four hundred young men who rode *off* on camels and fled.
- 18 So David recovered all that *the* Amalekites had taken; David also rescued his two wives.
- 19 None of theirs *was* missing from the smallest to the greatest, even sons and daughters, from *the* plunder up to everything they had taken for themselves; David brought back everything.
- 20 And David took all of the sheep, and the cattle they drove along in front of that livestock, and they said, "This *is* David's plunder."

David Shares With Those Who Stayed Behind

- 21 Then David came to *the* two hundred men who had been too exhausted to follow David; they had left them behind at the Wadi Besor. They went out to meet David and to meet the people who were with him. David came near with the people and asked them how they were doing.
- 22 Then all the corrupt and useless men among the men who went with David reacted and said, "Because they did not go with us, we will not give them *anything* from the plunder which we recovered, except each *man may take* his own wife and children. They must take them along and go!"
- 23 But David said to them, "You should not do so, my brothers, with what Yahweh has given to us! He has preserved us and has given the *raiding* band that came against us into our hand.
- 24 And who would listen to you regarding this matter? For as the share of the one who went down into the battle, so the share of the one who remained with the baggage will be. They will share alike."
- 25 So from that day and beyond, he made it a rule and a regulation for Israel until this day.

Saul's Last Battle (c. 1010 BC)

1 Samuel 31

1 Chronicles 10

1 Now *the* Philistines *were* fighting against Israel,

1 Now the Philistines fought against Israel,

<p>and the men of Israel fled before <i>the</i> Philistines, and they fell slain on Mount Gilboa.</p> <p>2 And <i>the</i> Philistines overtook Saul and his sons, and <i>the</i> Philistines killed Jonathan and Abinadab and Malki-Shua, the sons of Saul.</p> <p>3 Saul was in the thick of the battle, and the archers spotted him, and he <i>was</i> badly wounded by the archers.</p> <p>4 Then Saul said to his armor bearer, “Draw your sword and thrust me through with it, so that these uncircumcised do not come and thrust me through and make a fool of me!” But his armor bearer <i>was</i> not willing <i>to do so</i> because he <i>was</i> very afraid. So Saul took the sword and fell on it.</p> <p>5 And when his armor bearer saw that Saul <i>was</i> dead, he also fell on his sword and died with him.</p> <p>6 So Saul died, and his three sons, his armor bearer, <i>and</i> all his men together that <i>same</i> day.</p> <p>7 And when the men of Israel who <i>were</i> on the other side of the valley and <i>those</i> who were beyond the Jordan saw that the men of Israel had fled and that Saul and his sons were dead, they abandoned the towns and fled. Thus <i>the</i> Philistines came and lived in them.</p> <p>8 And then the next day, <i>the</i> Philistines came to strip the dead and they found Saul and his three sons lying <i>dead</i> on Mount Gilboa.</p> <p>9 So they cut off his head and stripped off his armor. Then they sent <i>messengers</i> around in the land of <i>the</i> Philistines to proclaim <i>victory</i> in the temples of their idols and <i>to</i> the people.</p> <p>10 And they put his armor <i>in</i> the temple of the Ashtoreth, and they fastened his corpse to the wall of Beth Shan.</p> <p>11 When the inhabitants of Jabesh Gilead heard about it, what <i>the</i> Philistines had done to Saul,</p> <p>12 all of the valiant men set out and went all night and took the corpse of Saul and the corpses of his sons from the wall of Beth Shan, and they came to Jabesh and burned them there.</p> <p>13 Then they took their bones and buried <i>them</i> under the tamarisk in Jabesh, and they fasted <i>for</i> seven days.</p>	<p>and every Israelite fled away from before the Philistines. And they fell slain upon Mount Gilboa.</p> <p>2 And the Philistines overtook Saul and his sons. And the Philistines killed Jonathan, Abinadab, and Malki-Shua, the sons of Saul.</p> <p>3 And the battle was heavy against Saul, and the archers found him, and he was wounded by the archers.</p> <p>4 And Saul said to his armor-bearer, “Draw your sword and thrust me through with it, lest these uncircumcised come and deal harshly with me.” But he was very afraid. Then Saul took the sword and fell upon it.</p> <p>5 When his armor-bearer saw that Saul <i>was</i> dead, he also fell upon the sword, and he died.</p> <p>6 So Saul died. And his three sons and all his house died together.</p> <p>7 And when all the men of Israel who <i>were</i> in the valley saw that they had fled and that Saul and his sons were dead, they abandoned their cities and fled. Then the Philistines came and dwelled in them.</p> <p>8 And it happened <i>that</i> on the next day when the Philistines came to strip the dead, they found Saul and his sons fallen on Mount Gilboa.</p> <p>9 And they stripped him and took his head and his weapons, and they sent <i>them</i> throughout the land of the Philistines to bring news to their idols and the nation.</p> <p>10 And they put his weapons in the temple of their gods, and they fastened his skull to the temple of Dagon.</p> <p>11 When all Jabesh-Gilead heard all that the Philistines had done to Saul,</p> <p>12 every strong man arose and took the dead body of Saul and the dead bodies of his sons and brought them to Jabesh.</p> <p>And they buried their bones under the oak in Jabesh and fasted seven days.</p> <p>13 So Saul died on account of his sin which he had sinned against Yahweh concerning the command of Yahweh that he did not keep. He also consulted a medium to seek <i>guidance</i>.</p> <p>14 But he did not seek Yahweh. So Yahweh put him to death and turned over the kingship to David, the son of Jesse.</p>
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David Learns of Saul’s Death (c. 1010 BC)

2 Samuel 4:4; 1 Samuel 30:26–31; 2 Samuel 1:1–27

Jonathan’s Son Mephibosheth is Crippled

2 Sam 4:4 (Now Jonathan the son of Saul had a son who *was* crippled in the feet. He *was* five years old when the message of Saul and Jonathan came from Jezreel, and his nurse had picked him up and fled. It happened that as she *was* hurrying away to flee, he fell and became crippled. His name *was* Mephibosheth.)

David Gives Spoils of War to Judah in Gratitude

1 Sam 30:26 Then David came to Ziklag, and he sent some of the plunder to the elders of Judah, to his friends, saying, “Here is a gift for you from the plunder of the enemies of Yahweh!”

27 *It was* for those in Bethel, for those in Ramoth of the Negev, for those in Jattir,

28 for those in Aroer, for those in Siphmoth, for those in Eshtemoa,

29 for those in Racal, for those in the towns of the Jerahmeelites, for those in the towns of the Kenites,

30 for those in Hormah, for those in Bor Ashan, for those in Athach,

31 for those in Hebron, and for all the places where David and his men had roamed.

David Told of Saul and Jonathan's Death

2 Sam 1:1 After the death of Saul, David returned from defeating the Amalekites and he stayed at Ziklag two days.

2 On the third day, a man came from the camp from *being with* Saul, with his clothes torn and with dirt on his head. When he came to David, he fell to the ground and bowed down.

3 David said to him, "Where did you come from?" He said to him, "I have escaped from the camp of Israel."

4 Then David said to him, "How did things go? Please tell me." He answered, "When the army fled from the battle, and many of the people fell; also, Saul and Jonathan his son died."

5 Then David asked the young man who *was* reporting to him, "How do you know that Saul and his son Jonathan died?"

6 The young man who *was* reporting to him said, "I merely happened to be on Mount Gilboa. Here Saul *was* leaning on his spear, and look, the chariots and the horsemen *were* getting close to him.

7 When he turned around and saw me, he called to me, and I said, 'Here I *am*.'

8 Then he said to me, 'Who *are* you?' And I said to him, 'I *am* an Amalekite.'

9 He said to me, 'Please stand over me and kill me, for convulsions have seized me, even though my life *is still* in me.'

10 So I stood over him and killed him, for I knew that he could not live after his falling; I took the crown that *was* on his head and *the* bracelet which *was* on his arm; and here, I have brought them to my lord.

11 David grabbed *at* his clothes and tore them, *as did* all of the men who *were* with him.

12 Then they mourned and wept and fasted over Saul and Jonathan his son until the evening, *as well* as over the people of Yahweh and over the house of Israel because they had fallen by the sword.

13 Then David said to the young man who *was* reporting to him, "Where *are* you from?" And he said, "I *am* the son of an alien man. I *am* an Amalekite."

14 David said to him, "How *is it that* you *were* not afraid to stretch out your hand to destroy Yahweh's anointed one?"

15 Then David called to one of the young men and said to him, "Come near; strike him." So he struck him down and he died.

16 David said to him, "Your blood *is* on your head, for your mouth has testified against you by saying, 'I killed Yahweh's anointed one!'"

David's Lament for Saul and Jonathan

17 Then David sang this funeral song over Saul and over Jonathan his son.

18 And he ordered "The Bow" to be taught to the children of Judah. Look, it *is* written on the scroll of Jashar.

19 "The glory of Israel *is* on your high places; how *the* mighty have fallen!

20 Do not tell it in Gath; do not proclaim it in the streets of Ashkelon,
lest the daughters of *the* Philistines rejoice,
lest the daughters of the uncircumcised exult.

21 O mountains of Gilboa, *let there be* no dew or rain upon you
or on the fields of *grain for* offerings,
for there the small shield of *the* mighty *was* defiled,
the small shield of Saul *was* not anointed with oil.

22 From the blood of *the* slain, from the fat of *the* mighty,
the bow of Jonathan did not turn back,
and the sword of Saul did not return without effect.

23 Saul and Jonathan *were* beloved and pleasant in their lives
and *were* not separated in their death.
They *were* swifter than eagles, stronger than lions.

24 O daughters of Israel, weep over Saul,
the one who clothed you with crimson,
the one who adorned your clothing with golden ornaments.

25 How *the* mighty have fallen in the midst of the battle;
Jonathan *lies* slain on your high places.

26 I am distressed over you, my brother Jonathan.
you *were* very dear to me;
your love *was* more wonderful to me than the love of women.

27 How *the* mighty have fallen and the weapons of warfare perished."