

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

1 Samuel 22:1–2

- 1 So David departed from there and escaped to the cave of Adullam; and when his brothers and all his father's household heard of it, they went down there to him.
- 2 Everyone who was in distress, and everyone who was in debt, and everyone who was discontented gathered to him; and he became captain over them. Now there were about four hundred men with him.

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

Psalm 142

### Maskil of David, when he was in the cave. A Prayer.

- 1 I cry aloud with my voice to the LORD;  
I make supplication with my voice to the LORD.
- 2 I pour out my complaint before Him;  
I declare my trouble before Him.
- 3 When my spirit was overwhelmed within me,  
You knew my path.  
In the way where I walk  
They have hidden a trap for me.
- 4 Look to the right and see;  
For there is no one who regards me;  
There is no escape for me;  
No one cares for my soul.
- 5 I cried out to You, O LORD;  
I said, "You are my refuge,  
My portion in the land of the living.
- 6 "Give heed to my cry,  
For I am brought very low;  
Deliver me from my persecutors,  
For they are too strong for me.
- 7 "Bring my soul out of prison,  
So that I may give thanks to Your name;  
The righteous will surround me,  
For 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 from there to Mizpah of Moab; and he said to the king of Moab, "Please let my father and my mother come *and stay* with you until I know what God will do for me."
- 4 Then he left them with the king of Moab; and they stayed with him all the time that David was in the stronghold.
- 5 The prophet Gad said to David, "Do not stay in the stronghold; depart, and go into the land of Judah." So David departed and went into the forest of Hereth.

### Saul Complains of Treachery

- 6 Then Saul heard that David and the men who were with him had been discovered. Now Saul was sitting in Gibeah, under the tamarisk tree on the height with his spear in his hand, and all his servants were standing around him.
- 7 Saul said to his servants who stood around him, "Hear now, O Benjamites! Will the son of Jesse also give to all of you fields and vineyards? Will he make you all commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds?"
- 8 For all of you have conspired against me so that there is no one who discloses to me when my son makes *a covenant* with the son of Jesse, and there is none of you who is sorry for me or discloses to me that my son has stirred up my servant against me to lie in ambush, as *it is* this day."
- 9 Then Doeg the Edomite, who was standing by the servants of Saul, said, "I saw the son of Jesse coming to Nob, to Ahimelech the son of Ahitub.
- 10 He inquired of the LORD for him, gave him provisions, and gave him the sword of Goliath the Philistine."

**Saul Sends for the Priests of Nob**

11 Then the king sent someone to summon Ahimelech the priest, the son of Ahitub, and all his father's household, the priests who were in Nob; and all of them came to the king.

12 Saul said, "Listen now, son of Ahitub." And he answered, "Here I am, my lord."

13 Saul then said to him, "Why have you and the son of Jesse conspired against me, in that you have given him bread and a sword and have inquired of God for him, so that he would rise up against me by lying in ambush as *it is* this day?"

14 Then Ahimelech answered the king and said, "And who among all your servants is as faithful as David, even the king's son-in-law, who is captain over your guard, and is honored in your house?"

15 Did I *just* begin to inquire of God for him today? Far be it from me! Do not let the king impute anything to his servant *or* to any of the household of my father, for your servant knows nothing at all of this whole affair."

**Saul Slaughters the Priests and the Entire City of Nob**

16 But the king said, "You shall surely die, Ahimelech, you and all your father's household!"

17 And the king said to the guards who were attending him, "Turn around and put the priests of the LORD to death, because their hand also is with David and because they knew that he was fleeing and did not reveal it to me." But the servants of the king were not willing to put forth their hands to attack the priests of the LORD.

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

19 And he struck Nob the city of the priests with the edge of the sword, both men and women, children and infants; also oxen, donkeys, and sheep *he struck* with the edge of the sword.

**Abiathar Escapes to David**

20 But one son of Ahimelech the son of Ahitub, named Abiathar, escaped and fled after David.

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

22 Then David said to Abiathar, "I knew on that day, when Doeg the Edomite was there, that he would surely tell Saul. I have brought about *the death* of every person in your father's household.

23 Stay with me; do not be afraid, for he who seeks my life seeks your life, for you are safe with me."

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

Psalm 52

*For the choir director.*

**A Maskil of David, when Doeg the Edomite came and told Saul and said to him, "David has come to the house of Ahimelech."**

- 1 Why do you boast in evil, O mighty man?  
The lovingkindness of God *endures* all day long.
- 2 Your tongue devises destruction,  
Like a sharp razor, O worker of deceit.
- 3 You love evil more than good,  
Falsehood more than speaking what is right. *Selah.*
- 4 You love all words that devour,  
O deceitful tongue.
- 5 But God will break you down forever;  
He will snatch you up and tear you away from *your* tent,  
And uproot you from the land of the living. *Selah.*
- 6 The righteous will see and fear,  
And will laugh at him, *saying,*
- 7 "Behold, the man who would not make God his refuge,  
But trusted in the abundance of his riches  
*And was strong in his evil desire.*"
- 8 But as for me, I am like a green olive tree in the house of God;  
I trust in the lovingkindness of God forever and ever.
- 9 I will give You thanks forever, because You have done *it,*  
And I will wait on Your name, for *it is* good, in the presence of Your godly ones.

## No Good Deed (c. 1022 – c. 1012 BC)

1 Samuel 23:1–13

1 Then they told David, saying, “Behold, the Philistines are fighting against Keilah and are plundering the threshing floors.”

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

3 But David’s men said to him, “Behold, we are afraid here in Judah. How much more then if we go to Keilah against the ranks of the Philistines?”

4 Then David inquired of the LORD once more. And the LORD answered him and said, “Arise, go down to Keilah, for I will give the Philistines into your hand.”

5 So David and his men went to Keilah and fought with the Philistines; and he led away their livestock and struck them with a great slaughter. Thus David delivered the inhabitants of Keilah.

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

7 When it was told Saul that David had come to Keilah, Saul said, “God has delivered him into my hand, for he shut himself in by entering a city with double gates and bars.”

8 So Saul summoned all the people for war, to go down to Keilah to besiege David and his men.

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.

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

1 Samuel 23:14–25

### 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.

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.

## The Lord Upholds My Life (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.

## 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.

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

Psalm 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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