

## April 16 Answers

- 1) After his escape from Gath, David hid in the cave of **Adullam**. Those who were in distress, in debt or were discontent joined him, and he became captain of about **400** men. David **poured** out his heart to God at Adullam and told Him how **overwhelmed** he felt (Ps 142:1–3). This teaches us to bring our feelings of grief, anger and discouragement to God in **prayer**. Saul soon got word that people were allying with David, and he accused his servants of betraying him (1 Sam 22:6–8). Doeg, seeing an opportunity to curry favor with Saul, told him that Ahimelech had helped David in Nob. Saul sent for Ahimelech, ignored his protest of innocence, and ordered all the priests to be **executed**. Saul's servants refused, but Doeg was only too pleased to obey. When **Abiathar** escaped and told David, David was heartsick and angry. To comfort himself, he wrote a song that contrasted the **folly** of evil with the **wisdom** of godliness (Ps 52:1–9). This psalm teaches us that it's appropriate to call for God's **judgment** on the wicked and to take **satisfaction** in the fact that righteousness will triumph over evil (Ps 52:5–7). David continued to evade Saul and even managed to save Keilah from the Philistines. Sadly, his only thanks was treachery and **betrayal**. When the Ziphites alerted Saul to David's presence among them, David asked God for **vindication** and **vengeance** (Ps 54:1, 5). This teaches us to make room for God's **wrath**. God will exalt those who wait on Him! [*Saul was so bent on destroying David that he saw an opportunity to kill him as coming from God (1 Sam 23:7)! We should take warning, for when we want something badly enough, it's easy to start interpreting circumstances to suit our own desires rather than God's will.*]