

Lesson 8-Homework David Builds an Army

1st Samuel Chapters 22-24

Directions: Use your study bible, internet, or any other study source to help you with these questions.

1. Locate the following places and write down their geographical locations.

- Adullam
- Mizpah
- Moab

2. Saul summoned all the priests from Nob.

- What caused Saul's anger toward Ahimelech?
- How did David's lie affect the people at Nob?

3. Abiathar escaped Nob and took an ephod with him.

- What important role did Abiathar have in taking the ephod?
- What significance did an ephod have?
- Explain the Urim and Thummim?

4. David left the city of Keilah.

- How many men went with David?
- What did Jonathan do after finding David?
- What political position did Jonathan expect to have after David's anointing as king?

5. David and his men hid in the cave of Engedi.

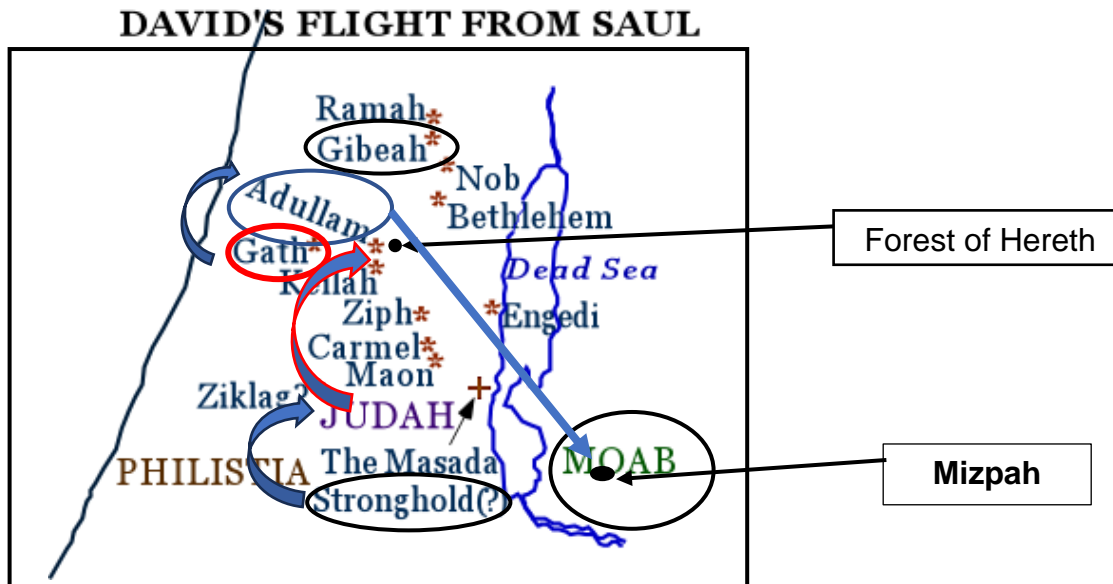
- Why did Saul go into the cave (be discreet-lol)?
- Why didn't David kill Saul?
- What pledge did Saul give after David spared his life?
- Do you think Saul will keep this pledge? Explain.

Lesson 8-David Builds an Army

1 Samuel Chapters 22-24

Chapter 22-David and His Men

Vs. 1-5-The Cave of Adullam



<https://allacin.blogspot.com/2014/10/1-samuel-illustrated-summary-of-life.html>

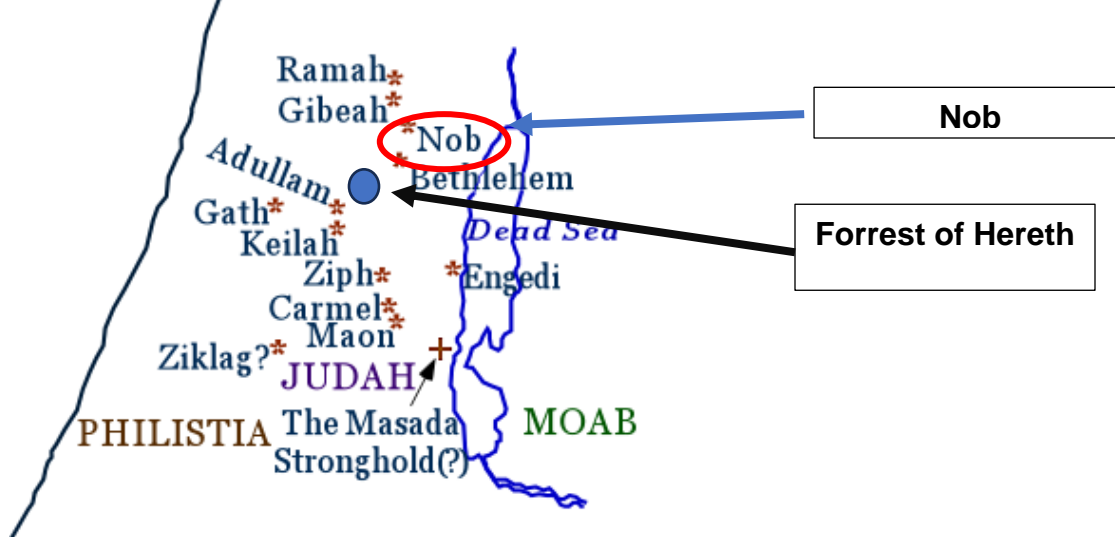
- David left Gath and went to the cave of **Adullam**.
- David's brothers and all his father's household joined him. The Lord established David's reputation among his household.
- The Lord gave David favor among everyone in distress, in debt, and discontented.
- David became the captain over a band of about **400** outcasts.
- David left the cave at Adullam and came into the Moabite region of Mizpah. The Moabites descended from the family of Lot.
- David's lineage included Ruth, a Moabite and great-grandmother to David (Ruth 4:21-22).
- David asked the king of **Moab** to watch over his father and mother until he knew God's direction. David sought God's direction and entrusted his life into God's hands.
- The Prophet, Gad, told David not to stay in the stronghold (see map) but to depart and go into the land of **Judah**. David then went into the forest of Hereth.

Vs. 6-23-Saul Slays the Priests

- Saul continued to throw a major **pity-party**.

- Saul gathered all his servants and accused them of conspiring against him and not feeling “sorry” for him.
- Doeg told Saul that Ahimelech had given David provisions. Remember, Doeg saw David at Nob when Ahimelech gave David bread and Goliath’s sword.
- Saul summoned Ahimelech, all his household, and all the priests in Nob.
- Saul accused Ahimelech of conspiring against him. Saul believed David had plotted an ambush against him.
- Ahimelech told Saul he knew nothing of this conspiracy.
- Saul commanded the guards to kill the priests, but the guards would not attack the priests.
- Saul told Doeg to kill the priests.
- Doeg killed **85** priests, every living person, and all the animals in Nob.

DAVID'S FLIGHT FROM SAUL



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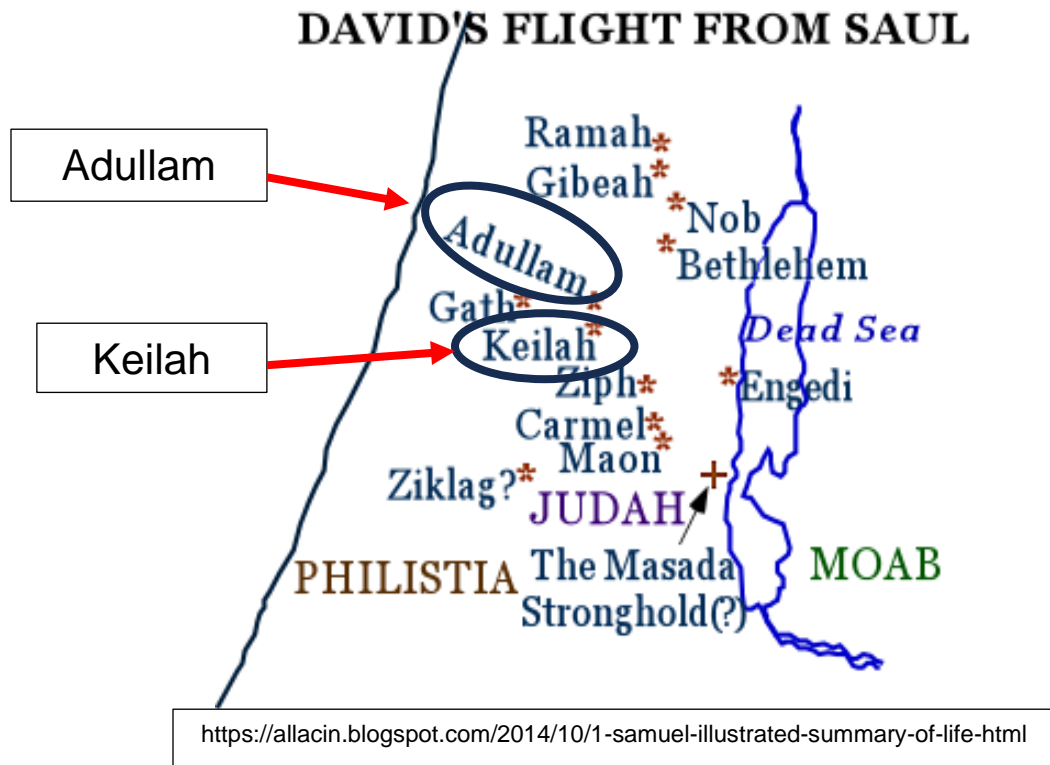
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- **Abiathar**, one of Ahimelech's sons, escaped, fled to David, and told him what had happened.
- David felt responsible for these deaths and assured Abiathar of his safety.
- David's trust in God strengthened as he realized the Lord had watched over him and protected him.

Chapter 23-David's Battles

Vs. 1-12-David Delivers the City of Keilah

- The Philistines attacked the city of **Keilah**.
- David asked God if he should attack the Philistines.
- Keilah laid in the heart of Saul's territory and David's men did not want to go there.



- David inquired of the Lord again and the Lord told him to **attack**.
- David grew more confident in the Lord's guidance.
- David and his men went to Keilah and attacked the Philistines, took their livestock, and delivered the people.
- David found Abiathar and took the **ephod** with him after fleeing Nob.
- The priests wore a linen ephod when ministering at the altar.

- The priests also wore a pouch over the ephod. It contained two stones called the Urim and Thummim. The priests, possibly, would cast these stones to decipher the word of the Lord (Exodus 28:30).



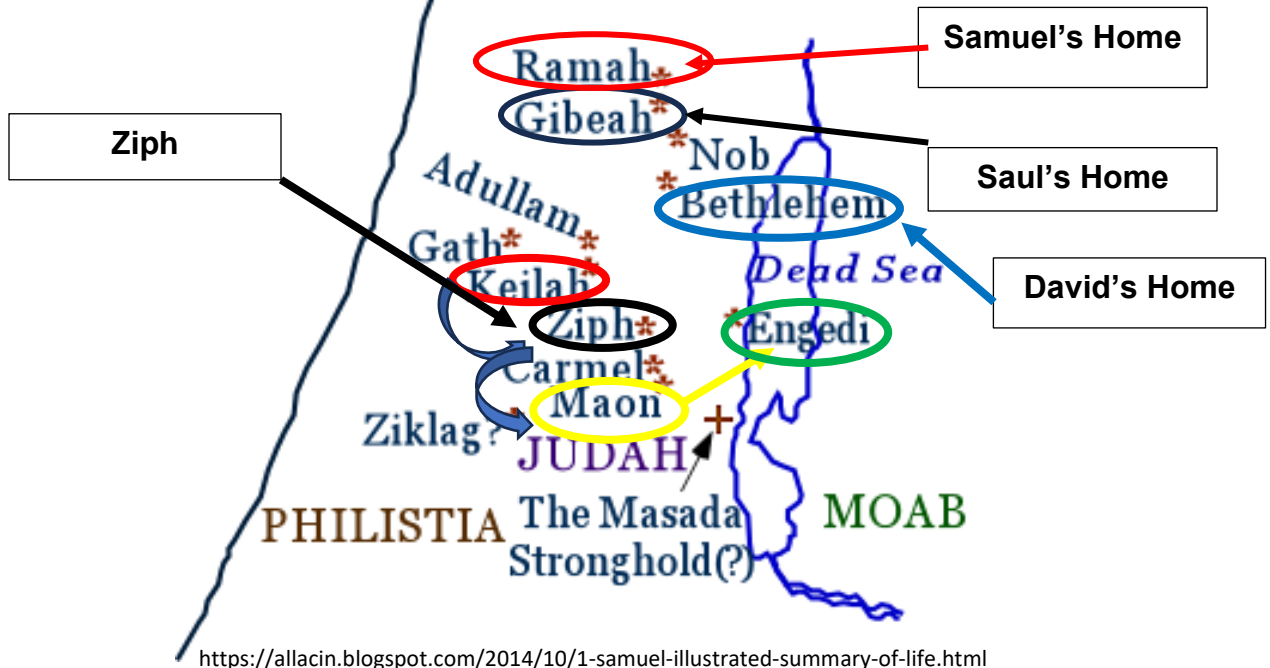
<https://kumi07.wordpress.com/tag/ritual-vest-the-ephod/>

- When Saul heard that David fled to Keilah, Saul ordered his men to capture David.
- Saul felt he had trapped David within the city.
- Apparently, the city had only one entrance and exit. It probably had two wooden doors hinged at the sides and secured by a heavy bar spanning across the entrance.
- David **inquired** whether the people of Keilah would deliver him over to Saul. The Lord told David people would turn him over.

Vs. 13-29-David Goes to the Wilderness of Ziph

- David left the city with about **600** men (his army had grown).
- When Saul heard David had left the city, he gave up the pursuit.
- David and his men went and hid in the wilderness of Ziph. Saul pursued David every day, but God kept him safe.

DAVID'S FLIGHT FROM SAUL



- Jonathan, Saul's son, found David, encouraged him, and confirmed him as the next king. Jonathan believed he would sit **alongside** David.
- Saul heard David had retreated to the wilderness of Maon. While pursuing David, Saul received a message the Philistines had attacked Israel.
- Saul returned from pursuing David.
- David named the mountain the "Rock of Escape" for the Lord delivered him and his men.
- From Maon, David went into the strongholds of Engedi.

Chapter 24-David Spares Saul at Engedi

Vs. 1-22-The Cave of Engedi

- Saul learned David had entered the wilderness of **Engedi**.



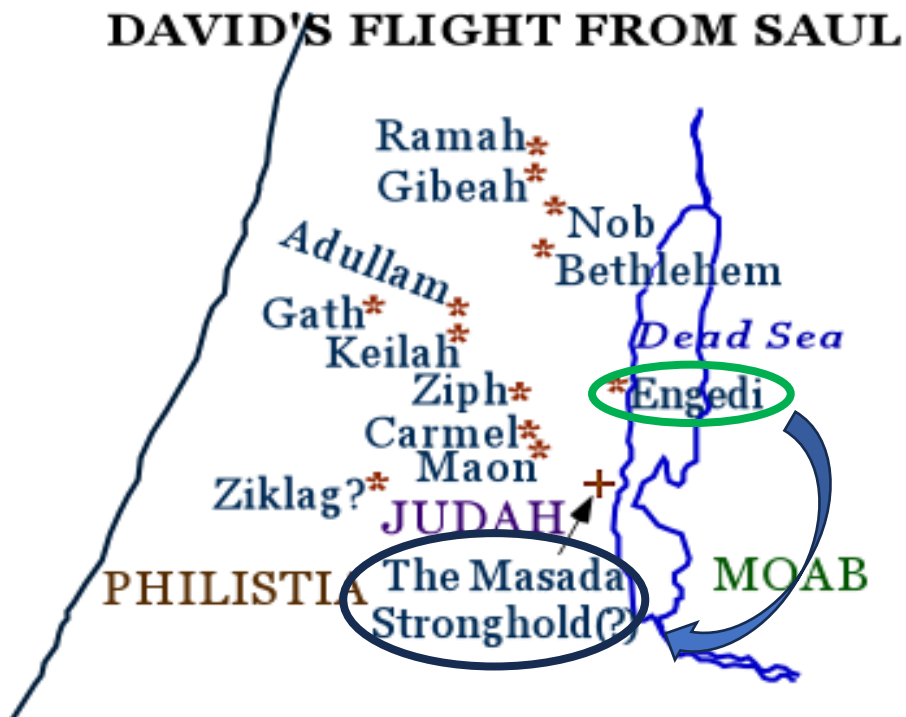
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<https://deadsea.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/national-park-Ein-Gedi.jpg>

- Saul took **3,000** of his choicest men and pursued David.
- Saul came to a certain cave and went in to “use the bathroom.”
- As it happened, David and his men—who hid in the cave—encouraged David to kill Saul.

- David knew the Lord had anointed Saul; therefore, David would not permit his men to kill Saul.
- David, however, cut off a part of Saul's **robe**.
- After Saul left the cave, David came out, revealed himself, and let Saul know he had spared Saul's life.
- Saul wept after realizing David's innocence and loyalty.
- Saul admitted David would reign as the next king.
- Saul made David swear he would not kill his **descendants**.
- As it happened, most of Saul's family would die without David inflicting punishment.
- David did not return with Saul but took his men up to the stronghold.



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Summary

Learning to trust God may result in a long and painful process. We cannot look at our faults, failures, and shortcomings as God's way of punishing us but as His way of allowing our faith to grow. David had to realize that lying and scheming did not work. He eventually learned to seek the Lord and to rely upon His word for guidance.

As humans, we sometimes fail miserably. God sees these failures as opportunities to draw us closer to him. Paul says in Philippians 3:13-14, "...But I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us" (NLT).

When we fall short of God's best, we repent, ask God for strength, forget the past, and move forward.

1st Samuel

Discussion Questions

Lesson 8

1st Samuel Chapters 22-24

1. David left Gath and went to the cave of Adullam.
 - a. Who went with David?
 - b. What does this show about David's family?
 - c. Does God have a way of elevating the humble? Explain.
 - d. Have you ever experienced God's blessing when you felt you did not deserve it? Explain

2. David went to Moab to ask for help.
 - a. Why do you think God allowed a non-Israelite nation to protect David's family?
 - b. Did David finally learn to trust God for protection? Explain.
 - c. How did God use Gad to help David?
 - d. What does Gad's advice show about David's relationship toward God compared with Saul's relationship toward God?

3. Saul continued to pursue David.
 - a. How did David's lie to Ahimelech affect the priests at Nob?
 - b. Why didn't God protect the priests?
 - c. Do you think Saul's actions affected David's obedience to God?
 - d. How did Doeg overstep his bounds in delivering punishment to the priests?

4. The Philistines continued to raid the Israelites.
 - a. Did David demonstrate a trust in God's protection?
 - b. What do we learn about Abiathar and the ephod?
 - c. How did David use the ephod to receive direction from the Lord?
 - d. How did David's actions concerning the ephod differ from Saul's actions in offering a sacrifice in lesson 5?

5. God protected David during Saul's pursuit.
 - a. How many times in this lesson do you see God's protection of David?
 - b. Explain each instance.
 - c. What did God do with the number of men in David's army?
 - d. How did David's actions differ toward Abiathar from Saul's action with Ahijah in lesson 5?