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|  | **LightHouse Ranch**  **Bible Study** |

***David Spares Saul’s Life -*** [***I Samuel 20-24***](swordsearcher://bible/1sam20-24)

**I. David Talks with Jonathon**

**II. At the King’s Dining Hall**

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**VII. David Spares Saul’s Life**

**David Saves Saul’s Life**

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| david | progressiveredneckpreacher | Saul’s life, I believe, is one of the saddest in the Old Testament. His life story has a good start but ends in demon torture and abject failure. Anointed by Samuel as God’s response to Israel’s request for a king, as her surrounding Gentile neighbors had ([10](swordsearcher://bible/1sam10)), Saul had an initial success with God’s Spirit coming upon Saul and empowering him to victory in battle ([11:1–11](swordsearcher://bible/1sam11.1-11)). |
| The win over the Philistines, however, was darkened by his *jumping the gun* and not waiting for the agreed meeting with Samuel to offer a sacrifice to God. In Samuel’s absence, Saul went ahead and performd the sacrifice himself. ([13:8–14](swordsearcher://bible/1sam13.8-14)). This outright disobedience indicates that Saul did not esteem God’s Word or possess any accompaning fear of the LORD at all. For this transgression, Samuel warned Saul that his kingdom would not continue. | |
| Saul continued to make foolish decisions and do foolish things in [chapers 13-14](swordsearcher://bible/1sam13-14). It was Saul’s failure, however, to destroy all of Amalek ([15](swordsearcher://bible/1sam15)), in direct disobedience of God’s command, that resulted in God sending Samuel to anoint the shepherd boy, David, as Saul’s successor ([16:1–13](swordsearcher://bible/1sam16.1-13)). David’s defeat of Goliath ([Chapter 17](swordsearcher://bible/1sam17)) and the resulting *Song of the Women* in the first part of [chapter 18](swordsearcher://bible/1sam18) infuriated Saul. Rejected by God, tormented by evil spirits, and scared by the success of David, Saul continually devolved, in Romans 1 fashion, falling deeper and deeper down a long slippery slope as he repeatedly sought to kill David. Let’s get an idea of the scope of Saul’s devolution, by making a list of events in which Saul attemted to kill David, God’s anointed, but never demonstrated esteem for God’s Word or fear of the LORD. | |

1.) [18:10-18](swordsearcher://bible/1sam18.10-16) – Throwing a javelin at David

2.) [18:17-20](swordsearcher://bible/1sam18.17-20) – Offering his daughter in marriage just to get David to fight the Philistines

3.) [19:1-7](swordsearcher://bible/1sam19.1-7) – Commanding his servats to kill David

4.) [19:8-10](swordsearcher://bible/1sam19.8-10) – Again throwing a javelin at David

5.) [19:11-17](swordsearcher://bible/1sam19.11-17) – Again sending assassins to kill David

6.) [19:18-24](swordsearcher://bible/1sam19.18-24) – Sending assassins to Samuel’s house to kill David

We begin in [chapter 20](swordsearcher://bible/1sam20), where Saul will have another angle in his attempt to kill David, so David flees because Saul’s assasins are near. We find David and Jonathon conversing:

**I.** **David Talks with Jonathon**

**Why does your father want to kill me?**

[**1 Samuel 20:1**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam20.1) And David fled from Naioth in Ramah, and came and said before Jonathan, What have I done? what *is* mine iniquity? and what *is* my sin before thy father, that he seeketh my life?

**Jonathon does not believe Saul wants to kill David**   
[**1 Samuel 20:2**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam20.2) And he said unto him, God forbid; thou shalt not die: behold, my father will do nothing either great or small, but that he will shew it me: and why should my father hide this thing from me? it *is* not *so*.

**There is but a step between me and death**  
[**1 Samuel 20:3**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam20.3) And David sware moreover, and said, Thy father certainly knoweth that I have found grace in thine eyes; and he saith, Let not Jonathan know this, lest he be grieved: but truly *as* the LORD liveth, and *as* thy soul liveth, *there is* but a step between me and death.

**Jonathon will do whatever David wants because they are best of friends**  
[**1 Samuel 20:4**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam20.4) Then said Jonathan unto David, Whatsoever thy soul desireth, I will even do *it* for thee.

**David has a plan so Jonathon will find out about his father**  
[**1 Samuel 20:5**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam20.5-8) And David said unto Jonathan, Behold, to morrow *is* the new moon, and I should not fail to sit with the king at meat: but let me go, that I may hide myself in the field unto the third *day* at even.  
**1 Samuel 20:6** If thy father at all miss me, then say, David earnestly asked *leave* of me that he might run to Beth-lehem his city: for *there is* a yearly sacrifice there for all the family.  
**1 Samuel 20:7** If he say thus, *It is* well; thy servant shall have peace: but if he be very wroth, *then* be sure that evil is determined by him.  
**1 Samuel 20:8** Therefore thou shalt deal kindly with thy servant; for thou hast brought thy servant into a covenant of the LORD with thee: notwithstanding, if there be in me iniquity, slay me thyself; for why shouldest thou bring me to thy father?

**Jonathon tells David, you know I would tell you if my father wanted to kill you**  
[**1 Samuel 20:9**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam20.9-10) And Jonathan said, Far be it from thee: for if I knew certainly that evil were determined by my father to come upon thee, then would not I tell it thee?  
**1 Samuel 20:10** Then said David to Jonathan, Who shall tell me? or what *if* thy father answer thee roughly?

**Jonathon has a plan so they both go out into the field to set it up – Jonathon knows David will be king**  
[**1 Samuel 20:11**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam20.11-15) And Jonathan said unto David, Come, and let us go out into the field. And they went out both of them into the field.  
**1 Samuel 20:12** And Jonathan said unto David, O LORD God of Israel, when I have sounded my father about to morrow any time, *or* the third *day*, and, behold, *if there be* good toward David, and I then send not unto thee, and shew it thee;  
**1 Samuel 20:13** The LORD do so and much more to Jonathan: but if it please my father *to do* thee evil, then I will shew it thee, and send thee away, that thou mayest go in peace: and the LORD be with thee, as he hath been with my father.  
**1 Samuel 20:14** And thou shalt not only while yet I live shew me the kindness of the LORD, that I die not:  
**1 Samuel 20:15** But *also* thou shalt not cut off thy kindness from my house for ever: no, not when the LORD hath cut off the enemies of David every one from the face of the earth.

**David and Jonathon make a covenant**  
[**1 Samuel 20:16**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam20.16-17) So Jonathan made *a covenant* with the house of David, *saying*, Let the LORD even require *it* at the hand of David's enemies.  
**1 Samuel 20:17** And Jonathan caused David to swear again, because he loved him: for he loved him as he loved his own soul.

**The Plan is drawn according to the covenant**  
[**1 Samuel 20:18**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam20.18-23) Then Jonathan said to David, To morrow *is* the new moon: and thou shalt be missed, because thy seat will be empty.  
**1 Samuel 20:19** And *when* thou hast stayed three days, *then* thou shalt go down quickly, and come to the place where thou didst hide thyself when the business was *in hand*, and shalt remain by the stone Ezel.  
**1 Samuel 20:20** And I will shoot three arrows on the side *thereof*, as though I shot at a mark.  
**1 Samuel 20:21** And, behold, I will send a lad, *saying*, Go, find out the arrows. If I expressly say unto the lad, Behold, the arrows *are* on this side of thee, take them; then come thou: for *there is* peace to thee, and no hurt; *as* the LORD liveth.  
**1 Samuel 20:22** But if I say thus unto the young man, Behold, the arrows *are* beyond thee; go thy way: for the LORD hath sent thee away.  
**1 Samuel 20:23** And *as touching* the matter which thou and I have spoken of, behold, the LORD *be* between thee and me for ever.

**II. At the King’s Dining Hall**

[**1 Samuel 20:24**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam20.24-27) So David hid himself in the field: and when the new moon was come, the king sat him down to eat meat.  
**1 Samuel 20:25** And the king sat upon his seat, as at other times, *even* upon a seat by the wall: and Jonathan arose, and Abner sat by Saul's side, and David's place was empty.  
**1 Samuel 20:26** Nevertheless Saul spake not any thing that day: for he thought, Something hath befallen him, he *is* not clean; surely he *is* not clean.  
**1 Samuel 20:27** And it came to pass on the morrow, *which was* the second *day* of the month, that David's place was empty: and Saul said unto Jonathan his son, Wherefore cometh not the son of Jesse to meat, neither yesterday, nor to day?

**Jonathon answers his father**  
[**1 Samuel 20:28**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam20.28-29) And Jonathan answered Saul, David earnestly asked *leave* of me *to go* to Beth-lehem:  
**1 Samuel 20:29** And he said, Let me go, I pray thee; for our family hath a sacrifice in the city; and my brother, he hath commanded me *to be there*: and now, if I have found favour in thine eyes, let me get away, I pray thee, and see my brethren. Therefore he cometh not unto the king's table.

**Saul’s anger is kindled against Jonathon – “For he shall shurly die”**  
[**1 Samuel 20:30**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam20.30-31) Then Saul's anger was kindled against Jonathan, and he said unto him, Thou son of the perverse rebellious *woman*, do not I know that thou hast chosen the son of Jesse to thine own confusion, and unto the confusion of thy mother's nakedness?  
**1 Samuel 20:31** For as long as the son of Jesse liveth upon the ground, thou shalt not be established, nor thy kingdom. Wherefore now send and fetch him unto me, for he shall surely die.

**Jonathon defends David at the table**  
[**1 Samuel 20:32**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam20.32) And Jonathan answered Saul his father, and said unto him, Wherefore shall he be slain? what hath he done?

**III.** **Saul Casts a Javelin at Jonathon**

**Jonathon now knows his father intends to kill David**  
[**1 Samuel 20:33**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam20.33) And Saul cast a javelin at him to smite him: whereby Jonathan knew that it was determined of his father to slay David.

**Jonathon leaves the table in haste and goes to the field where David is**  
[**1 Samuel 20:34**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam20.34) So Jonathan arose from the table in fierce anger, and did eat no meat the second day of the month: for he was grieved for David, because his father had done him shame.

**Jonathon deploys the plan**  
[**1 Samuel 20:35**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam20.35-40) And it came to pass in the morning, that Jonathan went out into the field at the time appointed with David, and a little lad with him.  
**1 Samuel 20:36** And he said unto his lad, Run, find out now the arrows which I shoot. *And* as the lad ran, he shot an arrow beyond him.  
**1 Samuel 20:37** And when the lad was come to the place of the arrow which Jonathan had shot, Jonathan cried after the lad, and said, *Is* not the arrow beyond thee?  
**1 Samuel 20:38** And Jonathan cried after the lad, Make speed, haste, stay not. And Jonathan's lad gathered up the arrows, and came to his master.  
**1 Samuel 20:39** But the lad knew not any thing: only Jonathan and David knew the matter.  
**1 Samuel 20:40** And Jonathan gave his artillery unto his lad, and said unto him, Go, carry *them* to the city.

**David and Jonathon weep together**  
[**1 Samuel 20:41**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam20.41) *And* as soon as the lad was gone, David arose out of *a place* toward the south, and fell on his face to the ground, and bowed himself three times: and they kissed one another, and wept one with another, until David exceeded.

**David and Jonathon part – They will meet one last time in chapter 23**

[**1 Samuel 20:42**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam20.42) And Jonathan said to David, Go in peace, forasmuch as we have sworn both of us in the name of the LORD, saying, The LORD be between me and thee, and between my seed and thy seed for ever. And he arose and departed: and Jonathan went into the city.

**IV.** **David Goes to Nob - then Philistia!**

**David goes to Nob and the priest – Where is Nob?** ([Isaiah 10:32](swordsearcher://bible/isa10.32))

[**1 Samuel 21:1**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam21.1) Then came David to Nob to Ahimelech the priest: and Ahimelech was afraid at the meeting of David, and said unto him, Why *art* thou alone, and no man with thee?

**David is afraid so he makes up a command from the king to David**  
[**1 Samuel 21:2**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam21.2) And David said unto Ahimelech the priest, The king hath commanded me a business, and hath said unto me, Let no man know any thing of the business whereabout I send thee, and what I have commanded thee: and I have appointed *my* servants to such and such a place.

**Ahimelek provides bread for David**   
[**1 Samuel 21:3**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam21.3-6) Now therefore what is under thine hand? give *me* five *loaves of* bread in mine hand, or what there is present.  
**1 Samuel 21:4** And the priest answered David, and said, *There is* no common bread under mine hand, but there is hallowed bread; if the young men have kept themselves at least from women.  
**1 Samuel 21:5** And David answered the priest, and said unto him, Of a truth women *have been* kept from us about these three days, since I came out, and the vessels of the young men are holy, and *the bread is* in a manner common, yea, though it were sanctified this day in the vessel.  
**1 Samuel 21:6** So the priest gave him hallowed *bread*: for there was no bread there but the shewbread, that was taken from before the LORD, to put hot bread in the day when it was taken away.

**Doeg, an Edomite, head chief of Saul’s herd was there – He will tell Saul (**[**Psalm 52**](swordsearcher://bible/psalm52))  
[**1 Samuel 21:7**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam21.7) Now a certain man of the servants of Saul *was* there that day, detained before the LORD; and his name *was* Doeg, an Edomite, the chiefest of the herdmen that *belonged* to Saul.

**David had no artillery – Ahimelek provides to David Goliah’s sword**

[**1 Samuel 21:8**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam21.8-9) And David said unto Ahimelech, And is there not here under thine hand spear or sword? for I have neither brought my sword nor my weapons with me, because the king's business required haste.  
**1 Samuel 21:9** And the priest said, The sword of Goliath the Philistine, whom thou slewest in the valley of Elah, behold, it *is here* wrapped in a cloth behind the ephod: if thou wilt take that, take *it*: for *there is* no other save that here. And David said, *There is* none like that; give it me.

**David flees and goes to the Philistine city of Gath and acts like a mad man -** [**Psalm 34**](swordsearcher://bible/ps34)  
[**1 Samuel 21:10**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam21.10-15) And David arose, and fled that day for fear of Saul, and went to Achish the king of Gath.  
**1 Samuel 21:11** And the servants of Achish said unto him, *Is* not this David the king of the land? did they not sing one to another of him in dances, saying, Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands?  
**1 Samuel 21:12** And David laid up these words in his heart, and was sore afraid of Achish the king of Gath.  
**1 Samuel 21:13** And he changed his behaviour before them, and feigned himself mad in their hands, and scrabbled on the doors of the gate, and let his spittle fall down upon his beard.  
**1 Samuel 21:14** Then said Achish unto his servants, Lo, ye see the man is mad: wherefore *then* have ye brought him to me?  
**1 Samuel 21:15** Have I need of mad men, that ye have brought this *fellow* to play the mad man in my presence? shall this *fellow* come into my house?

**V.** **David Becomes Captain of 400 Men**

**David goes to the cave at Adullam – His family meets him there -** [**Psalm 57**](swordsearcher://bible/ps57) – In the Cave [**Psalm 142**](swordsearcher://bible/ps142)

[**1 Samuel 22:1**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam22.1) David therefore departed thence, and escaped to the cave Adullam: and when his brethren and all his father's house heard *it*, they went down thither to him.

**David becomes captain over 400 men**  
[**1 Samuel 22:2**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam22.2) And every one *that was* in distress, and every one that *was* in debt, and every one *that was* discontented, gathered themselves unto him; and he became a captain over them: and there were with him about four hundred men.

**David takes his family to Moab – Remember his great grandmother was a Moabite?**  
[**1 Samuel 22:3**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam22.3-4) And David went thence to Mizpeh of Moab: and he said unto the king of Moab, Let my father and my mother, I pray thee, come forth, *and be* with you, till I know what God will do for me.  
**1 Samuel 22:4** And he brought them before the king of Moab: and they dwelt with him all the while that David was in the hold.

**⇨The Word from the prophet of Gad and goes to the forrest of Hareth –**

David suffered Outside the Camp a *Type* **(**[**Hebrews 13**](swordsearcher://bible/heb13)**) -** “We” also – ([**II Timothy 2**](swordsearcher://bible/2Ti2))

[**1 Samuel 22:5**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam22.5) And the prophet Gad said unto David, Abide not in the hold; depart, and get thee into the land of Judah. Then David departed, and came into the forest of Hareth.

**Samuel hears of David’s location as he sits under a tree in Ramah (Samuel’s home town)**  
[**1 Samuel 22:6**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam22.6) When Saul heard that David was discovered, and the men that *were* with him, (now Saul abode in Gibeah under a tree in Ramah, having his spear in his hand, and all his servants *were* standing about him;)

**Saul speaks to his servants as they stood around Saul**  
[**1 Samuel 22:7**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam22.7-8) Then Saul said unto his servants that stood about him, Hear now, ye Benjamites; will the son of Jesse give every one of you fields and vineyards, *and* make you all captains of thousands, and captains of hundreds;  
**1 Samuel 22:8** That all of you have conspired against me, and *there is* none that sheweth me that my son hath made a league with the son of Jesse, and *there is* none of you that is sorry for me, or sheweth unto me that my son hath stirred up my servant against me, to lie in wait, as at this day?

**Doeg tells Saul that he saw David at Nob with the priests – Just as David had feared**  
[**1 Samuel 22:9**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam22.9-10) Then answered Doeg the Edomite, which was set over the servants of Saul, and said, I saw the son of Jesse coming to Nob, to Ahimelech the son of Ahitub.  
**1 Samuel 22:10** And he inquired of the LORD for him, and gave him victuals, and gave him the sword of Goliath the Philistine.

**Saul goes to the priests**  
[**1 Samuel 22:11**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam22.11-13) Then the king sent to call Ahimelech the priest, the son of Ahitub, and all his father's house, the priests that *were* in Nob: and they came all of them to the king.  
**1 Samuel 22:12** And Saul said, Hear now, thou son of Ahitub. And he answered, Here I *am*, my lord.  
**1 Samuel 22:13** And Saul said unto him, Why have ye conspired against me, thou and the son of Jesse, in that thou hast given him bread, and a sword, and hast inquired of God for him, that he should rise against me, to lie in wait, as at this day?

**Ahimelek defends David**  
[**1 Samuel 22:14**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam22.14-15) Then Ahimelech answered the king, and said, And who *is so* faithful among all thy servants as David, which is the king's son in law, and goeth at thy bidding, and is honourable in thine house?  
**1 Samuel 22:15** Did I then begin to inquire of God for him? be it far from me: let not the king impute *any* thing unto his servant, *nor* to all the house of my father: for thy servant knew nothing of all this, less or more.

**Saul kills the priests**  
[**1 Samuel 22:16**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam22.16-17) And the king said, Thou shalt surely die, Ahimelech, thou, and all thy father's house.  
**1 Samuel 22:17** And the king said unto the footmen that stood about him, Turn, and slay the priests of the LORD; because their hand also *is* with David, and because they knew when he fled, and did not shew it to me. But the servants of the king would not put forth their hand to fall upon the priests of the LORD.

**Doeg kills the priests**  
[**1 Samuel 22:18**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam22.18-19) And the king said to Doeg, Turn thou, and fall upon the priests. And Doeg the Edomite turned, and he fell upon the priests, and slew on that day fourscore and five persons that did wear a linen ephod.  
**1 Samuel 22:19** And Nob, the city of the priests, smote he with the edge of the sword, both men and women, children and sucklings, and oxen, and asses, and sheep, with the edge of the sword.

**One of the sons of Ahimelek escaped from Doeg and looked up David**[**1 Samuel 22:20**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam22.20-23) And one of the sons of Ahimelech the son of Ahitub, named Abiathar, escaped, and fled after David.  
**1 Samuel 22:21** And Abiathar shewed David that Saul had slain the LORD'S priests.  
**1 Samuel 22:22** And David said unto Abiathar, I knew *it* that day, when Doeg the Edomite *was* there, that he would surely tell Saul: I have occasioned *the death* of all the persons of thy father's house.  
**1 Samuel 22:23** Abide thou with me, fear not: for he that seeketh my life seeketh thy life: but with me thou *shalt be* in safeguard.

**David Saves Keilah**

[**1 Samuel 23:1**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam23.1-5) Then they told David, saying, Behold, the Philistines fight against Keilah, and they rob the threshingfloors.  
**1 Samuel 23:2** Therefore David inquired of the LORD, saying, Shall I go and smite these Philistines? And the LORD said unto David, Go, and smite the Philistines, and save Keilah.  
**1 Samuel 23:3** And David's men said unto him, Behold, we be afraid here in Judah: how much more then if we come to Keilah against the armies of the Philistines?  
**1 Samuel 23:4** Then David inquired of the LORD yet again. And the LORD answered him and said, Arise, go down to Keilah; for I will deliver the Philistines into thine hand.  
**1 Samuel 23:5** So David and his men went to Keilah, and fought with the Philistines, and brought away their cattle, and smote them with a great slaughter. So David saved the inhabitants of Keilah.

**Abiathar, Ahimelech’s son, comes to Keilah with an ephod**  
[**1 Samuel 23:6**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam23.6) And it came to pass, when Abiathar the son of Ahimelech fled to David to Keilah, *that* he came down *with* an ephod in his hand.

**David thinks he has David now as David has entered a city with gates and bars**  
[**1 Samuel 23:7**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam23.7-8) And it was told Saul that David was come to Keilah. And Saul said, God hath delivered him into mine hand; for he is shut in, by entering into a town that hath gates and bars.  
**1 Samuel 23:8** And Saul called all the people together to war, to go down to Keilah, to besiege David and his men.

**VI. David Seeks after the Word of the LORD**  
[**1 Samuel 23:9**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam23.9-12) And David knew that Saul secretly practised mischief against him; and he said to Abiathar the priest, Bring hither the ephod.  
**1 Samuel 23:10** Then said David, O LORD God of Israel, thy servant hath certainly heard that Saul seeketh to come to Keilah, to destroy the city for my sake.  
**1 Samuel 23:11** Will the men of Keilah deliver me up into his hand? will Saul come down, as thy servant hath heard? O LORD God of Israel, I beseech thee, tell thy servant. And the LORD said, He will come down.  
**1 Samuel 23:12** Then said David, Will the men of Keilah deliver me and my men into the hand of Saul? And the LORD said, They will deliver *thee* up.

**David and his men depart Keilah**  
[**1 Samuel 23:13**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam23.13) Then David and his men, *which were* about six hundred, arose and departed out of Keilah, and went whithersoever they could go. And it was told Saul that David was escaped from Keilah; and he forbare to go forth.

**David at the wilderness of Ziph – Saul seeks after David but the LORD delivered -** [**Psalm 63**](swordsearcher://bible/ps63)

[**1 Samuel 23:14**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam23.14-15) And David abode in the wilderness in strong holds, and remained in a mountain in the wilderness of Ziph. And Saul sought him every day, but God delivered him not into his hand.  
**1 Samuel 23:15** And David saw that Saul was come out to seek his life: and David *was* in the wilderness of Ziph in a wood.

**Jonathon and David meet again and make a covenant**  
[**1 Samuel 23:16**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam23.16-18) And Jonathan Saul's son arose, and went to David into the wood, and strengthened his hand in God.  
**1 Samuel 23:17** And he said unto him, Fear not: for the hand of Saul my father shall not find thee; and thou shalt be king over Israel, and I shall be next unto thee; and that also Saul my father knoweth.  
**1 Samuel 23:18** And they two made a covenant before the LORD: and David abode in the wood, and Jonathan went to his house.

**The Zyphites come to Saul – We will deliver him to you -** [**Psalm 54**](swordsearcher://bible/ps54)  
[**1 Samuel 23:19**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam23.19-23) Then came up the Ziphites to Saul to Gibeah, saying, Doth not David hide himself with us in strong holds in the wood, in the hill of Hachilah, which *is* on the south of Jeshimon?  
**1 Samuel 23:20** Now therefore, O king, come down according to all the desire of thy soul to come down; and our part *shall be* to deliver him into the king's hand.  
**1 Samuel 23:21** And Saul said, Blessed *be* ye of the LORD; for ye have compassion on me.  
**1 Samuel 23:22** Go, I pray you, prepare yet, and know and see his place where his haunt is, *and* who hath seen him there: for it is told me *that* he dealeth very subtilly.  
**1 Samuel 23:23** See therefore, and take knowledge of all the lurking places where he hideth himself, and come ye again to me with the certainty, and I will go with you: and it shall come to pass, if he be in the land, that I will search him out throughout all the thousands of Judah.

**But David had already moved to the Wilderness of Maon – Saul persues and surrounds David**  
[**1 Samuel 23:24**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam23.24-26) And they arose, and went to Ziph before Saul: but David and his men *were* in the wilderness of Maon, in the plain on the south of Jeshimon.  
**1 Samuel 23:25** Saul also and his men went to seek *him*. And they told David: wherefore he came down into a rock, and abode in the wilderness of Maon. And when Saul heard *that*, he pursued after David in the wilderness of Maon.  
**1 Samuel 23:26** And Saul went on this side of the mountain, and David and his men on that side of the mountain: and David made haste to get away for fear of Saul; for Saul and his men compassed David and his men round about to take them.

**But Saul must leave right away because the Philistines have invaded the land**  
[**1 Samuel 23:27**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam23.27-28) But there came a messenger unto Saul, saying, Haste thee, and come; for the Philistines have invaded the land.  
**1 Samuel 23:28** Wherefore Saul returned from pursuing after David, and went against the Philistines: therefore they called that place Sela-hammahlekoth.

**David goes to En-gedi**  
**1 Samuel 23:29** And David went up from thence, and dwelt in strong holds at En-gedi.

**Saul hears that David is in Engedi**

[**1 Samuel 24:1**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam24.1) And it came to pass, when Saul was returned from following the Philistines, that it was told him, saying, Behold, David *is* in the wilderness of En-gedi.

**Saul takes three thousand men and persues David upon the rocks of the wild goats**[**1 Samuel 24:2**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam24.2) Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel, and went to seek David and his men upon the rocks of the wild goats.

**VII.** **David Spares Saul’s Life**

**Saul goes to the bathroom in a cave – David and his men were in the cave also**  
[**1 Samuel 24:3**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam24.3-4) And he came to the sheepcotes by the way, where *was* a cave; and Saul went in to cover his feet: and David and his men remained in the sides of the cave.

**1 Samuel 24:4** And the men of David said unto him, Behold the day of which the LORD said unto thee, Behold, I will deliver thine enemy into thine hand, that thou mayest do to him as it shall seem good unto thee. Then David arose, and cut off the skirt of Saul's robe privily.

**David’s “heart smote him” because he had cut off the bottom of Saul’s coat privaiy**  
[**1 Samuel 24:5**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam24.5-7) And it came to pass afterward, that David's heart smote him, because he had cut off Saul's skirt.  
**1 Samuel 24:6** And he said unto his men, The LORD forbid that I should do this thing unto my master, the LORD'S anointed, to stretch forth mine hand against him, seeing he *is* the anointed of the LORD.  
**1 Samuel 24:7** So David stayed his servants with these words, and suffered them not to rise against Saul. But Saul rose up out of the cave, and went on *his* way.

**David Confronts Saul**  
[**1 Samuel 24:8**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam24.8-15) David also arose afterward, and went out of the cave, and cried after Saul, saying, My lord the king. And when Saul looked behind him, David stooped with his face to the earth, and bowed himself.  
**1 Samuel 24:9** And David said to Saul, Wherefore hearest thou men's words, saying, Behold, David seeketh thy hurt?  
**1 Samuel 24:10** Behold, this day thine eyes have seen how that the LORD had delivered thee to day into mine hand in the cave: and *some* bade *me* kill thee: but *mine eye* spared thee; and I said, I will not put forth mine hand against my lord; for he *is* the LORD'S anointed.  
**1 Samuel 24:11** Moreover, my father, see, yea, see the skirt of thy robe in my hand: for in that I cut off the skirt of thy robe, and killed thee not, know thou and see that *there is* neither evil nor transgression in mine hand, and I have not sinned against thee; yet thou huntest my soul to take it.  
**1 Samuel 24:12** The LORD judge between me and thee, and the LORD avenge me of thee: but mine hand shall not be upon thee.  
**1 Samuel 24:13** As saith the proverb of the ancients, Wickedness proceedeth from the wicked: but mine hand shall not be upon thee.  
**1 Samuel 24:14** After whom is the king of Israel come out? after whom dost thou pursue? after a dead dog, after a flea.  
**1 Samuel 24:15** The LORD therefore be judge, and judge between me and thee, and see, and plead my cause, and deliver me out of thine hand.

**Saul takes a stab at repentence, though it is a false repentence**  
[**1 Samuel 24:16**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam24.16-20) And it came to pass, when David had made an end of speaking these words unto Saul, that Saul said, *Is* this thy voice, my son David? And Saul lifted up his voice, and wept.  
**1 Samuel 24:17** And he said to David, Thou *art* more righteous than I: for thou hast rewarded me good, whereas I have rewarded thee evil.  
**1 Samuel 24:18** And thou hast shewed this day how that thou hast dealt well with me: forasmuch as when the LORD had delivered me into thine hand, thou killedst me not.  
**1 Samuel 24:19** For if a man find his enemy, will he let him go well away? wherefore the LORD reward thee good for that thou hast done unto me this day.  
**1 Samuel 24:20** And now, behold, I know well that thou shalt surely be king, and that the kingdom of Israel shall be established in thine hand.

**Saul goes home**  
[**1 Samuel 24:21**](swordsearcher://bible/1sam24.21-22) Swear now therefore unto me by the LORD, that thou wilt not cut off my seed after me, and that thou wilt not destroy my name out of my father's house.  
**1 Samuel 24:22** And David sware unto Saul. And Saul went home; but David and his men gat them up unto the hold.

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