

# genesis history

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*creator, maker, cosmos*

# 1 samuel

# April 11

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Embedded Ps: [34](#), [52](#), [54](#), [56](#), [57](#), [59](#), [142](#)

[Steve Gregg: [Video Overview](#),  
[Intro. to Samuel & Chronicles](#)]

[ [For chronology](#):

[1 Samuel 1:1-3:19](#) precedes [Judg 11:1](#)

[1 Samuel 3:19-7:2](#) follows [Judg 13:1](#)

The history resumes in [2904 AB](#) after Samson's [20 years](#) as judge, which ended with Samson destroying Dagon's temple thus enraging the [Philistines](#):]

[Audio: [Steve Gregg 1Sa 5-8](#)]

## 1 Samuel 7:3

**Samuel Begins to Judge/Lead Israel**

3 ¶ Then Samuel spoke to all the house of Israel, saying,

“If you return to YHWH with all your hearts, then put away the foreign gods and the Ashtoreths [“stars”] from among you, and prepare your hearts for YHWH, and serve Him only; and He will deliver you from the hand of the Philistines.” 4 [i.e., end the 40-year domination: [Judg 13:1](#)]

So the children of Israel put away the Baals [“lords”] and the Ashtoreths [“stars”; fertility goddesses], and served YHWH only. 5 And Samuel said, “Gather all Israel to Mizpah, and I will pray to YHWH for you.” 6

So they gathered together at Mizpah [“watchtower”], drew water, and poured it out before YHWH [MSG: in a ritual of cleansing]. And they fasted that day, and said there,

“We have sinned against YHWH.”

And Samuel judged the children of Israel at Mizpah. [NLT: Samuel started leading Israel that day at Mizpah.]

**YHWH Defeats the Philistines**

7 ¶ Now when the Philistines heard that the children of Israel had gathered together at Mizpah, the lords of the Philistines went up against Israel. And when the children of Israel heard of it, they were afraid of the Philistines. 8 So the children of Israel said to Samuel,

“Do not cease to cry out to YHWH our God for us, that He may save us from the hand of the Philistines.” 9

And Samuel took a suckling lamb and offered it as a whole burnt offering to YHWH. Then Samuel cried out to YHWH for Israel, and YHWH answered him. 10 Now as Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel. But YHWH thundered with a loud thunder upon the Philistines that day, and so confused them that they were overcome before Israel. 11 And the men of Israel went out of Mizpah and pursued the Philistines, and drove them back as far as below Beth Car [“house of the ram/lamb”]. 12 Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen [“crag”], and called its name Ebenezer [“help stone”], saying, “Thus far YHWH has helped us.”

**Peace For All Samuel's Days**

13 ¶ So the Philistines were subdued, and they did not come anymore into the territory of Israel. And the hand of YHWH was against the Philistines all the [rest of the] days of Samuel [~41 years: [25:1](#)]. 14

[Audio: [Steve Gregg Overview 1, 2](#) →]

Then the cities that the Philistines had taken from Israel were restored to Israel, from Ekron to Gath; and Israel recovered its territory from the hands of the Philistines. Also there was peace between Israel and the Amorites. 15 And Samuel judged Israel all [the rest of] the days of his life [starting at Mizpah]. 16

He went from year to year on a circuit to Bethel, Gilgal, and Mizpah, and judged Israel in all those places. 17 But he always returned to Ramah,

for his home was there: there he judged Israel, and there he built an altar to YHWH. [Not at Shiloh: now destroyed (implied in [1Sa4](#) and by the absence of any further mentions since the Philistines took the ark). Cf. [Ps 78:60](#); [2Ch 1:3](#)]

## 1 Samuel 8

**Samuel's Sons Like Eli's**

8:1 ¶ Now it came to pass when Samuel was old [~57-58?: [Timeline of Judges](#)] that he made his sons judges over Israel. 2 The name of his firstborn was Joel [“God is YHWH”],

and the name of his second, Abijah [“YHWH is my father”]; they were judges in Beersheba [“well of the sevenflod oath”]. 3 But his sons did not walk in his ways; they turned aside after dishonest gain, took bribes, and perverted justice.

## 1 Chronicles 6:33-38

And these are the ones

who ministered with their sons:

**Of Kohath: 23 Generations**

Of the sons of the Kohathites were Heman [“faithful”] the singer,

[who wrote [Ps 88](#)]

[23 generations back to Israel:]

the son of Joel [“God is YHWH”], the son of Samuel

[“El (God) is his name”], 34

the son of Elkanah [“possessed (or created) by God”],

the son of Jeroham

[“showing pity”],

the son of Eliel

[“(my) God is God”],

the son of Toah [“lowly”], 35

the son of Zuph [“honeycomb”],

the son of Elkanah [“possessed (or created) by God”; v25],

the son of Mahath [“gasping”],

the son of Amasai

[“burdensome”], 36

the son of Elkanah [“possessed (or created) by God”],

the son of Joel [“God is YHWH”],

the son of Azariah

[“YHWH has helped”],

the son of Zephaniah

[“YHWH has treasured”], 37

the son of Tahath [“station”],

the son of Assir [“prisoner”],

the son of Ebiasaph

[“my father has gathered”],

the son of Korah [“bald”], 38

the son of Izhar [“shining oil”],

the son of Kohath [“assembly”],

the son of Levi [“joined to”],

the son of Israel

[“God prevails”; aka Jacob].

### Israel Wants a Man, not God, as King

4 ¶ **Then** all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at **Ramah**, and said to him,

“Look, you are **old**, and your sons do not walk in your ways. **Now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.**” 6

But the thing displeased Samuel **when** they said,

“Give us a king to **judge** us.”

[He, like Gideon, knew that **God** was their King: [Judges 8:23](#).]

So Samuel prayed to **YHWH**. 7

And **YHWH** said to Samuel,

“Heed the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected **Me**, that I should not reign over them. 8 [They don't want to be a kingdom of priests to **YHWH**, a holy nation: [Ex 19:6](#)] According to all the works **that** they have done since **the day** that I brought them **up** out of Egypt, even to **this day** — with which they have forsaken **Me** and served other gods — so they are doing to you also. 9 **Now** therefore, heed their voice. However, you shall **solemnly forewarn** them, and **show** them the behavior of the king who will [not judge, but] reign over them.”

#### [Hosea 13:9-11](#) [cf. [1Sa 15:35](#)]

O Israel, you are destroyed,

But your help is from **Me**. 10

I will be your **King**;

Where is any other [help=King],

That he may save you in all your cities?

And your **judges** to whom you said,

‘Give me a king and princes’? 11

I gave you a king in **My anger**, And took him away in **My wrath**.

10 So Samuel told all the words of **YHWH** to the people who asked him for a king.

11 And he said,

“This will be the behavior of the king who will **reign** over you:

he will take your sons and appoint *them* for his own chariots and *to be* his horsemen, and *some* will run before his chariots; 12 [fulfilled: [14:52](#)]

he will appoint

captains over his thousands and captains over his fifties, *will set some* to plow his **ground** and reap his **harvest**, and *some* to make

his weapons of war and equipment for his chariots; 13

he will take your daughters *to be*

perfumers,

cooks, and

bakers; 14 and

he will take the best of

your fields,

your vineyards, and

your olive groves,

and give *them* to his servants; 15

he will take a tenth [1/10<sup>th</sup>: a tax] of

your grain and

your vintage,

and give it to his officers and servants;

16 and

he will take

your male servants,

your female servants,

your finest young men, and

your donkeys,

and put *them* to his work; 17

he will take a tenth [1/10<sup>th</sup>] of [terrible taxation! ☺]

your sheep.

And you will be his servants. 18

And you will cry out **in that day**

because of **your** king whom

**you** have chosen for yourselves,

and **YHWH** will not hear you

**in that day.**” 19

Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said,

“No, but we will have a king over us, 20 that we also may be **like all the nations**, and that our king may **judge** us and go out before us and fight our battles.” 21

[They, like modern people, prefer slavery to men (e.g., socialism, communism) over freedom under **God**.

“The truth will set you free!”]

And Samuel heard all the words of the people, and **he repeated** them in the hearing of **YHWH**. 22

So **YHWH** said to Samuel,

“Heed their voice, and make them a king.”

[Literally, “king them a king”]

And Samuel said to the men of Israel,

“Every man go to **his city.**”

### Notes:

[De 17:14-20](#) re restrictions on kings

[This column has some parallels in the next two columns:]

**1 Samuel 9:1-2**  
**Saul's Genealogy**

[Audio: Steve Gregg 1Sa 9:1-10:8]

9:1 ¶ There was a man of Benjamin [cf. [Judg 19-21](#)] whose name was

Kish ["bent"], the son of [← "God is (my) father"]  
Abiel, the son of Zeror ["bundle"], the son of Bechorath ["first-born"], the son of Aphiah ["I will make to breathe"], a Benjamite, a mighty man of power. 2 And he [Kish] had a choice and handsome son whose name was

Saul ["desired"/"asked for"]. → There was not a more handsome person than he among the children of Israel. From his shoulders upward he was [head and shoulders] taller than any of the people. [Superficiality.]

[This column parallels the next:]

**1 Chronicles 8:29-33** ||

Now the leader of Gibeon, whose wife's name was Maacah, dwelt at Gibeon. 30 And his firstborn son was

Abdon, then Zur, Kish, Baal,

[← Ner omitted; why?]

Nadab, 31 Gedor, Ahio, Zecher ["remembrance"], 32 = and

Mikloth, who begot

Shimeah ["report"]. =

They also dwelt alongside their relatives in Jerusalem, with their brethren.

[Ner begot Abner: 1Sa 14:51]

33 ¶ Ner [aka Abiel/Jeiel?] begot Kish, Kish begot

← Abiel and Jeiel (1Ch 9:35 above right) must be the same person

Saul, and Saul begot

Jonathan, Malchishua, Abinadab, and Esh-Baal [aka Ishbosheth].

**1 Chronicles 9:35-39**

Jeiel ["God sweeps away"] the leader of Gibeon [that is, the town], whose wife's name was Maacah ["opression"], dwelt at Gibeon. 36

His firstborn son was Abdon ["servile"], then Zur ["rock"], Kish ["bent"], Baal ["lord"], Ner ["lamp"],

Nadab ["generous"], 37 Gedor ["wall"], Ahio ["brotherly" or "fraternal"], Zechariah ["YHWH remembers"], and

Mikloth ["staves"].

38 And Mikloth begot Shimeam ["their fame"]. =

They also dwelt alongside their relatives in Jerusalem, with their brethren.

[so Abner is Saul's cousin: 1Sa 14:51]

39 Ner [aka Abiel/Jeiel?] begot Kish, Kish begot

← Abiel is also used in 1Sa 14:51

Saul ["desired"], and Saul begot Jonathan ["YHWH has given"], Malchishua ["wealth is my king"], Abinadab ["noble/willing is ↓ [my father]"], and Esh-Baal ["a man of Baal"].

**Saul's Family Tree**  
**(of Benjamin)**

1Sa 9:1-2 and 14:49-51, and 1Ch 8:29-33 || 9:35-39, and 2Sa 21:8, also Judg 19-21 [The latter may explain the lack of a lineage back to Benjamin.]

Aphiah  
Bechorath  
Zeror [↓ Saul's grand father]  
Abiel (=Jeiel: 1Sa 9:1/1Ch 9:35) [by Maacah: 1Ch 8:29,9:35]  
Abdon  
Zur [1Ch 8:33||9:39]  
Kish [1Sa 9:1-3 || ^ ]  
Saul [↓ dau. of Ahimaaz] [by Ahinoam: 14:50]  
Jonathan [cf. his descendants]  
Malchishua  
Abinadab [aka Jishui?]  
Esh-Baal [=Ishbosheth] [and daughters:]  
Merab  
Michal [by Rizpah: 2Sa 21:8]  
Armoni  
Mephibosheth  
Baal  
Ner [1Sa 14:51]  
Abner  
Nadab  
Gedor,  
Ahio  
Zecher aka Zechariah  
Mikloth  
Shimeah

[It appears that 1 Chronicles twice has Ner as Kish's father as well as once his brother. Presumably Abiel/Jeiel was also called Ner.]

## 1 Samuel 9:3-27

### Saul Looks for his Father's Donkeys

3 ¶ Now the donkeys of Kish, Saul's father, were lost. And Kish said to his son Saul,

"Please, take one of the servants with you, and arise, go and look for the donkeys." 4

So he passed through the mountains of Ephraim and through the land of Shalisha ["third"], but they did not find them.

Then they passed through the land of Shaalim ["foxes"], and they were not there.

Then he passed through the land of the Benjamites, but they did not find them. 5

When they had come to the land of Zuph ["honeycomb"], Saul said to his servant who was with him, "Come, let us return, lest my father cease caring about the donkeys and become worried about us." 6

And he said to him, "Look now, there is in this city a man of God, and he is an honorable man; all that he says surely comes to pass. So let us go there; perhaps he can show us the way that we should go." 7

Then Saul said to his servant, "But look, if we go, what shall we take the man? For the bread in our vessels is all gone, and there is no present to take to the man of God. What do we have?" 8

And the servant answered Saul again and said,

"Look, I have here at hand one fourth of a shekel of silver<sup>1</sup>.

I will give that to the man of God, to tell us our way." 9

(Formerly in Israel, when a man went to inquire of God, he spoke thus: "Come, let us go to the seer"; for he who is now called a prophet was formerly called a seer.) 10

Then Saul said to his servant, "Well said; come, let us go."

So they went to the city where the man of God was.

### YHWH Brings Saul to Samuel

11 ¶ As they went up the hill to the city, they met some young women going out to draw water, and said to them, "Is the seer here?" 12

And they answered them and said, "Yes, there he is, just ahead of you. Hurry now; for today he came to this city, because there is a sacrifice of the people today on the high place. 13 As soon as you come into the city, you will surely find him before he goes up to the high place to eat. For the people will not eat until he comes, because he must bless the sacrifice; afterward those who are invited will eat. Now therefore, go up, for about this time you will find him." 14

So they went up to the city. As they were coming into the city, there was Samuel, coming out toward them on his way up to the high place. 15

32 \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>1</sup> A silver shekel may have been ~1/60<sup>th</sup> of a pound, so 16/60 x ~\$10.80 = \$2.88, so 1/4 shekel = ~\$0.72, in 2008 dollars.

Now YHWH had told Samuel in his ear the day before Saul came, saying, 16

"Tomorrow about this time I will send you a man from the land of Benjamin, and you shall anoint him commander over My people Israel, that he may save My people from the hand of the Philistines; for I have looked upon My people, because their cry has come to me." 17

And when Samuel saw Saul,

YHWH said to him,

"There he is, the man of whom I spoke to you. This one shall reign over My people."

### Samuel Honors Saul at a Banquet

18 ¶ Then Saul drew near to Samuel in the gate, and said, "Please tell me, where is the seer's house?" 19

And Samuel answered Saul and said, "I am the seer. Go up before me to the high place, for you shall eat with me today; and tomorrow I will let you go and will tell you all that is in your heart. 20 But as for your donkeys that were lost three [3] days ago, do not be anxious about them, for they have been found. And on whom is all the desire of Israel? Is it not

on you and on all your father's house?" 21

And Saul answered and said, "Am I not a Benjamite, [Judg 19-21] of the smallest of the tribes of Israel, and my family the least of all the families of the tribe of Benjamin? Why then do you speak like this to me?" 22

Now Samuel took Saul and his servant and brought them into the hall, and had them sit in the place of honor among those who were invited; there were about thirty [~30] persons. 23 And Samuel said to the cook,

"Bring the portion that I gave you, of which I said to you, 'Set it apart.'" 24

So the cook took up the thigh with its upper part and set it before Saul. And Samuel said [to Saul], "Here it is, what was kept back. It was set apart for you. Eat; for until this time it has been kept for you, since I said I invited the people."

[ESV: "Eat, because it was kept for you until the hour appointed, that you might eat with the guests."] So Saul ate with Samuel that day. 25

When they had come down from the high place into the city, Samuel spoke with Saul on the top of the house. 26 They arose early; and it was about the dawning of the day that Samuel called to Saul on the top of the house, saying,

"Get up, that I may send you on your way." And Saul arose, and both of them went outside, he and Samuel. 27 As they were going down to the outskirts of the city, Samuel said to Saul, "Tell the servant to go on ahead of us." And he went on.

"But you stand here awhile, that I may announce to you the word of God."

# April 12

## 1 Samuel 10

### Samuel Tells Saul Why & What to do

10:1 ¶ Then Samuel took a flask of oil and poured it on his head, and kissed him and said:

“Is it not because YHWH has anointed you commander over His inheritance? 2 When you have departed from me today, [#1] you will find two [2] men by Rachel’s tomb in the territory of Benjamin at Zelzah;

[“shadow”; a place on the boundary of Benjamin, close to Rachel’s tomb, 5 miles (8 km) southwest of Jerusalem] and they will say to you,

“The donkeys that you went to look for have been found, and now your father has ceased caring about the donkeys and is worrying about you, saying,

“What shall I do about my son?” 3

Then [#2] you shall go on forward from there and come to the terebinth tree of Tabor [“mound”]. There three [3] men going up to God at Bethel will meet you,

one carrying

three [3] young goats,

another carrying

three [3] loaves of bread, and

another carrying

a skin of wine. 4

And they will greet you and give you two [2] loaves of bread, which you shall receive from their hands. 5 After that [#3] you shall come to the hill of God where the Philistine garrison is. And it will happen, when you have come

there to the city, that you will meet a group of prophets coming down from the high place with

a stringed instrument,

a tambourine,

a flute, and

a harp

before them; and they will be prophesying. 6 Then the Spirit of YHWH will come upon you, and you will prophesy with them and be turned into another man. 7

And let it be, when these [3] signs come to you, that you do as the occasion demands; for God is with you. 8

[Eventually (13:8),]

You shall go down before me to Gilgal; and surely I will

come down to you to

offer burnt offerings and make sacrifices of peace offerings.

Seven [7] days you shall wait, till I

come to you and

show you what you should do.”

[Audio: S. Gregg 1Sa 10:9-12:25]

### Samuel’s Prophecy Fulfilled

9 ¶ So it was, when he had turned his back to go from Samuel,

that God gave him another heart; and all those [3] signs came to pass that day.

10 When they came there to the hill, there was a group of prophets to meet him; then [#3 (v6)] the Spirit of God

came upon him, and he prophesied among them. 11 And it happened, when all who knew him formerly saw that he indeed prophesied among the prophets,

that the people said to one another, “What is this that has come upon the son of Kish? [cf. 1Sa 19:24b]

Is Saul also among the prophets?” 12

Then a man from there answered and said, “But who is their father?”

Therefore it became a proverb:

“Is Saul also among the prophets?” 13

And when he had finished prophesying, he went to the high place. 14

Then Saul’s uncle [Ner?] said to him and his servant,

“Where did you go?”

So he said,

“To look for the donkeys.

When we saw that they were nowhere to be found, we went to Samuel.” 15

And Saul’s uncle said,

“Tell me, please, what Samuel said to you.” 16

So Saul said to his uncle,

“He told us plainly that the donkeys had been found.”

But about the matter of the kingdom, he did not tell him what Samuel had said.

### YHWH Chooses Saul Before Israel

[Saul was king 40 yrs: 2910-2949 AB = 1095-1055 BC; 1Ki 6:1, Acts 13:21, Timeline of Judges]

17 ¶ Then Samuel called the people together to YHWH at Mizpah, 18 and said to the children of Israel,

“Thus says YHWH, God of Israel:

‘I brought up Israel out of Egypt, and delivered you

from the hand of the Egyptians and from the hand of all kingdoms and from those who oppressed you.’ 19

But you have today rejected your God, who Himself saved you from all your adversities and your tribulations; and you have said to Him,

‘No, set a [human] king over us!’

Now therefore,

present yourselves before YHWH by your tribes and by your clans.” 20

And when Samuel had caused all the tribes of Israel to come near, the tribe of Benjamin was chosen. 21

When he had caused the tribe of Benjamin to come near by their families, the family of Matri [“rain of YHWH”; only reference in the Bible; perhaps an ancestor of, or aka, Aphiah?] was chosen. And Saul the son of Kish was chosen. But when they sought him, he could not be found. 22 Therefore they inquired of YHWH further,

“Has the man come here yet?”

And YHWH answered,

“There he is, hidden among the equipment.” 23

So they ran and brought him from there; and when he stood among the people, he was taller than any of the people from his shoulders upward. 24 And Samuel said to all the people,

“Do you see him whom YHWH has chosen, that there is no one like him among all the people?”

So all the people shouted and said, “Long live the king!” 25

Then Samuel explained to the people the behavior of royalty, and wrote it in a book [presumably, this book of 1Sa; cf. 8:11-18] and laid it up before YHWH.

And Samuel sent all the people away, every man to his house. 26 And Saul also went home to Gibeah; and valiant men went with him, whose hearts God had touched. 27 But some rebels said,

“How can this man save us?”

So they despised him, and brought him no presents. But he held his peace.

## 1 Samuel 11

### Nahash Comes Against Jabesh

11:1 ¶ Then Nahash [“serpent”] the Ammonite came up and encamped against Jabesh Gilead; and all the men of Jabesh said to Nahash, “Make a covenant with us, and we will serve you.” 2 And Nahash the Ammonite answered them,

“On this condition I will make a covenant with you, that I may put out all your right eyes, [right eyes for aiming arrows] and bring reproach on all Israel.” 3 Then the elders of Jabesh said to him, “Hold off for seven [7] days, that we may send messengers to all the territory of Israel. And then, if there is no one to save us, we will come out to you.” 4 So the messengers came to Gibeah of Saul and told the news in the hearing of the people. And all the people lifted up their voices and wept.

### Saul Calls All Israel to Arms

5 ¶ Now there was Saul, coming behind the herd from the field; and Saul said, “What troubles the people, that they weep?” And they told him the words of the men of Jabesh. 6 Then the Spirit of God came upon Saul when he heard this news, and his anger was greatly aroused. 7 So he took a yoke of oxen and cut them in pieces, and sent them throughout all the territory of Israel by the hands of messengers, saying, “Whoever does not go out with Saul and Samuel to battle, so it shall be done to his oxen.”

And the fear of YHWH fell on the people, and they came out with one consent. 8 When he numbered them in Bezek [“lightning”], the children of Israel were three hundred thousand [300,000], and the men of Judah thirty thousand [30,000] [already divided]. 9 And they said to the messengers who came, “Thus you shall say to the men of Jabesh Gilead: ‘Tomorrow, by the time the sun is hot, you shall have help.’”

Then the messengers came and reported it to the men of Jabesh, and they were glad. 10 Therefore the men of Jabesh said, “Tomorrow we will come out to you, and you may do with us whatever seems good to you.” 11 [As if there was no one to help them?] So it was, on the next day, that Saul put the people in three [3] companies; and they came into the midst of the camp in the morning watch, and killed Ammonites until the heat of the day. And it happened that those who survived were scattered, so that no two of them were left together.

### Saul Affirmed King by Israel

12 ¶ Then the people said to Samuel, “Who is he who said, ‘Shall Saul reign over us?’ Bring the men, that we may put them to death.” 13 [Crediting to Saul rather than YHWH.] But Saul said, “Not a man shall be put to death this day, for today YHWH has accomplished salvation in Israel.” 14 [To his credit, Saul credits YHWH.]

Then Samuel said to the people, “Come, let us go to Gilgal and renew the kingdom there.” 15 So all the people went to Gilgal, and there they made Saul king before YHWH in Gilgal [“for forty years”: Ac 13:21]. There they made sacrifices of peace offerings before YHWH, and there Saul and all the men of Israel rejoiced greatly.

## 1 Samuel 12

### Samuel Exonerated Before Israel

12:1 ¶ Now Samuel said to all Israel: “Indeed I have heeded your voice in all that you said to me, and have made a king over you. 2 And now here is the king, walking before you; and I am old and grayheaded, and look, my sons are with you. I have walked before you from my childhood to this day. 3 Here I am. Witness against me before YHWH and before His anointed [i.e., Saul]: Whose ox have I taken, or whose donkey have I taken, or whom have I cheated? Whom have I oppressed, or from whose hand have I received any bribe with which to blind my eyes? [Sounds like his sons: 8:3.] I will restore it to you.” 4

And they said, “You have not cheated us or oppressed us, nor have you taken anything from any man’s hand.” 5 Then he said to them, “YHWH is witness against you, and His anointed is witness this day, that you have not found anything in my hand.” And they answered, “They are witness.”

### Samuel Admonishes Israel

6 ¶ Then Samuel said to the people, “It is YHWH who raised up Moses and Aaron, and who brought your fathers up from the land of Egypt. 7 Now therefore, stand still, that I may reason with you before YHWH concerning all the righteous acts of YHWH that He did to you and your fathers: 8 When Jacob had gone into Egypt, and your fathers cried out to YHWH, then YHWH sent Moses and Aaron, who brought your fathers out of Egypt and made them dwell in this place. 9 And when they forgot YHWH their God, He sold them into the hand of Sisera, commander of the army of Hazor [deliverer Deborah: Judg 4-5], into the hand of the Philistines [final deliverer Samuel: 7:7-12], and into the hand of the king of Moab [deliverer Ehud: Judg 3:12-30]; and they fought against them. 10 Then they cried out to YHWH, and said, ‘We have sinned, because we have forsaken YHWH and served the Baals and Ashtoreths; but now deliver us from the hand of our enemies, and we will serve You.’ 11 And YHWH sent Jerubbaal [Gideon: Judg 6-7], Bedan [“in judging”; LXX: Barak; w/Deborah: Judg 4-5], Jephthah [Judg 11], and Samuel [some mss: Samson — Judg 14-16], and delivered you out of the hand of your enemies on every side; and you

dwelt in safety. 12 And when you saw that Nahash king of the Ammonites came against you, you said to me,

‘No, but a king shall reign over us’, when YHWH your God was your King. 13

Now therefore, here is the king whom you have chosen and whom you have desired.

And take note,

YHWH has set a king over you. 14 If you fear YHWH and serve Him and obey His voice, and do not rebel against the commandment of YHWH, then both you and the king who reigns over you will continue following YHWH your God. 15 However, if you do not obey the voice of YHWH, but rebel against the commandment of YHWH, then the hand of YHWH will be against you, as it was against your fathers.

### Samuel Predicts Thunder and Rain

16 ¶ Now therefore, stand and see this great thing that YHWH will do before your eyes: 17 [ ~June] Is today not the wheat harvest? I will call to YHWH, and He will send thunder and rain, [reason:] that you may perceive and see that your wickedness is great, which you have done in the sight of YHWH, in asking a king for yourselves.” 18

So Samuel called to YHWH, and YHWH sent thunder and rain that day; and all the people greatly feared YHWH and Samuel. 19 And all the people said to Samuel, “Pray for your servants to YHWH your God, that we may not die; for we have added to all our sins the evil of asking a king for ourselves.” 20

Then Samuel said to the people, “Do not fear. You have done all this wickedness; yet do not turn aside from following YHWH, but serve YHWH with all your heart. 21 And do not turn aside; for then you would go after empty things that cannot profit or deliver, for they are nothing. 22

For YHWH will not forsake His people, for His great name’s sake, because it has pleased YHWH to make you His people. 23 Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against YHWH in ceasing to pray for you; but I will teach you the good and the right way. 24 Only fear YHWH, and serve Him in truth with all your heart; for consider what great things He has done for you. 25 But if you still do wickedly, you shall be swept away, both you and your king.”

[Audio: S. Gregg [1Sa 13-14](#)]

### 1 Samuel 13

#### Saul Disbands Most of His Army (11:8)

13:1 ¶ Saul reigned one [1] year [perhaps since he got his new heart: [1Sa 10:9](#)]; and when he had reigned two [2] years over Israel<sup>2</sup>, 2 Saul chose for himself three thousand [3,000] men of Israel. Two thousand [2,000] were with Saul in Michmash [“hidden”; a city in Benjamin lying near Ramah and ~10 miles (16 km) north of Jerusalem; probably modern ‘Mukhmas’]

and in the mountains of Bethel, and a

<sup>2</sup> NAS, NIV: “Saul was thirty years old when he began to reign and he reigned for forty-two years over Israel.” (N)RSV: “...” for thirty and forty. YLT: “A son of a year is Saul in his reigning, yea, two years he hath reigned over Israel.”

thousand [1,000] were with Jonathan [“given by YHWH”; Saul’s son: v16] in Gibeah of Benjamin. The rest of the people he sent away, every man to his tent. 3

#### Jonathan Attacks the Philistines

And Jonathan attacked the garrison of the Philistines that was in Geba, and the Philistines heard of it. Then Saul blew the trumpet throughout all the land, saying,

“Let the Hebrews hear!” 4

Now all Israel heard it said that Saul had attacked a garrison of the Philistines, and that Israel had also become an abomination to the Philistines. And the people were called together to Saul at Gilgal. 5 Then the Philistines gathered together to fight with Israel,

thirty thousand [30,000] chariots and six thousand [6,000] horsemen, and people as the sand that is

on the seashore in multitude.

And they came up and encamped in Michmash, to the east of Beth Aven [“house of vanity”]. 6 When the men of Israel saw that they were in danger (for the people were distressed), then the people hid in caves, in thickets, in rocks, in holes, and in pits. 7 And some of the Hebrews crossed over the Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead. As for Saul, he was still in Gilgal, and all the people followed him trembling.

#### Saul Offers a Burnt Offering Himself

8 ¶ Then he waited seven [7] days, according to the time set by Samuel [10:8b? too long before: v1; another?]. But Samuel did not come to Gilgal; and the people were scattered from him. 9

So Saul said, “Bring a burnt offering and peace offerings here to me.” And he offered the burnt offering. 10

#### Samuel Reprimands Saul

Now it happened, as soon as he had finished presenting the burnt offering, that Samuel came; and Saul went out to meet him, that he might greet him. 11 And Samuel said,

“What have you done?”

And Saul said,

“When I saw that the people were scattered from me, and that you did not come within the days appointed, and that the Philistines gathered together at Michmash, 12 then I said, ‘The Philistines will now come down on me at Gilgal, and I have not made supplication to YHWH.’

Therefore I felt compelled, and offered a burnt offering.” 13

And Samuel said to Saul,

“You have done foolishly. You have not kept the commandment of YHWH your God, which He commanded you. For now YHWH would have established your kingdom over Israel forever. 14 But now your kingdom shall not continue.

YHWH has sought for Himself [David:] a man after His own heart, and YHWH has commanded him to be commander over His people, because you [Saul] have not kept what YHWH commanded you.”

#### Opposite Camps; Israel Outnumbered

15 ¶ Then Samuel arose and went up from Gilgal to Gibeah of Benjamin. And Saul

numbered the people present with him, about six hundred [~600] men [down from 2,000]. 16 Saul, Jonathan his son, and the people present with them remained in Gibeah of Benjamin. But the Philistines encamped in Michmash. 17 Then raiders came out of the camp of the Philistines in three [3] companies: [#1] one company turned to the road to Ophrah [“fawn”], to the land of Shual [“jackel”], 18 [#2] another company turned to the road to Beth Horon [“house of hollowness”], and [#3] another company turned to the road of the border that overlooks the Valley of Zeboim [“speckled”] toward the wilderness. 19

Now there was no blacksmith to be found throughout all the land of Israel, for the Philistines said, “Lest the Hebrews make swords or spears.” 20 But all the Israelites would go down to the Philistines to sharpen each man’s plowshare, his mattock, his ax, and his sickle; 21 and the charge for a sharpening was a pim [1/3 shekel, so about a dollar] for the plowshares, the mattocks, the forks, and the axes, and to set the points of the goads. 22 So it came about, on the day of battle, that there was neither sword nor spear found in the hand of any of the people who were with Saul and Jonathan. But they were found with Saul and Jonathan his son. [How did S&J get swords and spears? Stolen? Known to the Philistines?] 23 And the garrison of the Philistines went out to the pass of Michmash.

# April 13

## 1 Samuel 14

### Jonathan Starts a Battle

14:1 ¶ Now it happened one day that Jonathan the son of Saul said to the young man who bore his armor, “Come, let us go over to the Philistines’ garrison that is on the other side.” But he did not tell his father. 2 And Saul was sitting in the outskirts of Gibeah under a pomegranate tree which is in Migron [“precipice”]. The people who were with him were about six hundred [600] men. 3 Ahijah [“YHWH is my brother”] the son of Ahitub [“good(ness) is my brother”], Ichabod’s [“no glory”] brother, the son of Phinehas [“mouth of brass”], the son of Eli [“ascension”], [Family Tree] YHWH’s priest in Shiloh [“place of rest”], was wearing an ephod. But the people did not know that Jonathan had gone. 4 Between the passes, by which Jonathan sought to go over to the Philistines’ garrison, there was a sharp rock on one side and a sharp rock on the other side. And the name of one was Bozez [“surpassing white: glistening”], and the name of the other Seneh [“thorny”]. 5 The front of one faced northward opposite Michmash, and the other southward opposite Gibeah. 6 Then Jonathan said

to the young man who bore his armor, “Come, let us go over to the garrison of these uncircumcised; it may be that YHWH will work for us. For nothing restrains YHWH from saving by many or by few.” 7

So his armorbearer said to him, “Do all that is in your heart. Go then; here I am with you, according to your heart.” 8

Then Jonathan said, “Very well, let us cross over to these men, and we will show ourselves to them. 9 If they say thus to us, ‘Wait until we come to you’, then we will stand still in our place and not go up to them. 10 But if they say thus, ‘Come up to us’, then we will go up. For YHWH has delivered them into our hand, and this will be a sign to us.” 11

So both of them showed themselves to the garrison of the Philistines. And the Philistines said,

“Look, the Hebrews are coming out of the holes where they have hidden.” 12 Then the men of the garrison called to Jonathan and his armorbearer, and said, “Come up to us, and we will show you something.”

Jonathan said to his armorbearer, “Come up after me, for YHWH has delivered them into the hand of Israel.” 13 And Jonathan climbed up on his hands and knees with his armorbearer after him; and they fell before Jonathan. And as he came after him, his armorbearer killed them. 14 That first slaughter, which Jonathan and his armorbearer made, was about twenty [~20] men

within about half an acre of land. 15 And there was trembling in the camp, in the field, and among all the [Philistine] people. The garrison and the raiders also trembled; and the land [earth] quaked, so that it was a very great trembling [peoplequake and earthquake].

16 ¶ Now the watchmen of Saul in Gibeah of Benjamin looked, and there was the multitude, melting away; and they went here and there. 17 Then Saul said to the people who were with him, “Now call the roll and see who has gone from us.” And when they had called the roll, surprisingly, Jonathan and his armorbearer were not there. 18 And Saul said to Ahijah,

“Bring the ark of God here” (for at that time the ark of God was [back] with the children of Israel). 19 Now it happened, while Saul talked to the priest, that the noise that was in the camp of the Philistines continued to increase; so Saul said to the priest [Ahijah: v3], “Withdraw your hand.” [From what, the ark, the ephod?] 20

Then Saul and all the people who were with him assembled, and they went to the battle; and indeed every man’s sword was against his neighbor, and there was very great confusion. 21 Moreover the Hebrews who were with the Philistines before that time [traitors], who went up with them into the camp from the surrounding country, they also joined

the Israelites who *were* with Saul and Jonathan. <sup>22</sup> Likewise all the men of Israel who had hidden in the mountains of Ephraim, *when* they heard that the Philistines fled, they also followed hard after them in the battle [all without weapons, except what they took from the fallen: 13:22]. <sup>23</sup>

So YHWH saved Israel that day, and the battle shifted to Beth Aven.

### Saul Builds His First Altar to YHWH

<sup>24</sup> ¶ And the men of Israel were distressed that day, for Saul had placed the people under oath, saying, “Cursed is the man who eats any food until evening, before I have taken vengeance on my enemies.”

So none of the people tasted food. <sup>25</sup> Now all the people of the land came to a forest; and there was honey on the ground. <sup>26</sup> And when the people had come into the woods, there was the honey, dripping; but no one put his hand to his mouth, for the people feared the oath. <sup>27</sup> But Jonathan had not heard his father charge the people with the oath; therefore he stretched out the end of the rod that was in his hand and dipped it in a honeycomb, and put his hand to his mouth; and his countenance brightened. <sup>28</sup>

Then one of the people said, “Your father strictly charged the people with an oath, saying, ‘Cursed is the man who eats food this day.’” And the people were faint. <sup>29</sup> But Jonathan said, “My father has troubled the land.

Look now, how my countenance has brightened because I tasted a little of this honey. <sup>30</sup> How much better if the people had eaten freely today of the spoil of their enemies that they found! For now, would there not have been a much greater slaughter among the Philistines?” <sup>31</sup>

Now they had driven back the Philistines that day from Michmash to Ajalon [“field of deer”]. So the people were very faint. <sup>32</sup> And the people rushed on the spoil, and took sheep, oxen, and calves, and slaughtered them on the ground; and the people ate them with the blood [forbidden by the Law: Le 3:17]. <sup>33</sup> Then they told Saul, saying, “Look, the people are sinning against YHWH by eating with the blood!”

So he said, “You have dealt treacherously; roll a large stone to me this day.” <sup>34</sup> And Saul said, “Disperse yourselves among the people, and say to them, ‘Bring me here every man’s ox and every man’s sheep, slaughter them here, and eat; and do not sin against YHWH by eating with the blood.’”

So every one of the people brought his ox with him that night, and slaughtered it there. <sup>35</sup> Then Saul built an altar to YHWH. This was the first altar that he built to YHWH.

### Jonathan’s “Sin” Found Out

<sup>36</sup> ¶ Now Saul said, “Let us go down after the Philistines by night, and plunder them until the morning light; and let us not leave a man of them.”

And they said, “Do whatever seems good to you.” Then the priest [Ahijah: v3] said, “Let us draw near to God here.” <sup>37</sup> So Saul asked counsel of God, “Shall I go down after the Philistines? Will You deliver them into the hand of Israel?”

But He did not answer him that day. <sup>38</sup> And Saul said, “Come over here, all you chiefs of the people, and know and see what this sin was today. <sup>39</sup> For as YHWH lives, who saves Israel, though it be in Jonathan my son, he shall surely die.” But not a man among all the people answered him. <sup>40</sup> Then he said to all Israel, “You be on one side, and my son Jonathan and I will be on the other side.”

And the people said to Saul, “Do what seems good to you.” <sup>41</sup> Therefore Saul said to YHWH, God of Israel, “Give a perfect lot.” So Saul and Jonathan were taken, but the people escaped. <sup>42</sup> And Saul said, “Cast lots between my son Jonathan and me.”

So Jonathan was taken. <sup>43</sup> Then Saul said to Jonathan, “Tell me what you have done.” And Jonathan told him, and said, “I only tasted a little honey with the end of the rod that was in my hand. So now I must die!?” <sup>44</sup>

And Saul answered, “God do so [gesture] and more also; for you shall surely die, Jonathan.” <sup>45</sup> But the people said to Saul,

“Shall Jonathan die, who has accomplished this great deliverance in Israel? Certainly not! As YHWH lives, not one hair of his head shall fall to the ground, for he has worked with God this day.” So the people rescued Jonathan, and he did not die. <sup>46</sup> Then Saul returned from pursuing the Philistines, and the Philistines went to their own place.

### Saul’s Success

<sup>47</sup> ¶ So [in this way] Saul established his sovereignty over Israel, and fought against all his enemies on every side: against Moab, against the people of Ammon, against Edom, against the kings of Zobah, and against the Philistines.

[Zobah: “station”; the name of a portion of Syria northeast of Damascus that formed a separate kingdom in the times of Saul, David, and Solomon.] Wherever he turned, he harassed them. <sup>48</sup> And he gathered an army and attacked the Amalekites [1Sa 15], and delivered Israel from the hands of those who plundered them. <sup>49</sup>

### Saul’s Family

See the family tree at 9:1. The sons of Saul were Jonathan [“given by YHWH”], Jishui [“he resembles me”], and Malchishua [“wealth is my king”]. And the names of his two daughters were these: the name of the firstborn Merab [“increase”], and the name of the younger Michal [“who is like God”]. <sup>50</sup>

The name of Saul's wife was  
Ahinoam [*"delight is my brother"*]  
the daughter of  
Ahimaaz [*"anger is my brother"*].  
And the name of the commander of  
his army was [*his cousin*]  
Abner [*"lamp is my father"*]  
the son of  
Ner [*"lamp"*], Saul's uncle. 51  
Kish [*"bent"*] the father of Saul, and  
Ner the father of Abner,  
were the sons of  
Abiel [*"God is my father"*].<sup>3</sup> 52

Now there was fierce war with the  
Philistines all the days of Saul. And  
when Saul saw any strong man or any  
valiant man, he took him [*as a soldier*]  
for himself [*as prophesied in 8:11*].

[Audio: S. Gregg 1Sa 15]

## 1 Samuel 15

### YHWH Tells Saul to Destroy Amalek

15:1 ¶ Samuel also said to Saul,  
"YHWH sent me to anoint you king  
over His people,  
over Israel.

Now therefore, heed the voice of the  
words of YHWH. 2

Thus says YHWH of hosts:

*"I will punish Amalek for what he  
did to Israel, how he ambushed  
him on the way when he came up  
from Egypt. 3 [Ex 17:8-16]*

Now go and attack Amalek, and  
utterly destroy all that they have,  
and do not spare them but kill both

32 \_\_\_\_\_  
<sup>3</sup> NKJ incorrectly reads: "Kish was the  
father of Saul, and Ner the father of Abner,  
was the son of Abiel." Cf. 9:1 and BBE.

man and woman,  
infant and nursing child,  
ox and sheep,  
camel and donkey." 4

So Saul gathered the people together  
and numbered them in Telaim [*"lambs"*],  
two hundred thousand [200,000]  
foot soldiers and  
ten thousand [10,000]  
men of Judah. 5

And Saul came to a city of Amalek,  
and lay in wait in the valley. 6  
Then Saul said to the Kenites,  
"Go, depart, get down from among the  
Amalekites, lest I destroy you with  
them. For you showed kindness to  
all the children of Israel when they  
came up out of Egypt."

So the Kenites departed from among  
the Amalekites. 7 And Saul attacked  
the Amalekites, from  
Havilah [*"circle"*] all the way to  
Shur [*"wall"*],  
which is east of Egypt. 8

He also took  
Agag [*"I will overtop"*]  
king of the Amalekites  
alive, and utterly destroyed all the  
people with the edge of the sword. 9  
But Saul and the people spared

Agag and  
the best of  
the sheep,  
the oxen,  
the fatlings,  
the lambs, and  
all that was good,  
and were unwilling to utterly destroy  
them. But everything despised and  
worthless, that they utterly destroyed.

### YHWH Regrets Making Saul King

10 ¶ Now the word of YHWH came to  
Samuel, saying, 11

"I greatly regret that I have set up [*lit-  
erally, "kinged"*] Saul as king, for he  
has turned back from following Me, and  
has not performed My commandments."

And it grieved Samuel, and he cried out  
to YHWH all night. 12 So when Samuel  
rose early in the morning to meet Saul,  
it was told Samuel, saying,  
"Saul went to Carmel, and indeed,  
he set up a monument for himself; and  
he has gone on around, passed by,  
[*pomp & parade?*]  
and gone down to Gilgal." 13

Then Samuel went to Saul,  
and Saul said to him,  
"Blessed are you of YHWH!  
I have performed  
the commandment of YHWH." 14

But Samuel said,  
"What then is  
this bleating of the sheep in my ears,  
and  
the lowing of the oxen that I hear?" 15  
And Saul said,  
"They have brought them from the  
Amalekites; for the people spared  
the best of the sheep and the oxen,  
to sacrifice to YHWH your God; and  
the rest we have utterly destroyed." 16

Then Samuel said to Saul,  
"Be quiet! And I will tell you  
what YHWH said to me last night."  
And he said to him,  
"Speak on." 17  
So Samuel said,  
"When you were little in your own eyes,  
were you not head of the tribes of  
Israel? And did not YHWH anoint you

king over Israel? 18 Now YHWH sent  
you on a mission, and said,  
'Go, and utterly destroy the sinners,  
the Amalekites, and fight against  
them until they are consumed.' 19  
Why then did you not obey  
the voice of YHWH?

Why did you swoop down on the spoil,  
and do evil in the sight of YHWH?" 20  
And Saul said to Samuel,  
"But I have obeyed the voice of YHWH,  
and gone on the mission on which  
YHWH sent me, and brought back Agag  
king of Amalek; I have utterly destroyed  
the Amalekites. 21 But the people took  
of the plunder, sheep and oxen, the  
best of the things that should have  
been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice to  
YHWH your God in Gilgal." 22  
↑↑↑↑

Then Samuel said:  
"Has YHWH as great delight  
in burnt offerings and sacrifices,  
As in obeying the voice of YHWH?  
Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice,  
And to heed than the fat of rams. 23  
For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft,  
And stubbornness is as iniquity and  
idolatry. Because you have rejected  
the word of YHWH, He also has rejected  
you from being king." [Pr 17:11]

24 ¶ Then Saul said to Samuel,  
"I have sinned, for I have transgressed  
the commandment of YHWH and  
your words,  
because I feared the people and obeyed  
their voice. 25 Now therefore, please  
pardon my sin, and return with me,  
that I may worship YHWH." 26  
But Samuel said to Saul,

“I will not return with you, for you have rejected the word of YHWH, and YHWH has rejected you from being king over Israel.” 27

And as Samuel turned around to go away, Saul seized the edge of his robe, and it tore. 28 So Samuel said to him,

“YHWH has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today, and has given it to a neighbor of yours, who is better than you. 29 And also the strength of Israel will not lie nor relent. For He is not a man, that He should repent [relent].” 30

Then he said,

“I have sinned; yet honor me now, please, before the elders of my people and before Israel, [man pleasing] and return with me, that I may worship YHWH your God.” 31

So Samuel turned back after Saul, and Saul worshiped YHWH.

### Samuel Kills Amalekite King Agag

32 ¶ Then Samuel said,

“Bring Agag king of the Amalekites here to me.”

So Agag came to him cautiously.

And Agag said,

“Surely the bitterness of death is past.” 33

But Samuel said,

“As your sword has made women childless, so shall your mother be childless among women.”

And Samuel hacked Agag in pieces before YHWH in Gilgal. 34

Then Samuel went to Ramah, and Saul went up to his house at Gibeah of Saul.

35 And Samuel went no more to see Saul until the day of his death. [28:7-25]

Nevertheless Samuel mourned for Saul, and YHWH regretted that He had made Saul king over Israel [cf. Ho 13:11].

## April 14

[Audio: Steve Gregg 1Sa 16]

### 1 Samuel 16

#### Samuel Anoints a Son of Jesse

16:1 ¶ Now YHWH said to Samuel,

“How long will you mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go; I am sending you to Jesse the Bethlehemite. For I have provided Myself a king among his sons.” 2

#### 1 Chronicles 2:13 (~|| Ruth 4:22)

Jesse begot [cf. Judah's Family]

Eliab [“my father is God”]

his firstborn,

Abinadab [“noble/willing is my father”] the second,

Shimea [“fame”; aka Shammah] the third, 14

Nethanel [“God has given”]

the fourth,

Raddai [“trampling”]

the fifth, 15

Ozem [“I shall hasten them”]

the sixth, and

David [“beloved”]

the seventh.

And Samuel said,

“How can I go?

If Saul hears it, he will kill me.”

And YHWH said,

“Take a heifer with you, and say,

‘I have come to sacrifice to YHWH.’ 3

Then invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do:

you shall anoint for Me the one I name to you.” 4

So Samuel did what YHWH said, and went

to Bethlehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said,

“Do you come peaceably?” 5

And he said,

“Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to YHWH. Sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice.”

Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons, and invited them to the sacrifice.

6 ¶ So it was, when they came, that he looked at Eliab and said,

“Surely YHWH’s anointed is before Him.” 7

But YHWH said to Samuel,

“Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have refused him.

For YHWH does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but YHWH looks at the heart.” 8

So Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said,

“Neither has YHWH chosen this one.” 9

Then Jesse made Shammah [“astonishment”] pass by. And he said,

“Neither has YHWH chosen this one.” 10

Thus Jesse made seven [7; cf. 17:12; there must have been another who later died and so is not mentioned in 1Ch 2:13 || Ru 4:22] of his sons pass before Samuel.

And Samuel said to Jesse, “YHWH has not chosen these.” 11

And Samuel said to Jesse,

“Are all the young men here?”

Then he said,

“There remains yet the youngest, and there he is, keeping the sheep.”

And Samuel said to Jesse,

“Send and bring him. For we will not sit down [to eat] till he comes here.” 12

So he sent and brought him in.

Now he was

ruddy [red (auburn) hair?], with bright eyes, and good-looking.

And YHWH said,

“Arise, anoint him; for this is the one!” 13

Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of YHWH came upon David from that day forward.

[So, what did the brothers think?]

So Samuel arose and went to Ramah.

### Saul Tormented; David Plays for Him

14 ¶ But the Spirit of YHWH departed from Saul, and an evil [a distressing] spirit from YHWH troubled him [cf. 18:9-10].

15 And Saul’s servants said to him, “Surely, an evil [a distressing] spirit from God is troubling you. 16 Let our

master now command your servants, who are before you, to seek out a man who is a skillful player on the harp; and it shall be that he will play it with his hand when the evil [distressing] spirit from God is upon you, and you shall be well.” 17

So Saul said to his servants,

“Provide me now a man who can play well, and bring him to me.” 18

Then one of the servants answered and said,

“Look, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, who is

skillful in playing, a mighty man of valor, a man of war [potential],

prudent in speech, and

a handsome person;

and YHWH is with him.”

[So how old is David at this point, that he should be called “a man of war”? **Not a boy, but not yet 20**; otherwise he would have been in the army. Cf. [17:33](#)] <sup>19</sup>

Therefore Saul sent messengers to Jesse, and said,

“Send me your son David, who is with the sheep.” <sup>20</sup>

And Jesse took a donkey loaded with bread, a skin of wine, and a young goat, and sent them by his son David to Saul.

<sup>21</sup> So David came to Saul and stood before him. And he loved him greatly, and he became his armorbearer. <sup>22</sup>

**Then** Saul sent to Jesse, saying, “Please let David stand before me, for he has found favor in my sight.” <sup>23</sup> [First, Samuel anoints David, then Saul calls for him. What did Jesse think?]

And so it was, whenever the spirit from God was upon Saul, that David would take a harp and play it with his hand. **Then** Saul would become refreshed and well, and the evil [distressing] spirit would depart from him.

[Audio: [Steve Gregg 1Sa 17](#)]

## 1 Samuel 17

### Goliath Challenges Israel

<sup>17:1</sup> ¶ **Now** the Philistines gathered their armies together to battle, and were gathered together at **Sochoh** [“bushy”], which belongs to Judah; they encamped between **Sochoh** and **Azekah** [“dug over”], in **Ephes Dammim** [“edge of blood”; ~16 miles (25 km) southwest of Jerusalem]. <sup>2</sup> And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered together, and they encamped in **the Valley of Elah** [“an oak”], and drew up in battle array against the Philistines. <sup>3</sup> **The Philistines**

stood on a mountain on one side, and Israel stood on a mountain on the other side, with a valley between them. <sup>4</sup>

And a champion went out from the camp of the Philistines, named

**Goliath** [“splendor”], from **Gath** [“winepress”],

whose height was six cubits and a span [~9’6”]. <sup>5</sup> He had a bronze helmet on his head, and he was armed with a coat of mail, and the weight of the coat was five thousand [5,000] shekels<sup>4</sup> of bronze.

<sup>6</sup> And he had bronze armor on his legs and a bronze javelin between his shoulders. <sup>7</sup> **Now** the staff of his spear was like a weaver’s beam, and his iron spearhead weighed six hundred [600] shekels [~10 pounds]; and a shield-bearer went before him. <sup>8</sup>

**Then** he stood and cried out to the armies of Israel, and said to them,

“Why have you come out to line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and you the servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me. <sup>9</sup> If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants. But if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us.” <sup>10</sup>

And the Philistine said,

“I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together.” <sup>11</sup>

**When** Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid.

<sup>32</sup>\_\_\_\_\_

<sup>4</sup> A shekel may have been ~1/60<sup>th</sup> of a pound, so 1/60 x 5,000 =~ 83 pounds.

### David Takes Up the Challenge

<sup>12</sup> ¶ **Now** David was the son of that Ephraimite of **Bethlehem** Judah, whose name was Jesse, and who had eight [8; cf. [16:10](#)] sons. And the man was old, advanced in years, in the days of Saul.

<sup>13</sup> The three [3] oldest sons of Jesse had gone to follow Saul to the battle [hence ≥20 years old]. The names of his three [3] sons who went to the battle were

**Eliab** the firstborn, next to him **Abinadab**, and the third **Shammah**. <sup>14</sup>

David was the youngest. And the three [3] oldest followed Saul. <sup>15</sup> But David occasionally went and returned from Saul to feed his father’s sheep at **Bethlehem** [cf. v55]. <sup>16</sup>

And the Philistine drew near and presented himself forty [40] days, morning and evening. <sup>17</sup>

**Then** Jesse said to his son David, “Take now for your brothers an ephah [~40 litres] of this dried grain and these ten [10] loaves, and run to your brothers at the camp. <sup>18</sup> And carry these ten [10] cheeses to the captain of their thousand [1,000], and see how your brothers fare, and bring back news of them.” <sup>19</sup>

**Now** Saul and they and all the men of Israel were in **the Valley of Elah**, fighting with the Philistines. <sup>20</sup>

So David rose early in the morning, left the sheep with a keeper, and took the things and went as Jesse had commanded him. And he came to the camp as the army was going out to the fight

and shouting for the battle. <sup>21</sup> For Israel and the Philistines had drawn up in battle array, army against army. <sup>22</sup> And David left his supplies in the hand of the supply keeper, ran to the army, and came and greeted his brothers. <sup>23</sup> **Then**, as he talked with them, there was the champion,

the Philistine of **Gath**, Goliath by name, coming up from the armies of the Philistines; and he spoke according to the same words. So David heard them. <sup>24</sup> And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him and were dreadfully afraid. <sup>25</sup> So the men of Israel said,

“Have you seen this man who has come up? Surely he has come up to defy Israel; and it shall be that the man who kills him the king

will enrich with great riches, will give him his daughter, and give his father’s house exemption from taxes in Israel.” <sup>26</sup> [1<sup>st</sup> mention of taxes; cf. [8:17](#).]

**Then** David spoke to the men who stood by him, saying,

“What shall be done for the man who kills this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?” <sup>27</sup>

And the people answered him in this manner, saying,

“[Thus and] So shall it be done for the man who kills him.” <sup>28</sup>

**Now** Eliab his oldest brother heard when he spoke to the men; and Eliab’s anger was aroused against David, and he said,

“Why did you come down here? And with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your pride and the insolence of your heart, for you have come down to see the battle.”<sup>29</sup>

And David said, [cf. [Ps 51:5](#), [27:10](#)]

“What have I done now?

Is there not a cause?”<sup>30</sup>

Then he turned from him toward another and said the same thing [v26]; and these people answered him as the first ones did [v27 = v25].

[David seems amazed that the reward is so great for this “doable” task.]

31 ¶ Now when the words that David spoke were heard, they reported them to Saul; and he sent for him. 32 Then David said to Saul,

“Let no man’s heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine.”<sup>33</sup>

And Saul said to David,

“You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for you are a youth, and he a man of war from his youth.”<sup>34</sup>

But David said to Saul,

“Your servant used to keep his father’s sheep, and when a lion or a bear came and took a lamb out of the flock, 35 I went out after it and struck it, and delivered the lamb from its mouth; and when it arose against me, I caught it by its beard, and struck and killed it. 36 Your servant has killed both lion and bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, seeing he has defied the armies of the living God.”<sup>37</sup>

Moreover David said,

“YHWH, who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.”

And Saul said to David,

“Go, and YHWH be with you!”<sup>38</sup>

[Wow, Saul was impressed:]

So Saul clothed David with his armor, [cf. [13:22](#); David was probably ~18 years old at this time, big enough for Saul’s armour to, at least, somewhat fit, and old enough to be eligible to marry Saul’s daughter, but not 20 or he would have been in the army]

and he put a bronze helmet on his head; he also clothed him with a coat of mail.

39 David fastened his sword to his armor and tried to walk, for he had not tested them. And David said to Saul,

“I cannot walk with these, for I have not tested [used] them.” [Not used to them for lack of experience with them.]

So David took them off.

### David Faces the Philistine

40 ¶ Then he took his staff in his hand; and he chose for himself five [5 — Goliath had four relatives: [2Sa 21:15-22](#)] smooth stones from the brook, and put them in a shepherd’s bag, in a pouch that he had, and his sling was in his hand. And he drew near to the Philistine. 41 So the Philistine came, and began drawing near to David, and the man who bore the shield went before him [the Philistine]. 42 And

when the Philistine looked about and saw David, he disdained him; for he was only a youth, ruddy and good-looking [cf. [16:12](#)].<sup>43</sup>

So the Philistine said to David,

“Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?”

And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. 44 And the Philistine said to David,

“Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and the beasts of the field!”<sup>45</sup>

Then David said to the Philistine,

“You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin.

But I come to you in the name of YHWH of hosts,

the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. 46

This day YHWH will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head from you. And this day I will give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines to

the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the land [earth], [to this end:] that all the lands [earth] [i.e., people] may know that there is a God in Israel. 47 Then all this assembly shall know that YHWH does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is YHWH’s, and He will give you [all] into our hands.”

[Starting with Goliath into David’s.]

### David Prevails

48 ¶ So it was, when the Philistine arose and came and drew near to meet David, that David hastened and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine. [Lesson: run toward the roar — in faith.]<sup>49</sup>

Then David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone; and he slung it and struck the Philistine in his forehead, so that the stone sank into his forehead, and he fell on his face to the ground [earth]. 50 So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone, and struck the Philistine and killed him [thus:]. But there was no sword in the hand of David. 51 Therefore David ran and stood over the Philistine, took his sword and drew it out of its sheath and killed him, and cut off his head with it.

And when the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they fled. 52 Now the men of Israel and Judah arose and shouted, and pursued the Philistines as far as the entrance of the valley and to the gates of Ekron. And the wounded of the Philistines fell along the road to Shaaraim [“double gate”], even as far as Gath and Ekron. 53 Then the children of Israel returned from chasing the Philistines, and they plundered their tents. 54

(And David took the head of the Philistine and brought it to Jerusalem [first mention since [Judges 1:21](#), not yet won by Israel (David would later do so), so perhaps this was to intimidate them, desiring to take Jerusalem later], but he put his armor in his tent.)

55

When Saul saw David going out against the Philistine, he said to [his cousin] Abner, the commander of the army, “Abner, whose son is this youth?”

[Hence, this must have happened before David played for Saul? But either way, why didn't Saul recognize David the second time? Cf. 18:10 Barnes suggests that David may have played only a few times for Saul and those events were some time ago, so David had changed some, and Saul had paid little attention to this mere servant, hence had forgotten him. (Perhaps he played in hearing but out of sight to Saul, so there had been only one meeting face to face.)]

And Abner said,

“As your soul lives, O king, I do not know.”<sup>56</sup>

So the king said,

“Inquire whose son this young man is.”<sup>57</sup>

Then, as David returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, Abner took him and brought him before Saul with the head of the Philistine in his hand.<sup>58</sup>

And Saul said to him,

“Whose son are you, young man?”

So David answered,

“I am the son of your servant

Jesse the Bethlehemite.”

[Audio: [Steve Gregg 1Sa 18-20](#) ^]

## April 15

### 1 Samuel 18

#### Jonathan's Soul Knit to David's Soul

18:1 ¶ Now when he had finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.

[Remarkable, as Jonathan must have been at least 28 years older than David (Jones, Chart 4).] 2

Saul took him that day, and would not let him go home to his father's house anymore. 3 Then Jonathan and David made a covenant [cf. 20:42], because he loved him as his own soul. 4

And Jonathan took off the robe that was on him and gave it to David, with his armor, even to his sword and his bow and his belt. [Implicitly transferring to David his right as heir to the throne?] 5

So David went out wherever Saul sent him, and behaved wisely. And Saul set him over the men of war, and he was accepted in the sight of all the people and also in the sight of Saul's servants.

[Remarkable because David was only ~18 years old; normally a leader in the army would have been at least 30.]

#### Saul Jealous of David: 1000s/10000s

6 ¶ Now it had happened as they were coming home, when David was returning from the slaughter of the Philistine, that the women had come out of all the cities of Israel,

singing and dancing,  
to meet King Saul,  
with tambourines,  
with joy, and  
with musical instruments. 7

So the women sang as they danced, and said:

“Saul has slain his thousands,  
And David his ten thousands.” 8

Then Saul was very angry, and the saying displeased him; and he said, “They have ascribed to David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed only thousands. Now what more can he have but the kingdom?” 9

So Saul eyed David from that day forward. 10 And it happened on the next day that the evil [distressing] spirit from God came upon Saul [Eph 4:26-27], and he prophesied inside the house. So David played music with his hand, as at other times; but there was a spear in Saul's hand. 11

And Saul cast the spear, for he said, “I will pin David to the wall!”

But David escaped his presence twice. [First two of 8 in 5 chapters: #1, #2.]

#### Saul Was Afraid of David

12 ¶ Now Saul was afraid of David, because YHWH was with him, but had departed from Saul. 13 Therefore Saul removed him from his presence, and made him his captain over [only] a thousand [1,000] [demotion: v5]; and he went out and came in before the people [he went on campaigns in view of the people]. 14

And David behaved wisely in all his ways, and YHWH was with him. 15 Therefore, when Saul saw that he behaved very wisely, he was afraid of him. 16

But all Israel and Judah [a separation between Israel and Judah has developed] loved David, because he went out and came in before them [NIV: he lead them in

their campaigns; MSG: they loved watching him in action]. 17 Then Saul said to David,

“Here is my older daughter Merab; I will give her to you as a wife.

Only be valiant for me, and fight YHWH's battles.”

For Saul thought,

“Let my hand not be against him, but let the hand of the Philistines be against him.” [See v25.] 18

So David said to Saul,

“Who am I, and what is my life or my father's family in Israel, that I should be son-in-law to the king?” 19

But it happened at the time when Merab [“increase”], Saul's daughter, should have been given to David, that she was given to

Adriel [“God's flock”]  
the Meholathite  
[mehola: “of dancing”]  
as a wife. 20

#### Saul Attempts to Kill David by Marriage to His Daughter Michal

Now Michal [“who is like God”], Saul's [younger] daughter, loved David. And they told Saul, and the thing pleased him. 21 So Saul said,

“I will give her to him, [reasons:] that she may be a snare to him, and that the hand of the Philistines may be against him.” [Saul had a plan: v25]

Therefore Saul said to David a second time,

“You shall be my son-in-law today.” 22 And Saul commanded his servants, “Communicate with David secretly, and say,

‘Look, the king has delight in you, and all his servants love you. Now therefore, become the king’s son-in-law.’” 23

So Saul’s servants spoke those words in the hearing of David. And David said, “Does it seem to you a light thing to be a king’s son-in-law, seeing I am a poor and lightly esteemed man?” 24 And the servants of Saul told him, saying,

“In this manner David spoke.” 25

Then Saul said,

“Thus you shall say to David:

‘The king does not desire any dowry but one hundred [100] foreskins of the Philistines, to take vengeance on the king’s enemies.’”

But Saul thought to make David fall by the hand of the Philistines. 26 So when his servants told David these words, it pleased David well to become the king’s son-in-law. Now the days had not expired; 27 therefore David arose and went, he and his men, and killed two hundred [200] men of the Philistines. And David brought their foreskins, and they gave them in full count to the king, that he might become the king’s son-in-law. Then Saul gave him Michal his daughter as a wife. 28

### Saul Even More Afraid of David

Thus Saul saw and knew that YHWH was with David, and that Michal, Saul’s daughter, loved him; 29 and Saul was still more afraid of David. So Saul became David’s enemy continually. 30 Then the princes of the Philistines went out to war. And so it was, whenever they went out, that David behaved more

wisely than all the servants of Saul, so that his name became highly esteemed.

## 1 Samuel 19

### Jonathan Protects David

19:1 ¶ Now Saul spoke to Jonathan his son and to all his servants, that they should kill David; 2 but Jonathan, Saul’s son, delighted greatly in David. 2 So Jonathan told David, saying, “My father Saul seeks to kill you. Therefore please be on your guard until morning, and stay in a secret place and hide. 3 And I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where you are, and I will speak with my father about you. Then what I observe, I will tell you.” 4

Thus Jonathan spoke well of David to Saul his father, and said to him,

“Let not the king sin against his servant, against David, because he has not sinned against you, and because his works have been very good toward you. 5 For he took his life in his hands and killed the Philistine, and YHWH brought about a great deliverance for all Israel. You saw it and rejoiced. Why then will you sin against innocent blood, to kill David without a cause?” 6

So Saul heeded the voice of Jonathan, and Saul swore,

“As YHWH lives, he shall not be killed.” 7 Then Jonathan called David, and Jonathan told him all these things. So Jonathan brought David to Saul, and he was in his presence as in times past.

### More War, Distress, Attempts to Kill

8 ¶ And there was war again; and David went out and fought with the Philistines, and struck them with a mighty blow, and they fled from him. 9 Now the evil [distressing] spirit from YHWH came upon Saul as he sat in his house with his spear in his hand. And David was playing music with his hand. 10 Then Saul sought to pin David to the wall with the spear, but he slipped away from Saul’s presence; and he drove the spear into the wall. So David fled [#3] and escaped that night.

### Michal Helps David Escape Saul

11 ¶ Saul also sent messengers to David’s house to watch him and to kill him in the morning. And Michal, David’s wife, told him, saying, “If you do not save your life tonight, tomorrow you will be killed.” 12

So Michal let David down through a window. And he went and fled [#4] and escaped. 13 And Michal took an image and laid it in the bed, put a cover of goats’ hair for his head, and covered it with clothes. 14 So when Saul sent messengers to take David, she said, “He is sick.” 15

Then Saul sent the messengers back to see David, saying,

“Bring him up to me in the bed, [reason:] that I may kill him.” 16

And when the messengers had come in, there was the image in the bed, with a cover of goats’ hair for his head. 17

Then Saul said to Michal, “Why have you deceived me like this, and sent my enemy away, so that he has escaped?”

And Michal answered Saul, “He said to me, ‘Let me go! Why should I kill you?’” [She was afraid of her father too.]

## Psalm 59

### Deliver Me From My Enemies, O God

59:1 ¶ <To the Chief Musician. Set to “Do Not Destroy”. A Michtam of David when Saul sent men, and they watched the house in order to kill him.>

Deliver me from my enemies, O my God; Defend me from

those who rise up against me. 2

Deliver me from the workers of iniquity, And save me from bloodthirsty men. 3

For look, they lie in wait for my life; The mighty gather against me, Not for my transgression, nor for my sin,

O YHWH. 4

They run and prepare themselves through no fault of mine.

Awake to help me, and behold! 5 You therefore, O YHWH, God of hosts, the God of Israel,

Awake to punish all the nations; Do not be merciful to any wicked transgressors.

Selah [chorus?]: 6

At evening they return, They growl like a dog, And go all around the city. 7

Indeed, they belch with their mouth; Swords are in their lips; For they say, “Who hears?”

8 ¶ But You, O YHWH, shall laugh at them; You shall have all the nations in derision. 9

I will wait for You, O You his Strength; For God is my defense: 10

My God of mercy shall come to meet me;  
God shall let me see  
my desire on my enemies. 11  
Do not slay them, lest my people forget;  
Scatter them by Your power,  
And bring them down, O YHWH our shield, 12  
For the sin of their mouth  
And the words of their lips.  
Let them even be taken in their pride,  
And for the cursing and lying  
that they speak. 13  
Consume them in wrath, consume them,  
That they may not be;  
And let them know that God rules in Jacob  
To the ends of the land [earth].

Selah [chorus?]: 14  
And at evening they return,  
They growl like a dog,  
And go all around the city. 15  
They wander up and down for food,  
And howl if they are not satisfied. 16

But I will sing of Your power;  
Yes, I will sing aloud  
of Your mercy  
in the morning;  
For You have been  
my defense  
And refuge  
in the day of my trouble. 17  
To You, O my Strength,  
I will sing praises;  
For God is  
my defense,  
My God of mercy.

## 1 Samuel 19:18

### David Goes to Samuel

18 ¶ So David fled [#5] and escaped,  
and went to Samuel at Ramah ["hill"],  
and told him all that Saul had done to  
him. And he and Samuel went and  
stayed in Naioth ["habitations"]. 19  
Now it was told Saul, saying,

"Take note,  
David is at Naioth in Ramah!" 20  
Then Saul sent messengers to take  
David. And when they saw the group  
of prophets prophesying [at Naioth, a  
habitat for prophets], and Samuel stand-  
ing as leader over them, the Spirit of God  
came upon the messengers of Saul, and  
they also prophesied. 21 And when  
Saul was told, he sent other messen-  
gers, and they prophesied likewise.  
Then Saul sent messengers again the  
third time, and they prophesied also. 22  
Then he also went to Ramah, and came  
to the great well that is at Sechu ["the  
watch-tower"]. So he asked, and said,  
"Where are Samuel and David?"  
And someone said,  
"Indeed, at Naioth in Ramah." 23  
So he went there to Naioth in Ramah.  
Then the Spirit of God was upon him  
also, and he went on and prophesied  
until he came to Naioth in Ramah. 24  
And he also stripped off his clothes  
and prophesied before Samuel in like  
manner, and lay down naked all that day  
and all that night. Therefore they say,  
"Is Saul also among the prophets?"  
[Cf. 1Sa 10:9-12]

## 1 Samuel 20

### Jonathan and David Plot, Covenant

20:1 ¶ Then David fled [#6] from Naioth  
in Ramah, and went and said to Jonathan,  
"What have I done?  
What is my iniquity, and  
What is my sin before your father,  
that he seeks my life?" 2  
So Jonathan said to him,  
"By no means! You shall not die!  
Indeed, my father will do nothing  
either great or small without first

telling me. And why should my  
father hide this thing from me?  
It is not so!" 3

Then David took an oath again, and said,  
"Your father certainly knows that I  
have found favor in your eyes, and  
he has said,

'Do not let Jonathan know this,  
lest he be grieved.'

But truly, as YHWH lives and as your  
soul lives, there is but a step between  
me and death." 4

So Jonathan said to David,

"Whatever you yourself desire,  
I will do it for you." 5

And David said to Jonathan,

"Indeed tomorrow is the New Moon, and  
I should not fail to sit with the king to  
eat. But let me go, that I may hide in  
the field until the third day at evening.  
6 If your father misses me at all, then  
say,

'David earnestly asked permission  
of me that he might run over to  
Bethlehem, his city,  
for there is a yearly sacrifice  
there for all the family.' 7

If he says thus:

'It is well',

your servant will be safe. But if he  
is very angry, then be sure that evil is  
determined by him. 8 Therefore you  
shall deal kindly with your servant,  
for you have brought your servant into  
a covenant of YHWH with you [v42].  
Nevertheless, if there is iniquity in  
me, kill me yourself, for why should  
you bring me to your father?" 9 ¶

But Jonathan said,

"Far be it from you! For if I knew  
certainly that evil was determined

by my father to come upon you,  
then would I not tell you?" 10

Then David said to Jonathan,  
"Who will tell me, or what if your  
father answers you roughly?" 11

And Jonathan said to David,  
"Come, and let us go out into the field."  
So both of them went out into the field.

12 Then Jonathan said to David:

"YHWH God of Israel is witness!  
When I have sounded out my father  
sometime tomorrow, or the third day,  
and indeed there is good toward David,  
and I do not send to you and tell you,  
13 may YHWH do so [gesture] and much  
more to Jonathan. But if it pleases my  
father to do you evil, then I will report  
it to you and send you away, that you  
may go in safety. And YHWH be with  
you as He has been with my father. 14  
And you shall not only show me the  
kindness of YHWH while I still live,  
that I may not die; 15 but you shall not  
cut off your kindness from my house  
forever, no, not when YHWH has cut off  
every one of the enemies of David  
from the face of the land [earth]." 16

So Jonathan made a covenant with the  
house of David, saying,

"Let YHWH require it at the hand of  
David's enemies."

[NIV: "May YHWH call David's  
enemies to account." ] 17

Now Jonathan again caused David to  
vow, because he loved him; for he  
loved him as he loved his own soul. 18

Then Jonathan said to David,  
"Tomorrow is the New Moon; and you  
will be missed, because your seat  
will be empty. 19 And when you have  
stayed three [3] days, go down quickly

and come to the place where you hid on the day of the deed [which?]; and remain by the stone Ezel [“departure”]. 20 Then I will shoot three [3] arrows to the side, as though I shot at a target; 21 and there I will send a lad, saying,

‘Go, find the arrows.’

If I expressly say to him,

‘Look, the arrows are on this side of you; get them and come’

— then, as YHWH lives, there is safety for you and no harm. 22 But if I say thus to the young man,

‘Look, the arrows are beyond you’ — go your way, for YHWH has sent you away. 23 And as for the matter that you and I have spoken of, indeed YHWH be between you and me forever.”

24 ¶ Then David hid in the field. And when the New Moon [1<sup>st</sup> of a month: v27] had come, the king sat down to eat the feast. 25 Now the king sat on his seat, as at other times, on a seat by the wall. And Jonathan arose, and Abner sat by Saul’s side, but David’s place was empty. 26 Nevertheless Saul did not say anything that day, for he thought, “Something has happened to him; he is unclean, surely he is unclean.” 27 And it happened the next day, the second day of the month, that David’s place was empty. And Saul said to Jonathan his son, “Why has the son of Jesse not come to eat, either yesterday or today?” 28 So Jonathan answered Saul, “David earnestly asked permission of me to go to Bethlehem.” 29 And he said,

‘Please let me go, for our family has a sacrifice in the city, and my brother has commanded me to be there. And now, if I have found favor in your eyes, please let me get away and see my brothers.’

Therefore he has not come to the king’s table.” 30

Then Saul’s anger was aroused against Jonathan, and he said to him,

“You son of a perverse, rebellious woman! Do I not know that you have chosen the son of Jesse

[to be king next]

to your own shame and

to the shame of

your mother’s nakedness? 31

For as long as the son of Jesse lives on the land [earth],

you shall not be established,

nor your kingdom.

Now therefore, send and bring him to me, for he shall surely die.”

[Saul wanted to see his family line as a dynasty.] 32

And Jonathan answered Saul his father, and said to him,

“Why should he be killed?

What has he done?” 33

Then Saul cast a spear at him to kill him, by which Jonathan knew that it was determined by his father to kill David. 34 So Jonathan arose from the table in fierce anger, and ate no food the second day of the month,

for he was grieved for David, because his father had treated him shamefully.

35 ¶ And so it was, in the morning [of the third day of the month], that Jonathan went out into the field at the time appointed with David, and a little lad was with him. 36

Then he said to his lad,

“Now run, find the arrows that I shoot.”

As the lad ran, he shot an arrow beyond him. 37 When the lad had come to the place where the arrow was that Jonathan had shot, Jonathan cried out after

the lad and said,

“Is not the arrow beyond you?” 38

And Jonathan cried out after the lad,

“Make haste, hurry, do not delay!”

So Jonathan’s lad gathered up the arrows and came back to his master. 39 But the lad did not know anything — only Jonathan and David knew — of the matter. 40 Then Jonathan gave

his weapons to his lad, and said to him,

“Go, carry them to the city.” 41

As soon as the lad had gone, David arose from a place toward the south, fell on his face to the ground, and bowed down three [3] times. And they

kissed one another; and they wept together, but David more so. 42

Then Jonathan said to David,

“Go in peace, since we have both sworn in the name of YHWH, saying,

‘May YHWH be

between you and me, and

between your descendants

and my descendants,

and forever.’”

So he arose and departed [not the Hebrew word for ‘fled’ here], and Jonathan went into the city.

## April 16

[Audio: Steve Gregg 1Sa 21-22]

### 1 Samuel 21

#### David Puts Ahimelech in Jeopardy

21:1 ¶ Now David came

to Nob [“high place”],

to Ahimelech [“(the) king is my brother” or “Melek’s brother”]

the priest. And Ahimelech was afraid when he met David, and said to him,

“Why are you alone,

and no one is with you?” 2

So David said to Ahimelech the priest, “The king has ordered me on some business, and said to me,

‘Do not let anyone know any-

thing about the business on

which I send you, or what I

have commanded you.’

And I have directed my young men to such and such a place. 3 Now there-

fore, what have you on hand? Give me five loaves of bread in my hand,

or whatever can be found.” 4

And the priest answered David and said,

“There is no common bread on hand; but there is holy bread, if the [your]

young men have at least kept themselves from women.” 5

Then David answered the priest, and said to him,

“Truly, women have been kept from us about three [3] days since I came out.

And the vessels of the young men are holy, and the bread is in effect com-

mon, even though it was sanctified in the vessel this day.” [YLT:

“Surely, if women have been restrained from us as heretofore in my going out [on campaigns], then the vessels of the young men are holy, and it is a common way [standard procedure]; and also, surely today it [the bread] is sanctified in the vessel.” ] 6

So the priest gave him holy bread; for there was no bread there but the showbread that had been taken from before YHWH, in order to put hot bread in its place on the day when it was taken away [cf. Mt 12:3 // Mk 2:25 // Lk 6:3 “he and those who were with him”; Mt 12:7 // Ho 6:6 “mercy not sacrifice.”]. 7

Now a certain man of the servants of Saul was there that day, detained before YHWH [possibly on guard?]. And his name was Doeg [“fearing”], an Edomite, the chief of the herdsmen who belonged to Saul. 8

And David said to Ahimelech, “Is there not here on hand a spear or a sword? For I have brought neither my sword nor my weapons with me, because the king’s business required haste.” 9

So the priest said, “The sword of Goliath the Philistine, whom you killed in the Valley of Elah, there it is, wrapped in a cloth behind the ephod. If you will take that, take it. For there is no other except that one here.”

And David said, “There is none like it; give it to me.”

### David Pretends Madness

10 ¶ Then David arose and fled [#7] that day from before Saul, and went to Achish [“I will blacken (or terrify)” or “only a man”] the king of Gath [“winepress”]. 11 And the servants of Achish said to him,

“Is this not David the king of the land? [Even the Philistines knew!]

Did they not sing of him to one another in dances, saying:

‘Saul has slain his thousands, And David his ten thousands?’” 12

Now David took these words to heart, and was very much afraid of Achish the king of Gath. 13 So he

changed his behavior before them, feigned madness in their hands, scratched on the doors of the gate, and let his saliva fall down on his beard. 14

Then Achish said to his servants, “Look, you see the man is insane.

Why have you brought him to me? 15 Have I need of madmen, that you have brought this fellow to play the madman in my presence?

Shall this fellow come into my house?”

### Psalm 56

#### Be Merciful to me, O God

56:1 ¶ <To the Chief Musician. Set to “The Silent Dove in Distant Lands”. A Michtam of David when the Philistines captured him in Gath.>

Be merciful to me, O God,  
For man would swallow me up;  
Fighting all day, he oppresses me. 2  
My enemies would hound me all day,  
For there are many who fight against me,  
O Most High. 3

#### Whenever

I am afraid, [future]  
I will trust in You. 4 [future]  
In God  
– I will praise His word –  
In God  
I have put my trust; [past, present]  
I will not fear. [present, future]  
What can flesh do to me? 5 [Cf. He 13:6]

#### All day

they twist my words;  
All their thoughts are against me for evil. 6  
They gather together,  
They hide, they mark my steps,

#### When

they lie in wait for my life. 7  
Shall they escape by iniquity?  
In anger cast down the peoples, O God!

#### 8 ¶

You number my wanderings;  
Put my tears into Your bottle;  
Are they not in Your book? 9

When I cry out to You,  
Then my enemies will turn back;

This I know,  
because God is for me. 10

In God  
– I will praise His word –

In YHWH  
– I will praise His word – 11

In God  
I have put my trust; [past, present]  
I will not be afraid. [present, future]

What can man do to me? 12

Vows made to You are binding upon me,  
O God;

I will render praises to You, 13  
For You have delivered my soul from death.

Have You not kept my feet from falling,  
That I may walk before God  
In the light of the living?

### Psalm 34

#### I Will Bless YHWH at All Times

34:1 ¶ <A Psalm of David when he pretended madness before Abimelech [perhaps the general title of the Philistine kings (as ‘Pharaoh’ in Egypt)], who drove him away, and he departed.>

I will bless YHWH at all times,  
His praise continually in my mouth. 2  
My soul shall make its boast in YHWH;  
The humble shall hear of it and be glad. 3  
Oh, magnify YHWH with me,  
And let us exalt His name together. 4

I sought YHWH, and He heard me,  
And delivered me from all my fears. 5  
They looked to Him and were radiant,  
And their faces were not ashamed. 6  
This poor man [the author] cried out,

and YHWH heard him,  
And saved him out of all his troubles. 7  
The angel of YHWH

encamps all around those who fear Him,  
And delivers them. 8

Oh, taste and see that YHWH is good;  
Blessed is the man who trusts in Him! 9  
Oh, fear YHWH, you His saints!

There is no want to those who fear Him. 10  
The young lions lack and suffer hunger;

But those who seek YHWH  
shall not lack any good thing.

11 ¶ [vv 12-16a quoted in 1Pe 3:10-12]

Come, you children, listen to me;  
I will teach you the fear of YHWH. 12  
Who is the man who desires life,  
And loves many days,

that he may see good? 13  
Keep your tongue from evil,  
And your lips from speaking deceit. 14  
Depart from evil and do good;

Seek peace and pursue it. 15  
The eyes of YHWH are on the righteous,

And His ears are open to their cry. 16  
 The face of YHWH is against  
 those who do evil,  
 To cut off the remembrance of them  
 from the land [earth]. 17  
 The righteous cry out, and YHWH hears,  
 And delivers them out of all their troubles. 18  
 YHWH is near to those  
 who have a broken heart,  
 And saves such as have a contrite spirit. 19  
 Many are the afflictions of the righteous,  
 But YHWH delivers him out of them all. 20  
 He guards all his bones;  
 Not one of them is broken. 21  
 Evil shall slay the wicked,  
 And those who hate the righteous  
 shall be condemned. 22  
 YHWH redeems the soul of His servants,  
 And none of those who trust in Him  
 shall be condemned.

### 1 Samuel 22:1-2

**400 Malcontents in Adullam's Cave**  
 22:1 ¶ David therefore departed [#8]  
 from there and escaped to the cave of  
 Adullam. And when his brothers and  
 all his father's house heard it, they  
 went down there to him. 2 And  
 everyone who was in distress,  
 everyone who was in debt, and  
 everyone who was discontented  
 gathered to him. So he became captain  
 over them. And there were about four  
 hundred [~400 – later 600: 23:13a]  
 men with him.

### Psalm 57

#### Be Merciful to Me, O God

57:1 ¶ <To the Chief Musician.  
 Set to "Do Not Destroy".  
 A Michtam of David when he  
 fled from Saul into the cave.>

Be merciful to me, O God,  
 Be merciful to me!  
 For my soul trusts in You;  
 And in the shadow of Your wings  
 I will make my refuge,  
 Until these calamities have passed by. 2  
 I will cry out to God Most High,  
 To God who performs all things for me. 3  
 He shall send from heaven and save me;  
 He reproaches the one  
 who would swallow me up.  
**Selah**  
 God shall send forth His mercy and  
 His truth. 4  
 My soul is among lions;  
 I lie among the sons of men  
 Who are set on fire,  
 Whose teeth are spears and arrows,  
 And their tongue a sharp sword. 5

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens;  
 Your glory above all the lands [earth]. 6

They have prepared a net for my steps;  
 My soul is bowed down;  
 They have dug a pit before me;  
 Into the midst of it they  
 themselves have fallen.

### Selah

7 ¶  
 My heart is steadfast, O God.  
 My heart is steadfast;  
 I will sing and give praise. 8  
 Awake, my glory!  
 Awake, lute and harp!  
 I will awaken the dawn. 9  
 I will praise You, O YHWH,  
 among the peoples;  
 I will sing to You  
 among the nations. 10  
 For Your mercy reaches unto the heavens,  
 And Your truth unto the clouds. 11

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens;  
 Your glory above all the lands [earth].

### Psalm 142

#### I Cry Out to YHWH With My Voice

142:1 ¶ <A Contemplation of David.  
 A Prayer when he was in the cave.>

I cry out  
 to YHWH  
 with my voice;  
 With my voice  
 to YHWH  
 my supplication. 2  
 [YLT order:]  
 I pour out  
 before Him  
 my complaint;  
 my trouble  
 before Him  
 I declare. 3

When my spirit was overwhelmed within me,  
 Then You knew my path.  
 In the way [path] in which I walk,  
 They have secretly set a snare for me.

4 ¶  
 Look on my right hand and see,  
 For there is no one who acknowledges me;  
 Refuge has failed me;  
 No one cares for my soul. 5  
 I cried out to You, O YHWH: I said,  
 "You are my refuge,  
 My portion in the land of the living. 6  
 Attend to my cry,  
 For I am brought very low;  
 Deliver me from my persecutors,  
 For they are stronger than I. 7  
 Bring my soul out of prison,  
 That I may praise Your name;  
 The righteous shall surround me,  
 For You shall deal bountifully with me."

### 1 Chronicles 12:8-18

Some Gadites joined David  
 at the stronghold in the wilderness,  
 mighty men of valor,  
 men trained for battle,  
 who could handle shield and spear,  
 whose faces were like  
 the faces of lions, and were  
 as swift as gazelles on the mountains: 9  
 Ezer ["treasure"]  
 the first,  
 Obadiah ["YHWH's servant"]  
 the second,  
 Eliab ["my father is God"; v14]  
 [Gad: not David's bro.] the third,  
 10  
 Mishmannah ["fatness"]  
 the fourth,  
 Jeremiah ["whom YHWH  
 has appointed"] the fifth, 11  
 Attai ["opportune"]  
 the sixth,  
 Eliel ["my God is God" or  
 "El is God"] the seventh, 12  
 Johanan ["YHWH is graced"]  
 the eighth,  
 Elzabad ["given by God"]  
 the ninth, 13  
 Jeremiah ["whom YHWH  
 has appointed"] the tenth, and  
 Machbanai ["the Lord's bond"]  
 the eleventh. 14  
 These were from the sons of Gad,  
 captains of the army; the least was  
 over a hundred [100], and the greatest  
 was [later] over a thousand [1,000].  
 15 These are the ones who crossed the  
 Jordan in the first month, when it  
 had overflowed all its banks; and they put  
 to flight all those in the valleys [Phil-  
 istines, after the death of Saul: ref?],  
 to the east and to the west. 16

Then some of the sons of Benjamin and Judah came to David at the stronghold. 17 And David went out to meet them, and answered and said to them,

“If you have come peaceably to me to help me, my heart will be united with you; but if to betray me to my enemies, since there is no wrong in my hands, may the God of our fathers look and bring judgment.” 18

Then the Spirit came upon Amasai [“burdensome”], chief of the captains, and he said:

“We are yours, O David;  
We are on your side, O son of Jesse!  
Peace, peace to you,  
And peace to your helpers!  
For your God helps you.”

So David received them, and made them captains of the troop.

### 1 Samuel 22:3-23

#### David Finds Protection For His Parents

3 Then David went from there to Mizpah [“watchtower”] of Moab [hence, south of the Arnon River, where his great grandmother Ruth was from: Ru 4:17]; and he said to the king of Moab,

“Please let my father and mother come here with you, till I know what God will do for me.”

[No presumption, just faith that God will protect and provide.] 4

So he brought them before the king of Moab, and they dwelt with him all the time that David was in the stronghold.

5 Now the prophet Gad [“troop”] said to David,

“Do not stay in the stronghold; depart, and go to the land of Judah.” So David departed and went into the forest of Hereth [“forest”].

#### Doeg Betrays, Kills Ahimelech et al

6 Then [When] Saul heard that David and the men who were with him had been discovered. Now Saul was staying in Gibeah under a tamarisk tree in Ramah, with his spear in his hand, and all his servants standing about him. 7 So [Then] Saul said to his servants who stood about him,

“Hear now, you Benjamites!

Will the son of Jesse give every one of you fields and vineyards, and make you all

captains of thousands [1,000s] and captains of hundreds [100s]? 8

All of you have conspired against me, and there is no one who reveals to me that my son has made a covenant with the son of Jesse; and there is not one of you who is sorry for me or reveals to me that my son has stirred up my servant against me, to lie in wait, as it is this day.” 9

Then answered Doeg the Edomite, who was set over the servants of Saul, and said,

“I saw the son of Jesse going to Nob, to Ahimelech [“king is my brother”] the son of Ahitub [“good(ness) is my brother”]. 10 And he

inquired of YHWH for him, gave him provisions, and gave him the sword of Goliath the Philistine.” 11

So the king sent to call Ahimelech the priest, the son of Ahitub, and all his father’s house, the priests who were in Nob. And they all came to the king. 12 And Saul said,

“Hear now, son of Ahitub!”

And he answered,

“Here I am, my lord.” 13

Then Saul said to him,

“Why have you conspired against me, you and the son of Jesse, in that you have given him bread and a sword, and have inquired of God for him, that he should rise against me, to lie in wait, as it is this day?” 14

So Ahimelech answered the king and said,

“And who among all your servants is as faithful as David, who is the king’s son-in-law, who goes at your bidding, and is honorable in your house? 15 Did I then begin to inquire of God for him? Far be it from me! [NIV: Was that day the first time I inquired of God for him? Of course not!]

Let not the king impute anything to his servant, or to any in the house of my father. For your servant knew nothing of all this, little or much.” 16

And the king said,

“You shall surely die, Ahimelech, you and all your father’s house!” 17

Then the king said to the guards who stood about him,

“Turn and kill the priests of YHWH, because their hand also is with David, and because they knew when he fled and did not tell it to me.”

But the servants of the king would not lift their hands to strike the priests of YHWH. 18 And the king said to Doeg,

“You turn and kill the priests!”

So Doeg the Edomite turned and struck the priests, and killed on that day eighty-five [85] men who wore a linen ephod. 19

Also Nob, the city of the priests, he struck

with the edge of the sword, both men and women, children and nursing infants, oxen and donkeys and sheep — with the edge of the sword.

20 Now one of the sons of Ahimelech the son of Ahitub, named Abiathar [“great is my father”; descendant of Eli: 1Ki 2:27], escaped and fled after David. 21 And Abiathar told David that Saul had killed YHWH’s priests. 22 So David said to Abiathar,

“I knew that day, when Doeg the Edomite was there, that he would surely tell Saul. I have caused the death of all the persons of your father’s house. 23 Stay with me; do not fear.

For he who seeks my life seeks your life, but with me you shall be safe.”

[Moved ahead for chronology:]

23:6 Now it happened, when Abiathar the son of Ahimelech fled to David at Keilah, that he had gone [went] down with an ephod in his hand.

## Psalm 52

### Why Do You Boast in Evil, O Mighty Man?

52:1 ¶ <To the Chief Musician.  
A Contemplation of David when  
Doeg the Edomite went and told  
Saul, and said to him,  
“David has gone  
to the house of Ahimelech.”>

Why do you boast in evil, O mighty man?  
The goodness of God endures continually. 2  
Your tongue devises destruction,  
Like a sharp razor, working deceitfully. 3  
You love evil more than good,  
Lying rather than speaking righteousness.

### Selah 4

You love all devouring words,  
You deceitful tongue. 5  
God shall likewise destroy you forever;  
He shall take you away,  
And pluck you out of your dwelling place,  
And uproot you from the land of the living.  
Selah 6 ¶

The righteous also shall see and fear,  
And shall laugh at him, saying, 7  
“Here is the man  
who did not make God his strength,  
But trusted in the abundance of his riches,  
Strengthened himself in his wickedness.” 8  
But I am like a green olive tree  
in the house of God;  
I trust  
in the mercy of God  
forever and ever. 9  
I will praise You  
forever,  
Because You have done it;  
And in the presence of Your saints  
I will wait on Your name,  
for it is good.

## April 17

[Audio: Steve Gregg 1Sa 23-25]

### 1 Samuel 23

#### David Saves Keilah from Philistines

[See [www.bible-history.com](http://www.bible-history.com) map]

23:1 ¶ Then they told David, saying,  
“Look, the Philistines are fighting  
against Keilah [“fortress”; a city in  
the lowlands of Judah northwest of  
Hebron], and they are robbing the  
threshing floors.” 2

Therefore David inquired of YHWH,  
saying,

“Shall I go and  
attack these Philistines?”

And YHWH said to David,  
[probably through the ephod: v6, v9;  
Saul had the Urim: 28:6]

“Go and attack the Philistines, and  
save Keilah.” 3

But David’s men said to him,  
“Look, we are afraid here in Judah.  
How much more then if we go to  
Keilah against the armies of the  
Philistines?” 4

Then David inquired of YHWH once  
again. And YHWH answered him and  
said,

“Arise, go down to Keilah. For I will  
deliver the Philistines into your hand.” 5

And David and his men went to Keilah  
and fought with the Philistines, struck  
them with a mighty blow, and took  
away their livestock. So David saved  
the inhabitants of Keilah.

[v6 moved above for chronology:]

#### David Escapes from Keilah

7 ¶ And Saul was told that David had  
gone to Keilah. So Saul said,

“God has delivered him into my hand,  
for he has shut himself in by entering  
a town that has gates and bars.” 8

Then Saul called all the people together  
for war, to go down to Keilah to besiege  
David and his men. 9 When David  
knew that Saul plotted evil against him,  
he said to Abiathar the priest,

“Bring the ephod here.” 10

Then David said,  
“O YHWH God of Israel, Your servant  
has certainly heard that Saul seeks to  
come to Keilah to destroy the city for  
my sake. 11 Will the men of Keilah  
deliver me into his hand? Will Saul  
come down, as Your servant has  
heard? O YHWH God of Israel, I pray,  
tell Your servant.”

And YHWH said,  
“He will come down.” 12

Then David said,  
“Will the men of Keilah deliver me and  
my men into the hand of Saul?”

And YHWH said,  
“They will deliver you.” 13

So David and his men, [now] about six  
hundred [600 – up from 400: 22:2b],  
arose and departed from Keilah and  
went wherever they could go.

Then it was told Saul  
that David had escaped from Keilah;  
so he halted the expedition.

#### Jonathan Encourages David

14 ¶ And David stayed in strongholds  
in the wilderness, and remained in the  
mountains in the Wilderness of Ziph  
[“battlement”]. Saul sought him every  
day, but God did not deliver him into  
his hand. 15 So David saw that Saul  
had come out to seek his life. And  
David was in the Wilderness of Ziph  
in a forest. 16 Then Jonathan, Saul’s  
son, arose and went to David in the  
woods and strengthened his hand in  
God [NIV: “helped him to find strength  
in God”]. 17 And he said to him  
[by saying to him],

“Do not fear, for the hand of Saul my  
father shall not find you. You shall  
be king over Israel [later fulfilled],  
and I shall be next to you [not ful-  
filled]. Even my father Saul knows  
that.” 18

So the two of them made a [another]  
covenant before YHWH. And David  
stayed in the woods, and Jonathan  
went to his own house.

#### The Ziphites Betray David

19 ¶ Then the Ziphites came up to Saul  
at Gibeah, saying,

“Is David not hiding with us  
in strongholds in the woods,  
in the hill of Hachilah [“dark”],  
which is on the south of Jeshimon  
[“the waste” or “the wilderness”]? 20  
Now therefore, O king, come down  
according to all the desire of your soul  
to come down; and our part will be to  
deliver him into the king’s hand.” 21

And Saul said,  
 “Blessed are you of YHWH,  
 for you have compassion on me. 22  
 Please go and find out for sure, and  
 see the place where his hideout is,  
 and who has seen him there.  
 For I am told he is very crafty. 23  
 See therefore, and take knowledge of  
 all the lurking places where he hides;  
 and come back to me with certainty,  
 and I will go with you.  
 And it shall be, if he is in the land,  
 that I will search for him throughout  
 all the clans of Judah.” 24

So they arose and went to Ziph before  
 Saul. But David and his men were in  
 the Wilderness of Maon [“habitation”],  
 in the plain on the south of Jeshimon.  
 25 When Saul and his men went to seek  
 him, they told David. Therefore he went  
 down to the rock, and stayed in the  
 Wilderness of Maon. And when Saul  
 heard that, he pursued David in the  
 Wilderness of Maon. 26 Then Saul  
 went on one side of the mountain, and  
 David and his men on the other side of  
 the mountain. So David made haste to  
 get away from Saul, for Saul and his men  
 were encircling David and his men to  
 take them. 27 But a messenger came to  
 Saul, saying,  
 “Hasten and come, for the Philistines  
 have invaded the land!” 28  
 Therefore Saul returned from pursuing  
 David, and went against the Philistines;  
 so they called that place the Rock of  
 Escape. 29 Then David went up from  
 there and dwelt in strongholds at En  
 Gedi [“front of the kid”; a town in the  
 wilderness of Judah on the western  
 shore of the Dead Sea].

## Psalm 54

### Save Me, O God, by Your Name

54:1 ¶ <To the Chief Musician.  
 With stringed instruments.  
 A Contemplation of David when  
 the Ziphites went and said to Saul,  
 “Is David not hiding with us?”>

Save me, O God, by Your name,  
 And vindicate me by Your strength. 2  
 Hear my prayer, O God;  
 Give ear to the words of my mouth. 3  
 For strangers have risen up against me,  
 And oppressors have sought after my life;  
 They have not set God before them.

## Selah

4 ¶ Behold, God is my helper;  
 YHWH is with those who uphold my life. 5  
 He will repay my enemies for their evil.  
 Cut them off in Your truth. 6  
 I will freely sacrifice to You;  
 I will praise Your name, O YHWH,  
 for it is good. 7  
 For He has delivered me out of all trouble;  
 And my eye has seen its desire  
 upon my enemies.

## 1 Samuel 24

### David Cuts Off a Corner of Saul's Robe

24:1 ¶ Now it happened, when Saul had  
 returned from following the Philistines,  
 that it was told him, saying,  
 “Take note! David is in the  
 Wilderness of En Gedi.” 2  
 Then Saul took three thousand [3,000]  
 chosen men from all Israel, and went  
 to seek David and his men on the Rocks  
 of the Wild Goats. 3 So he came to the  
 sheepfolds by the road, where there was  
 a cave; and Saul went in to attend to  
 his needs. (David and his men were  
 staying in the recesses of the cave.) 4

Then the men of David said to him,  
 “This is the day of which YHWH said to  
 you,

‘Behold, I will deliver your enemy  
 into your hand, that you may do  
 to him as it seems good to you.’”

And David arose and secretly cut off  
 a corner of Saul's robe. 5

Now it happened afterward that David's  
 heart troubled him because he had cut  
 Saul's robe. 6 And he said to his men,  
 “YHWH forbid that I should do this thing  
 to my master, YHWH's anointed,  
 to stretch out my hand against him,  
 seeing he is the anointed of YHWH.” 7

So David restrained his servants with  
 these words, and did not allow them to  
 rise against Saul. And Saul got up from  
 the cave and went on his way. 8 David  
 also arose afterward, went out of the  
 cave, and called out to Saul, saying,  
 “My lord the king!”

And when Saul looked behind him,  
 David stooped with his face to the  
 ground [earth], and bowed down.

9 ¶ And David said to Saul:  
 “Why do you listen to the words of men  
 who say,

‘Indeed David seeks your harm’? 10  
 Look, this day your eyes have seen  
 that YHWH delivered you today  
 into my hand in the cave,  
 and someone urged me to kill you.  
 But my eye spared you, and I said,

‘I will not stretch out my hand  
 against my lord,  
 for he is YHWH's anointed.’ 11

Moreover, my father, see! Yes, see  
 the corner of your robe in my hand!

For in that I cut off the corner of your  
 robe, and did not kill you, know and  
 see that there is neither evil nor re-  
 bellion in my hand,  
 and I have not sinned against you.

Yet you hunt my life to take it. 12  
 Let YHWH judge between you and me,  
 and let YHWH avenge me on you.

But my hand shall not be against you.  
 13 As the proverb of the ancients says,  
 ‘Wickedness proceeds from the wicked.’  
 But my hand shall not be against you.

14 After whom has the king of Israel  
 come out? Whom do you pursue?  
 A dead dog? A flea? 15

Therefore let YHWH be judge, and  
 judge between you and me, and  
 see and plead my case, and  
 deliver me out of your hand.”

16 ¶ So it was, when David had finished  
 speaking these words to Saul, that Saul  
 said,

“Is this your voice, my son David?”

And Saul lifted up his voice and wept.  
 17 Then he said to David:

“You are more righteous than I;  
 for you have rewarded me with good,  
 whereas I have rewarded you with evil.

18 And you have shown this day  
 how you have dealt well with me;  
 for when YHWH delivered me into  
 your hand, you did not kill me. 19

For if a man finds his enemy, will he  
 let him get away safely? Therefore  
 may YHWH reward you with good for  
 what you have done to me this day. 20

And now I know indeed  
 that you shall surely be king, and  
 that the kingdom of Israel  
 shall be established in your hand. 21

Therefore swear **now** to me by **YHWH** that you will not cut off my descendants **after** me, and that you will not **destroy** my name from my father's house."

22 So David swore to Saul. And Saul went home, but David and his men went **up** to the stronghold.

## 1 Samuel 25

### Samuel Dies

~2944 AB

25:1 ¶ **Then Samuel died** [at ~92: [Time-line of Judges](#); per [Jones](#); cf. [28:3](#)]; and the Israelites gathered together and lamented for him, and buried him at his home in [Ramah](#). And David arose and went down to the [Wilderness of Paran](#) ["*place of caverns*"].

### David Meets and Marries Abigail (and Ahinoam: Wives 2 and 3)

2 ¶ **Now** there was a man in [Maon](#) whose business was in [Carmel](#) ["*garden-land*"; a local town, not the mountain in northern Israel], and the man was very rich. He had three thousand [3,000] sheep and a thousand [1,000] goats.

And he was shearing his sheep in [Carmel](#). 3 The name of the man was Nabal ["*fool*"], and the name of his wife [Abigail](#) ["*joy is my father*"]. And she was a woman of good understanding and beautiful appearance; but the man was **harsh** and **evil** in his doings. And he was of the house of Caleb. 4

**When** David heard in the wilderness that Nabal was shearing his sheep, 5 David sent ten [10] young men; and David said to the young men,

"Go up to [Carmel](#), go to Nabal, and greet him in my name. 6 And thus you shall say to him who lives in *prosperity*:

'**Peace** be to you, **peace** to your house, and **peace** to all that you have! 7

**Now** I have heard that you have shearers. Your shepherds were with us, and we did not hurt them, nor was there anything missing from them all the **while** they were in [Carmel](#). 8 Ask your young men, and they will tell you. Therefore let *my* young men find favor in your eyes, for we come on **a feast day**. Please give whatever comes to your hand to your servants and to your son David.'" 9

So **when** David's young men came, they spoke to Nabal according to all these words **in the name of David** [as a substitute or ambassador for David, with his delegated authority], and waited. 10 **Then** Nabal answered David's servants, and said,

"Who is David, and who is the son of Jesse? There are many servants **nowadays** who break away each one from his master.

11 Shall I **then** take **my bread** and **my water** and **my meat**

that I have killed for my shearers, and give it to men **when** I do not know **where** they are from?"

12 ¶ So David's young men turned on their heels and went back; and they came and told him all these words. 13 **Then** David said to his men, "Every man gird on his sword."

So every man girded on his sword, and David also girded on his sword. And about four hundred [400] men went with David, and two hundred [200] stayed with the supplies. 14 **Now** one of the young men [of Nabal] told [Abigail](#), Nabal's wife, saying, "Look, David sent messengers from the wilderness to **greet** our master; and he **reviled** them. 15 But the men *were* very **good** to us, and we were not hurt, nor did we miss anything **as long as** we accompanied them, **when** we were in the fields. 16 They were a wall [of protection] to us both by **night and day**, **all the time** we were with them keeping the sheep. 17 **Now** therefore, know and consider what you will do, for **harm** is determined

against our master and against all his household.

For he is such a **scoundrel** that one cannot speak to him." 18 ¶

**Then Abigail** made haste and took two hundred [200] loaves of **bread**, two [2] skins of **wine**, five [5] sheep already dressed, five [5] seahs of roasted **grain**, [~1/3 an ephah, so ~13 litres] one hundred [100] clusters of **raisins**,

and two hundred [200] cakes of **figs**,

and loaded *them* on donkeys. 19 And she said to her servants, "Go on **before** me; see, I am coming **after** you."

But she did not tell her husband Nabal. 20 So it was, *as* she rode on the donkey, that she went **down** under cover of the **hill**; and there were David and his men, coming **down** toward her, and she met them. 21 **Now** David had said,

"Surely in vain I have protected all that this *fellow* has in the wilderness, so that nothing was missed of all that *belongs* to him. And he has repaid me **evil** for **good**. 22 May **God** do so [gesture], and more also, **to** the enemies of **David**, if I leave one male of all who *belong* to him **by morning light**." 23

**Now when** Abigail saw David, she hastened to dismount from the donkey, fell on her face before David, and bowed down to the **ground**. 24

So she fell at his feet and said: "On me, my lord, *on me* let this **iniquity** be! And please let your maidservant speak in your ears, and hear the words of your maidservant. 25 Please, let not my lord regard this **scoundrel** Nabal. For as his name is, so is he:

**Nabal** ["*fool*"] is his name, and **folly** is with him.

But I, your maidservant, did not see the young men of my lord whom you sent. 26 **Now** therefore, my lord, **as YHWH** lives and **as your soul** lives, since **YHWH** has held you back from coming to **bloodshed** and from avenging yourself with your own hand,

**now then**, let your **enemies** and those who seek harm for my lord be as **Nabal** [i.e., fools]. 27 And **now**, this present **that** your maidservant has brought to my lord, let it be given to the young men who follow my lord. 28 Please forgive the **trespass** of your maidservant. For **YHWH** will certainly make for my lord **an enduring house**, because my lord fights the battles of **YHWH**, and **evil** is not found in you throughout **your**

# April 18

[For the next and later stories:]

## 1 Chronicles 2:16-17

Now their [David's and his brothers'] sisters were

Zeruiah ["balsam"] and

Abigail ["joy is my father"].

And the sons of

Zeruiah were

Abishai ["my father is a gift"],

Joab ["YHWH is father"], and

Asahel ["God-made"]

— three [3]. 17

Abigail bore

Amasa ["burden"];

and the father of Amasa was

Jether ["abundance"] the Ishmaelite.

### David's Family (in part):

Jesse

... [6 or 7 older bro's: 1Sa 16:10]

David [their sisters:]

Zeruiah [her sons:]

Abishai

Joab

Asahel

Abigail [her son, by Jether:]

Amasa [an ↑ Ishmaelite]

[Audio: Steve Gregg 1Sa 26-28]

## 1 Samuel 26

### The Ziphites Betray David Again (23:19)

26:1 ¶ Now the Ziphites came to Saul at Gibeah, saying,

"Is David not hiding in the hill of Hachilah ["dark"], opposite Jeshimon ["the waste"/"the wilderness"]?" 2

Then Saul arose and went down to the Wilderness of Ziph ["battlement"], having three thousand [3,000] chosen men of Israel with him, to seek David

days. 29 Yet a man [i.e., Saul] has risen to pursue you and seek your life, but the life of my lord shall be

bound in the bundle of the living

with YHWH your God; and

the lives of your enemies

He shall sling out,

as from the pocket of a sling. 30

And it shall come to pass, when YHWH has done for my lord according to all the good that He has spoken concerning you, and has appointed you ruler over Israel, 31 that this will be no grief to you, nor offense of heart to my lord, either that you have shed blood without cause, or that my lord has avenged himself. But when YHWH has dealt well with my lord, then remember your maid-servant."

32 ¶ Then David said to Abigail:

"Blessed is YHWH God of Israel, who sent you this day to meet me! 33 And blessed is your advice and blessed are you, because you have kept me this day from coming to bloodshed and from avenging myself with my own hand. 34 For indeed, as YHWH, God of Israel lives, who has kept me back from hurting you, unless you had hastened and come to meet me, surely by morning light no males would have been left to Nabal!" 35

So David received from her hand what she had brought him, and said to her, "Go up in peace to your house.

See, I have heeded your voice and respected your person."

36 ¶

Now Abigail went to Nabal, and there he was, holding a feast in his house, like

the feast of a king. And Nabal's heart was merry within him, for he was very drunk; therefore she told him nothing, little or much, until morning light. 37

So it was, in the morning, when the wine had gone from Nabal, and his wife had told him these things, that his heart died within him, and he became like a stone. 38 Then it came about, after about ten [10] days, that YHWH struck Nabal, and he died. 39 So when David heard that Nabal was dead, he said, "Blessed be YHWH, who has pleaded the cause of my reproach from the hand of Nabal, and has kept His servant from evil! For YHWH has returned the wickedness of Nabal on his own head."

And David sent and proposed to Abigail, to take her as his wife. 40 When the servants of David had come to Abigail at Carmel, they spoke to her saying,

"David sent us to you,

to ask you to become his wife." 41

Then she arose, bowed her face to the ground [earth], and said,

"Here is your maidservant, a servant to wash the feet of the servants of my lord." 42

So Abigail rose in haste and rode on a donkey, attended by five of her maidservants; and she followed the messengers of David, and became his wife. 43

David also took Ahinoam ["delight is my brother"] of Jezreel ["God sows"], and so both of them were his wives. 44 But Saul had given Michal ["who is like God"] his daughter, David's wife, to Palti ["my deliverance"]

the son of Laish ["lion"], who was from Gallim ["springs"].

in the Wilderness of Ziph. 3 And Saul encamped in the hill of Hachilah, which is opposite Jeshimon, by the road. But David stayed in the wilderness, and he saw that Saul came after him into the wilderness. 4 David therefore sent out spies, and understood that Saul had indeed come. 5 So David arose and came to the place where Saul had encamped. And David saw the place where Saul lay, and Abner [Saul's cousin: 1 Ch 8:29-33 // 9:35-39, April 11] the son of Ner, the commander of his army. Now Saul lay within the camp, with the people encamped all around him.

6 ¶ Then David answered, and said to Ahimelech ["(the) king is my brother"] the Hittite and to

Abishai ["a gift is my father"; David's nephew] the son of Zeruiah ["balsam"; David's sister], brother of Joab ["YHWH is father"; and brother of Asahel], saying,

"Who will go down with me to Saul in the camp?"

And Abishai said,

"I will go down with you." 7

So David and Abishai came to the people by night; and there Saul lay sleeping within the camp, with his spear stuck in the ground by his head. And Abner ["my father is a lamp"] and the people lay all around him. 8

Then Abishai said to David, "God has delivered your enemy into your hand this day. Now therefore, please, let me strike him at once with the spear, right to the ground [earth]; and I will not have to strike him a second time!" 9

And David said to Abishai,  
“Do not **destroy** him; for who can stretch out his hand against **YHWH’s anointed**, and be guiltless?” 10

David said furthermore,  
“As **YHWH** lives, **YHWH** shall strike him, or his day shall come to die, or he shall go out to battle and perish. 11 **YHWH** forbid that I should stretch out my hand against **YHWH’s anointed**. But please, take **now** the spear and the jug of water that *are* by his head, and let us go.” 12 So David took the spear and the jug of water by Saul’s head, and they got away; and no man saw *it* or knew *it* or awoke. For they *were* all asleep, because a deep sleep from **YHWH** had fallen on them.

13 ¶ **Now** David went over to the other side, and stood on the top of a hill afar off, a great distance *being* between them.

14 And David called out to the people and to Abner the son of Ner [*“lamp”*], saying,

“Do you not answer, Abner?”

**Then** Abner answered and said,

“Who *are* you, calling out to the king?”

15 So David said to Abner,

“*Are* you not a man? And who *is* like you in Israel? Why then have you not guarded your lord the king? For one of the people came in to **destroy** your lord the king. 16 This thing that you have done *is* not good. As **YHWH** lives, you deserve to die, because you have not guarded your master, **YHWH’s anointed**. And **now** see where the king’s spear *is*, and the jug of water that *was* by his head.” 17

**Then** Saul knew David’s voice, and said,  
“*Is* that your voice, my son David?”

And David said,  
“*It is* my voice, my lord, O king.” 18

And he said,

“Why does my lord thus pursue his servant? For what have I done, or what **evil is** in my hand? 19 **Now** therefore, please, let my lord the king hear the words of his servant:

If **YHWH** has stirred you up against me, let **Him** accept an offering. But if *it is* the children of men, *may* they *be* **curse** before **YHWH**, for they have driven me out **this day** from sharing in the inheritance of **YHWH**, saying,

‘Go, serve other gods.’ 20

So **now**, do not let my blood fall to the ground [earth] before the face of **YHWH**. For the king of Israel has come out to seek a flea, as **when** one hunts a partridge in the mountains.”

21 ¶ **Then** Saul said,

“I have sinned. Return, my son David. For I will **harm** you no more, because my life was precious in your eyes **this day**. Indeed I have played the fool and erred exceedingly.” 22

And David answered and said,

“Here is the king’s spear. Let one of the young men come over and get it. 23 **May YHWH** repay every man *for* his **righteousness** and his **faithfulness**; for **YHWH** delivered you into *my* hand **today**, but I would not stretch out my hand against [kill] **YHWH’s anointed**.

24 And indeed, as your life was valued much **this day** in my eyes, so let my life be valued much in the eyes of **YHWH**, and let **Him** deliver me out of all tribulation.” 25

**Then** Saul said to David,

“*May* you *be* **blessed**, my son David! You shall both do great things and also still prevail.”

So David went on his way, and Saul returned to his place.

## 1 Samuel 27:1-7

### David Escapes Israel to Philistia

27:1 ¶ And David said in his heart,  
“**Now** I shall **perish** **someday** by the hand of Saul. *There is* nothing better for me than that I should **speedily** **escape** to the land of the **Philistines**; and Saul will despair of me, to seek me anymore in any part of Israel. So I shall **escape** out of his hand.” 2

**Then** David arose and went over with the six hundred [600] men who *were* with him to Achish [*“I will blacken (or terrify)” or “only a man”*] the son of Maoch [*“oppression”*], king of **Gath** [*“winepress”; Goliath’s home town*]. 3 So David dwelt with Achish at **Gath**, he and his men, each man with his household, *and* David with his two wives,

Ahinoam the **Jezeel**itess, and

Abigail the **Carmel**itess,

Nabal’s widow. 4

And it was told Saul that David had fled to **Gath**; so he sought him no more. 5

**Then** David said to Achish,  
“If I have **now** found favor in your eyes, let them give me a place in some town in the country, that I may dwell there. For why should your servant dwell in the royal city with you?” 6

So Achish gave him **Ziklag** that day. (Therefore **Ziklag** [*“winding”*] has belonged to the kings of Judah **to this day**.)

7 **Now** the time that David dwelt in the country of the **Philistines** was **one full year and four months** [1 yr 4 mos].

## 1 Chronicles 12:1-7

### Even More Join David at Ziklag

12:1 ¶ **Now** these *were* the men who came to David at **Ziklag** **while** he was still a fugitive from Saul the son of Kish; and they *were* among the **mighty men**, helpers in the war, 2 armed with bows, using both the right hand and the left in *hurling* stones and *shooting* arrows with the bow. *They were* of **Benjamin**, Saul’s brethren. 3 The chief *was* Ahiezer [*“help is my brother”*], then Joash [*“given by YHWH”*],

the sons of Shemaah [*“the rumor”*]

the **Gibeathite** [*“hilliness”*];

Jeziel [*“God’s assembly”*] and

Pelet [*“deliverance”*],

the sons of Azmaveth

[*“strong unto death”*];

Berachah [*“blessing”*], and

Jehu [*“YHWH is He”*]

the Anathothite [*“affliction”*]; 4

Ishmaiah [*“YHWH will hear”*]

the **Gibeonite** [*“little hill: hilly”*],

a mighty man among the **thirty**,

and over the **thirty**;

Jeremiah [*“whom YHWH has appointed”*],

Jahaziel [*“God-beheld”*],

Johanah [*“graced by YHWH”*], and

Jozabad [*“endowed by YHWH”*]

the **Gederathite** [*“a wall”*]; 5

Eluzai [*“my strength is God”*],

Jerimoth [*“He is Most High”*],

Bealiah [*“YHWH is master”*],

Shemariah [*“YHWH has kept”*], and

Shephatiah [*“YHWH has judged”*]

the Haruphite [*“native of Haruph”*]; 6

Elkanah [*“God has possessed (or created)”*],  
Jisshiah [*“YHWH will lend”*],  
Azarel [*“God has helped”*],  
Joezer [*“helped by YHWH”*], and  
Jashobeam [*“the people will return”*],  
the Korahites [*“one of Korah”*]; 7 and  
Joelah [*“may he avail”*] and  
Zebadiah [*“YHWH has endowed”*],  
the sons of Jeroham [*“showing pity”*]  
of Gedor [*“wall”*]  
[23 in all].

### 1 Samuel 27:8-12

#### David Raids Rural Areas

8 ¶ And David and his men went up and raided

the Geshurites,  
the Girzites, and  
the Amalekites [whom Saul was  
supposed to have utterly  
destroyed: [15:18](#), [28:18](#)].

For those nations were the inhabitants of the land from of old, as you go to

Shur [*“wall”*],

even as far as the land of

Egypt [*“land of the Copts”*]. 9

Whenever David attacked the land, he left neither man nor woman alive, but took away

the sheep,  
the oxen,  
the donkeys,  
the camels, and  
the apparel,

and returned and came to Achish. 10

Then Achish would say,

*“Where have you made a raid today?”*

And David would say,

*“Against the southern area of Judah, or against the southern area of the*

*Jerahmeelites* [*“may God have pity”*]; *descendants of the great grandson of Judah: [1 Ch 2:3-5, 9, April 4](#),*

*or against the southern area of the Kenites* [*“smiths”*; *Moses’ father-in-law was a Kenite*].” 11

David would save neither man nor woman alive, to bring news to Gath, saying,

*“Lest they should inform on us, saying, ‘Thus David did.’”*

And thus was his behavior all the time he dwelt in the country of the Philistines.

12 So Achish believed David, saying,

*“He has made his people Israel utterly abhor him; therefore he will be my servant forever.”*

### 1 Samuel 28

#### Achish Invites David to Fight Israel

28:1 ¶ Now it happened in those days that the Philistines gathered their armies together for war, to fight with Israel. And Achish said to David,

*“You assuredly know that you will go out with me to battle, you and your men.”* 2

And David said to Achish,

*“Surely you know what your servant can do.”*

And Achish said to David,

*“Therefore I will make you one of my chief guardians forever.”* 3

Now Samuel had died [[25:1](#)], and all Israel had lamented for him and buried him in Ramah, in his own city. And Saul had put the mediums and the spiritists out of the land. 4

Then the Philistines gathered together, and came and encamped at

Shunem [*“double resting place”*].

So Saul gathered all Israel together, and they encamped at

Gilboa [*“swollen heap”*]. 5

When Saul saw the army of the Philistines,

he was afraid, and his heart trembled greatly. 6

And when Saul inquired of YHWH,

YHWH did not answer him, either by dreams or

by Urim [*“Lights”*] or

by the prophets.

#### Fearful Saul Consults a Medium

7 ¶ Then Saul said to his servants,

*“Find me a woman who is a medium, that I may go to her and inquire of her.”*

And his servants said to him,

*“In fact, there is a woman who is a medium at En Dor [*“fountain of Dor”*].”* 8

So Saul disguised himself and put on other clothes, and he went, and two men with him; and they came to the woman by night. And he said,

*“Please conduct a seance for me, and bring up for me the one I shall name to you.”* 9

Then the woman said to him,

*“Look, you know what Saul has done, how he has cut off the mediums and the spiritists from the land.*

*Why then do you lay a snare for my life, to cause me to die?”* 10

And Saul swore to her by YHWH, saying, *“As YHWH lives, no punishment shall come upon you for this thing.”* 11

Then the woman said,

*“Whom shall I bring up for you?”*

And he said,

*“Bring up Samuel for me.”* 12

When the woman saw Samuel,

she cried out with a loud voice.

And the woman spoke to Saul, saying,

*“Why have you deceived me?*

*For you are Saul!”* 13

And the king said to her,

*“Do not be afraid. What did you see?”*

And the woman said to Saul,

*“I saw a spirit ascending*

*out of the ground [earth].”* 14

So he said to her,

*“What is his form?”*

And she said,

*“An old man is coming up, and he is covered with a mantle.”*

And Saul perceived that it was Samuel, and he stooped with his face to the ground and bowed down [to something he himself apparently could not see].

15 ¶ Now Samuel said to Saul,

*“Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up [from Sheol]?”*

And Saul answered,

*“I am deeply distressed;*

*for the Philistines make war against me, and God has departed from me and does not answer me anymore, neither by prophets nor by dreams. Therefore I have called you, that you may reveal to me what I should do.”* 16

Then Samuel said:

*“Why then do you ask me, seeing YHWH has departed from you and has become your enemy?”* 17

And YHWH has done for Himself as He spoke by me. For YHWH has torn the kingdom out of your hand and given it to your neighbor, David. 18 Because you did not obey the voice of YHWH nor execute His fierce wrath upon Amalek,

therefore **YHWH** has done this thing to you **this day**. <sup>19</sup> Moreover **YHWH** will also deliver Israel with you into the hand of the **Philistines**. And **tomorrow you and your sons will be with me [i.e., dead, in Sheol]**. **YHWH** will also deliver the army of Israel into the hand of the **Philistines**.”

<sup>20</sup> ¶ **Then immediately** Saul fell full length on the ground, and was dreadfully afraid because of **the words of Samuel [the narrator seems clear that these really were Samuel's words]**. And there was no strength in him, for he had eaten no food **all day** or **all night**. <sup>21</sup> And the woman came to Saul and saw that he was severely troubled, and said to him, “Look, your maidservant has obeyed your voice, and I have put my life in my hands and heeded the words **that** you spoke to me. <sup>22</sup> **Now** therefore, please, heed also the voice of your maidservant, and let me set a piece of **bread** before you; and eat, that you may have strength **when** you go on **your way**.” <sup>23</sup> But he refused and said, “I will not eat.” So his servants, together with **the woman**, urged him; and he heeded their voice. **Then** he arose from the ground and sat on the bed. <sup>24</sup> **Now** the woman had a fatted calf in the house, and she hastened to kill it. And she took flour and kneaded **it**, and baked unleavened **bread** from it. <sup>25</sup> So she brought **it** before Saul and his servants, and they ate. **Then** they rose and went away **that night**.

[Audio: Steve Gregg [1Sa 29-31](#)]

## 1 Samuel 29

### Philistine Princes Reject David's Help

<sup>29:1</sup> ¶ **Then** the **Philistines** gathered together all their armies at **Aphek** [*“enclosure”*], and the Israelites encamped by a fountain **that is** in

**Jezreel** [*“God sows”*]. <sup>2</sup> And the lords of the **Philistines** passed in review

by hundreds [*100s*] and by thousands [*1,000s*], but David and his men passed in review at the rear with Achish. <sup>3</sup>

**Then** the princes of the **Philistines** said, “*What are these Hebrews doing here?*” And Achish said to the princes of the **Philistines**,

“*Is this not David, the servant of Saul king of Israel, who has been with me these days, or these years [well, only 1yr 4mo: 27:7]?* And to **this day** I have found no fault in him **since** he defected to me.” <sup>4</sup>

But the princes of the **Philistines** were angry with him; so the princes of the **Philistines** said to him,

“*Make this fellow return, that he may go back to the place that you have appointed for him, and do not let him go down with us to battle, lest in the battle he become our adversary. For with what could he reconcile himself to his master, if not with the heads of these men?* <sup>5</sup> *Is this not David, of whom they sang to one another in dances, saying:*

‘Saul has slain his thousands, And David his ten thousands?’” [*It had become a well-known saying!*]

<sup>6</sup> ¶ **Then** Achish called David and said to him,

“*Surely, as YHWH lives [diplomatic reference?], you have been upright, and your going out and your coming in with me in the army is good in my sight. For to this day I have not found evil in you since the day of your coming to me. Nevertheless, the lords do not favor you. <sup>7</sup> Therefore, return now, and go in peace, that you may not displease the lords of the Philistines.*” <sup>8</sup>

So David said to Achish, “*But what have I done? And to this day what have you found in your servant as long as I have been with you, that I may not go and fight against the enemies of my lord the king?*” <sup>9</sup>

**Then** Achish answered and said to David, “*I know that you are as good in my sight as an angel of God; nevertheless, the princes of the Philistines have said,*

‘He shall not go up with us to the battle.’” <sup>10</sup>

**Now** therefore, rise **early in the morning** with your master's servants who have come with you. And **as soon as you are up early in the morning** and have **light**, depart.” <sup>11</sup>

So David and his men rose **early** to depart **in the morning**, to return to the land of the **Philistines**. And the **Philistines** went up to **Jezreel**.

# April 19

## 1 Chronicles 12:19-22

### David Joined by Manassites

And *some* from **Manasseh** defected to David **when** he was going with the **Philistines** to battle against Saul; but they did not help them, for the lords of the **Philistines** sent him away by agreement, saying,

“*He may defect to his master Saul and endanger our heads.*”

**When** he went [*back*] to **Ziklag**, those of **Manasseh** who defected to him were

**Adnah** [*“pleasure”*],  
**Jozabad** [*“endowed by YHWH”*],  
**Jediael** [*“God makes known”*],  
**Michael** [*“who is like God”*],  
**Jozabad** [*“endowed by YHWH”*],  
**Elihu** [*“He is my God”*], and  
**Zillethai** [*“dark”*],

captains of the thousands [*1,000s*] who were from **Manasseh**. <sup>21</sup> And they helped David against the bands of raiders, for they were all **mighty men of valor**, and they were captains in the army. <sup>22</sup> For **at that time** they came to David **day by day** to help him, **until** it was a great army, like **the army of God**.

## 1 Samuel 30

### David Plundered by Amalekites

30:1 ¶ **Now** it happened, **when** David and his men came to **Ziklag**, **on the third [3<sup>rd</sup>] day**, that the **Amalekites** had invaded the South and **Ziklag**, attacked **Ziklag** and burned it with **fire**,<sup>2</sup> and had taken captive the women and those who *were* there, from small to great; they did **not** kill anyone, but carried *them* away and went their way.<sup>3</sup> So David and his men came to the city, and there it was, burned with **fire**; and their wives, their sons, and their daughters had been taken captive.<sup>4</sup> **Then** David and the people who *were* with him lifted up their voices and wept, **until** they had no more power to weep.<sup>5</sup> And David's two wives, Ahinoam the **Jezeelitess**, and Abigail the widow of Nabal the **Carmelite**, had been taken captive.<sup>6</sup> **Now** David was greatly **distressed**, for the people spoke of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was **grieved**, every man for his sons and his daughters. **But David strengthened himself in YHWH his God** [cf. [Ps 27:1, 14](#)].

7 ¶ **Then** David said to Abiathar the priest, Ahimelech's son, **"Please bring the ephod here to me."** And Abiathar brought the ephod to David.<sup>8</sup> So David inquired of **YHWH**, saying, **"Shall I pursue this troop? Shall I overtake them?"** And **He** answered him, **"Pursue, for you shall surely overtake them and without fail recover all."**<sup>9</sup>

So David went, he and the six hundred [600] men who *were* with him, and came to the Brook Besor [*"cheerful"*], where those stayed who were left behind.<sup>10</sup> But David pursued, he and four hundred [400] men; for two hundred [200] stayed *behind*, who were **so weary that they could not cross** the **Brook Besor**.<sup>11</sup> **Then** they found an Egyptian in the field, and brought him to David; and they gave him bread and he ate, and they let him drink water.<sup>12</sup> And they gave him a piece of a cake of figs and two clusters of raisins. So **when** he had eaten, his strength came back to him; for he had eaten no bread nor drunk water **for three [3] days and three [3] nights**.<sup>13</sup> **Then** David said to him, **"To whom do you belong, and where are you from?"** And he said, **"I am a young man from Egypt, servant of an Amalekite; and my master left me behind, because three [3] days ago I fell sick.**<sup>14</sup> We made an invasion of the southern area of the Cherethites, in the territory **that belongs** to Judah, and of the southern area of Caleb; and we burned **Ziklag** with **fire**."  
[Cherethites: "executioners"; 1) a group of foreign mercenary soldiers serving later as a body-guard for king David; also executioners; 2) either Cretans or proto-Philistines (in general)]<sup>15</sup> And David said to him, **"Can you take me down to this troop?"** So he said, **"Swear to me by God that you will neither kill me nor deliver me into**

**the hands of my master, and I will take you down to this troop."**<sup>16</sup> And **when** he had brought him down, there they were, spread out over all the land, eating and drinking and dancing, because of all the great spoil **that** they had taken from the land of the **Philistines** and from the land of Judah.<sup>17</sup> **Then** David attacked them **from twilight until the evening of the next day** [~24 hrs]. Not a man of them escaped, except four hundred [400] young men who rode on camels and fled. [Apparently, that gave them a special advantage.]<sup>18</sup> So David recovered all that the **Amalekites** had carried away, and David rescued his two wives.<sup>19</sup> And nothing of theirs was lacking, either small or great, sons or daughters, spoil or anything **that** they had taken from them; David recovered all.<sup>20</sup> **Then** David took all the flocks and herds they had driven before those *other* livestock, and said, **"This is David's spoil."**  
<sup>21</sup> ¶ **Now** David came to the two hundred [200] men who had been so weary that they could not follow David, whom they also had made to stay at the Brook Besor. So they went out to meet David and to meet the people who *were* with him. And **when** David came near the people, he greeted them.<sup>22</sup> **Then** all the wicked and worthless men of those who went with David answered and said, **"Because they did not go with us, we will not give them any of the spoil that we have recovered, except for every man's wife and children, that they may lead them away and depart."**<sup>23</sup>

But David said, **"My brethren, you shall not do so with what YHWH has given us, who has preserved us and delivered into our hand the troop that came against us.**<sup>24</sup> For who will heed you in this matter? But as his part *is* who goes down to the battle, so *shall* his part *be* who stays by the supplies; they shall share alike."<sup>25</sup> So it was, from **that day forward**; **he made it a statute and an ordinance for Israel to this day**.<sup>26</sup>

**Now when** David **came [back]** to **Ziklag**, he sent *some* of the spoil to the elders of Judah, to his friends, saying, **"Here is a present for you from the spoil of the enemies of YHWH"** — <sup>27</sup> to **those who were in** [Original: ^ repeated for each line:] **Bethel** [*"house of God"*], **Ramoth** [*"heights"*] of the South, **Jattir** [*"plenty"*],<sup>28</sup> **Aroer** [*"ruins"*; *right of map?*], **Siphmoth** [*"fruitful"*], **Eshtemoa** [*"I will make myself heard"*],<sup>29</sup> **Rachal** [*"trade"*], the cities of the Jerahmeelites [*"may God have pity"*], the cities of the Kenites [*"smiths"*],<sup>30</sup> **Hormah** [*"devotion"*], **Chorashan** [*"furnace of smoke"*], **Athach** [*"lodging place"*],<sup>31</sup> **Hebron** [*"association"*], and to all the places where David himself and his men were accustomed to rove. [Thus acquiring their future loyalty.]

### 1 Samuel 31:1-7 ||

[Right column is near verbatim.]

31:1 ¶ Now the Philistines fought against Israel; and the men of Israel fled from before the Philistines, and fell slain on Mount Gilboa. 2 Then the Philistines followed hard after Saul and his sons. And the Philistines killed [Cf. [Saul's Family Tree](#)]

Jonathan,  
Abinadab, and  
Malchishua,

Saul's sons. 3 The battle became fierce against Saul. The archers hit him, and he was severely wounded by the archers. 4 Then Saul said to his armorbearer,

“Draw your sword, and thrust me through with it, lest these uncircumcised men come and thrust me through and abuse me.”

But his armorbearer would not, for he was greatly afraid. Therefore Saul took a sword and fell on it. 5 And when his armorbearer saw that Saul was dead, he also fell on his sword and died with him. 6 So Saul, his three sons, his armorbearer, and all his men died together that same day. 7 And when the men of Israel who were on the other side of the valley, and those who were on the other side of the Jordan, saw that the men of Israel had fled and that Saul and his sons were dead, they forsook the cities and fled; and the Philistines came and dwelt in them.

### 1 Chronicles 10:1-7 [9:40-44]

Saul & His Sons Killed

10:1 ¶ Now the Philistines fought against Israel; and the men of Israel fled from before the Philistines, and fell slain on Mount Gilboa. 2 Then the Philistines followed hard after Saul and his sons. And the Philistines killed

Jonathan,  
Abinadab, and  
Malchishua,

Saul's sons. 3 The battle became fierce against Saul. The archers hit him, and he was \_\_\_\_\_ wounded by the archers. 4 Then Saul said to his armorbearer,

“Draw your sword, and thrust me through with it, lest these uncircumcised men come \_\_\_\_\_ and abuse me.”

But his armorbearer would not, for he was greatly afraid. Therefore Saul took a sword and fell on it. 5 And when his armorbearer saw that Saul was dead, he also fell on his sword and died \_\_\_\_\_. 6 So Saul and his three sons \_\_\_\_\_ died, and all his house died together \_\_\_\_\_. 7 And when all the men of Israel who were in \_\_\_\_\_ the valley

\_\_\_\_\_ saw that they had fled and that Saul and his sons were dead, they forsook their cities and fled; then the Philistines came and dwelt in them.

### 1 Samuel 31:8-13 ||

[Right column is near verbatim:]

8 ¶ So it happened the next day, when the Philistines came to strip the slain, that they found Saul and his three sons fallen on Mount Gilboa. 9 And they cut off his head and stripped off his armor, and sent word throughout the land of the Philistines, to proclaim it \_\_\_\_\_ in the temple of their idols and among the people. 10 Then they put his armor in the temple of the Ashtoreths, and they fastened his

body to the wall of Beth Shan. 11 Now when the inhabitants of Jabesh Gilead heard what the Philistines had done to Saul, 12 all the valiant men arose and traveled all night, and took the body of Saul and the bodies of his sons from the wall of Beth Shan; and they came to Jabesh and burned them there. 13 Then they took their bones and buried them under the tamarisk tree at Jabesh, and fasted seven [7] days.

[^ cf. [1Sa 11:1-11](#) Jabesh Gilead had been rescued by Saul from Nahash.]

### 1 Chronicles 10:8-14

Their Bodies Creamated & Buried

8 ¶ So it happened the next day, when the Philistines came to strip the slain, that they found Saul and his \_\_\_\_\_ sons fallen on Mount Gilboa. 9 And they stripped him and took his head and his armor, and sent word throughout the land of the Philistines to proclaim the news in the temple of their idols and among the people. 10 Then they put his armor in the temple of their gods \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ fastened his head in the temple of Dagon.

\_\_\_\_\_ 11 And when all \_\_\_\_\_ Jabesh Gilead heard all that the Philistines had done to Saul, 12 all the valiant men arose \_\_\_\_\_ and took the body of Saul and the bodies of his sons; and they brought them to Jabesh, \_\_\_\_\_ and buried their bones under the tamarisk tree at Jabesh, and fasted seven [7] days. 13

So Saul died for his unfaithfulness that he had committed against Y<sup>HWH</sup>: because he did not keep the word of Y<sup>HWH</sup>, and also because he consulted a medium for guidance. 14 But he did not inquire of Y<sup>HWH</sup>; therefore He killed him, and turned the kingdom over to David the son of Jesse.

## 1 Chronicles 8:34-38 ||

[This column parallels the next two:]

The son of Jonathan was Merib-Baal,

and Merib-Baal begot

Micah. 35 The sons of Micah were

Pithon,

Melech,

Ta\_rea, and

Ahaz. 36 And Ahaz begot

Jehoaddah [“adorned by YHWH”];

Jehoaddah begot

Alemeth,

Azmaveth, and

Zimri; and Zimri begot

Moza. 37 Moza begot

Binea,

Raph\_ah [“tall”] his son,

Eleasah his son, and

Azel his son. 38 \_\_\_ Azel

had six sons whose names were these:

Azrikam,

Bocheru,

Ishmael,

Sheariah,

Obadiah, and

Hanan.

All these were the sons of

Azel.

## 1 Chronicles 9:40-44

[9:35-39]

### Jonathan's Descendants

The son of Jonathan was

Merib-Baal [aka Mephibosheth],

and Merib-Baal begot

Micah. 41 The sons of Micah were

Pithon,

Melech,

Tahrea, 42 and

Ahaz, and Ahaz begot

Jarah;

Jarah begot

Alemeth,

Azmaveth, and

Zimri; and Zimri begot

Moza; 43 Moza begot

Binea [his daughter?],

Rephajah his son,

Eleasah his son, and

Azel his son. 44 And Azel

had six sons whose names were these:

Azrikam,

Bocheru,

Ishmael,

Sheariah,

Obadiah, and

Hanan;

\_\_\_ these were the sons of

Azel.

[Cf. Saul's Family Tree]

[Meanings of their names:]

[“given by YHWH”]

[“Baal is my advocate”]

[“who is like God”]

[“harmless”]

[“king”]

[“cunning”]

[“he has grasped”]

[“forested”]

[“covering”]

[“strong unto death”]

[“my music”]

[“fountain”]

[“fountain”]

[“YHWH has healed”]

[“made by God”]

[“proximity: he has reserved”]

[“help against the enemy”]

[“firstborn”]

[“God will hear”]

[“YHWH-valued”]

[“YHWH's servant”]

[“he is merciful”]

Notes:

### Eli's Family Tree

Eli [1Sa 14:3]

Hophni [1Sa 1:3b]

Phinehas

Ahitub [not Zadok's dad: 1Ch 6:53]

| Ahijah

| Ahimelech [1Sa 22:9b]

| Abiathar [1Sa 22:20]

| Ahimelech [2Sa 8:17b]

| Jonathan [2Sa 15:27c]

Ichabod [1Sa 4:21]

# April 19 cont'd:

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