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[Steve Gregg: Video Overview, Intro. to Chronicles] 

1 Samuel 3:19
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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”],
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the son of Zuph [“honeycomb”],
the son of Elkanah [“possessed (or created) by God”]; v25,
the son of Mahath [“gaspering”],
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 Ebiazaph
[“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].

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 sucking 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: 23:1. 14

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 sevenfold 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
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Highlighting  Legend & Latest Notes
Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, 4 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.”

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 Yahweh. 7 And Yahweh 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 Yahweh, 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.

So Samuel told all the words of Yahweh to the people who asked him for a king. 10 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 [1/10th] 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 [1/10th] of 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 Yahweh will not hear you in that day.”

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 Yahweh. 22 So Yahweh said to Samuel, “Heed their voice, and make them a king.” 23 [Literally, “king them a king”]

And Samuel said to the men of Israel, “Every man go to his city.”
Saul's Genealogy

1 Chronicles 8:29-33 || 1 Chronicles 9:35-39

Now the leader of Gibeon, whose wife’s name was Maacah, dwelt at Gibeon. And his firstborn son was Abdon, then Zur, Kish, Baal, and Mikloth, who begot Shimeah ["report"]. They also dwelt alongside their relatives in Jerusalem, with their brethren. [NER begot Abner: 1Sa 14:51]

1 Chronicles 9:35-39

Jeiel ["God sweeps away"] the leader of Gibeon [that is, the town], whose wife’s name was Maacah ["oppression"], dwelt at Gibeon. His firstborn son was Abdon ["servile"], then Zur ["rock"], Kish ["bent"], Baal ["lord"], Ner ["lamp"], Nadab ["generous"], Gedor ["wall"], Ahio ["brothery" or "fraternal"], Zecher ["remembrance"], and Mikloth ["staves"].

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

Abiel is also used in 1Sa 14:51

[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.]

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 Ahinoam]
[by Ahinoam: 14:50]
Jonathan [cf. his descendants]
Malchishua
Abinadab [aka Jishui?]
Esh-Baal [aka 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

9:1 ¶ There was a man of Benjamin [cf. Judg 19-21] whose name was Kish ["bent"], the son of [v "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. And he [Kish] had a choice hand-some 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.]
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, and look for the donkeys.” 4 So he passed through the mountains of Ephraim and through the land of Shalishah [“third”], but they did not find them. 5 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. 6 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.” 7 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.” 8 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?”

And the servant answered Saul again and said, “Look, I have here at hand one fourth of a shekel of silver. I will give that to the man of God, to tell us our way.”

(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.)

Then Saul said to his servant, “Well said; come, let us go. So they went to the city where the man of God was.

Yahwéh 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, here 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.

Now Yahwéh 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, Yahwéh 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, 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?”

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.

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.”
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. 9 I come to you and show you what you should do.” [Audio: S. Gregg 1Sa 10:9-12:25]

Samuel’s Prophecy Fulfilled
10 ¶ 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. 11 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. 12 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. Is 19:24b] Is Saul also among the prophets?” 13 Then a man from there answered and said, “But who is their father?” Therefore it became a proverb: “Is Saul also among the prophets?” 14 And when he had finished prophesying, he went to the high place. 15 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.” 16 And Saul’s uncle said, “Tell me, please, what Samuel said to you.” 17 So Saul said to his uncle, “He told us plainly that the donkeys that 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]

11 ¶ Then Samuel called the people together to Yhwh at Mizpah, 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?” 23 And Yhwh answered, “There he is, hidden among the equipment.” 24 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. 25 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?” 26 So all the people shouted and said, “Long live the king!” 27 Then Samuel explained to the people the behavior of royalty, and wrote it in a book [presumably, this book of Isa; cf. 8:11-18] and laid it up before Yhwh. And Samuel sent all the people away, every man to his house. 28 And Saul also went home to Gibeah; and valiant men went with him, whose hearts God had touched. 29 But some rebels said, “How can this man save us?” So they despised him, and brought him no presents. But he held his peace.
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, and cut off the hands of messengers, saying, ‘You have found your enemies this day.’” 3 And they told him the words of 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. 4 Therefore the men of Jabesh said, “Tomorrow we will come out to you, and you may do with us whatever seems good to you.” 5 [As if there was no one to help them?]

So it was, on the next day, that Saul put the people in three 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 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?” 6 And they told him the words of the men of Jabesh. 7 Then the Spirit of God came upon Saul when he heard this news, and his anger was greatly aroused. 8 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. 9 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]. 10 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.’”

Saul Affirmed King by Israel

12:1 ¶ 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.” 2 But Saul said, “‘Not a man shall be put to death this day, for today YHWH has accomplished salvation in Israel.’” 3 [To his credit, Saul credits YHWH.]

Then Samuel said to the people, “Come, let us go to Gilgal and renew the kingdom there.”

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.

Samuel Exonerated Before 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.’

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 [ca. 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.”

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.”

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.”

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 Michmas, 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 thicket, in rocks, in holes, and in pits. 7 And some of the Hebrews crossed over the Jordan to the land of God 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: v 16; 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.

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 Geba of Benjamin. And Saul...
April 13

1 Samuel 14
Jonathan Starts a Battle

14:1 ¶ Now it happened once 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 (“goodness 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.

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 Senach [“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 armorer 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 armorer, and said, “Come up to us, and we will show you something.”

Jonathan said to his armorer, “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 armorer after him; and they fell before Jonathan. And as he came after him, his armorer killed them. 14 That first slaughter, which Jonathan and his armorer made, was about twenty [~20] men within about half an acre of land.

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].

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 armorer 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.

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.

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.
the Israelites who were with Saul and Jonathan. 22 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].

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

**Saul Builds His First Altar to YHWH**

24 ¶ 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.

25 Now all the people of the land came to a forest; and there was honey on the ground.

26 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. 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.

27 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.

28 But Jonathan said, “My father has troubled the land. Look now, how my countenance has brightened because I tasted a little of this honey. 30 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?”

31 Now they had driven back the Philistines that day from Michmash to Aijalon [“field of deer”]. So the people were very faint. 32 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]. 33 Then they told Saul, saying, “Look, the people are sinning against YHWH by eating with the blood!”

34 So he said, “You have dealt treacherously; roll a large stone to me this day.”

35 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.’”

36 Then every one of the people brought his ox with him that night, and slaughtered it there.

37 Then Saul built an altar to YHWH. This was the first altar that he built to YHWH.

**Jonathan’s “Sin” Found Out**

38 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.”


41 But He did not answer him that day. And Saul said, “Come over here, all you chiefs of the people, and know and see what this sin was today.” For as YWHAH lives, who saves Israel, though it be in Jonathan my son, he shall surely die.”

42 But not a man among all the people answered him. 40 Then he said to all Israel, “You be on one side, and my son Jonathan and I will be on the other side.”

43 And the people said to Saul, “Do what seems good to you.”

44 Therefore Saul said to YWHAH, God of Israel, “Give a perfect lot.”

45 So Saul and Jonathan were taken, but the people escaped. 42 And Saul said, “Cast lots between my son Jonathan and me.”

46 So Jonathan was taken.

47 Then Saul said to Jonathan, “Tell me what you have done.”

48 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!”

49 And Saul answered, “God do so [gesture] and more also; for you shall surely die, Jonathan.”

50 But the people said to Saul, “Shall I go down, who has accomplished this great deliverance in Israel? Certainly not! As YWHAH lives, not one hair of his head shall fall to the ground, for he has worked with God this day.”

51 So the people rescued Jonathan, and he did not die. 46 Then Saul returned from pursuing the Philistines, and the Philistines went to their own place.

**Saul’s Success**

47 ¶ 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.

48 And he gathered an army and attacked the Amalekites [1Sa 15], and delivered Israel from the hands of those who plundered them.

**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”].
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. Kish [*“bent”*] the father of Saul, and Ner the father of Abner, were the sons of Abiel [*“God is my father”*].

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].

1 Samuel 15

Yhwh Tells Saul to Destroy Amalek

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.

Thus says Yhwh of hosts: ‘I will punish Amalek for what he did to Israel, how heAMBUSHED him on the way when he came up from Egypt. *Ex 17:8-16*

Now go and attack Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and do not spare them but kill both 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 [*“lamb”*], two hundred thousand [200,000] foot soldiers and ten thousand [10,000] men of Judah.

And Saul came to a city of Amalek, and lay in wait in the valley. 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. And Saul attacked the Amalekites, from Havilah [*“circle”*] all the way to Shur [*“wall”*], which is east of Egypt.

He also took Agag [*“I will overtop”*] king of the Amalekites alive, and utterly destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword.

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

Now the word of Yhwh came to Samuel, saying, “I greatly regret that I have set up [literally, “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.

So then 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.”

Then Samuel went to Saul, and Saul said to him, “Blessed are you of Yhwh! I have performed the commandment of Yhwh.”

But Samuel said, “What then is this bleating of the sheep in my ears, and the lowing of the oxen that I hear?”

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.”

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.”

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? 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.’ 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?”

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.

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.”

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.

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.”

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. Now therefore, please pardon my sin, and return with me, that I may worship Yhwh.”

But Samuel said to Saul,
April 14

1 Samuel 16

Samuel Annoints a Son of Jesse

16:1 ¶ Now **Yhwh** said to Samuel, 2

“How long will you mourn for Saul, 3

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 [| Judah’s Family] 3

Eliab [“my father is God”] his firstborn, 4

Abinadab [“noble/willing is my father”] the second, 5

Shimea [“fame”; aka Shammah] the third, 6

Nethanel [“God has given”] the fourth, 7

Raddai [“trampling”] the fifth, 8

Ozem [“I shall hasten them”] the sixth, and 9

David [“beloved”] the seventh. 10

And Samuel said, 11

“How can I go? If Saul hears it, he will kill me.” 12

And **Yhwh** said, 13

“Take a heifer with you, and say, 14

‘I have come to sacrifice to **Yhwh**.’ 15

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.” 16

So Samuel did what **Yhwh** said, and went to Bethelhem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” 17

And he said, 18

“Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to **Yhwh**. Sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice.” 19

Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons, and invited them to the sacrifice. 20

6 ¶ So it was, when they came, that he looked at Eliab and said, “Surely **Yhwh**’s anointed is before Him.” 21

But **Yhwh** said to Samuel, 22

“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.” 23

So Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, “Neither has **Yhwh** chosen this one.” 24

Then Jesse made Shammah [“astonishment”] pass by. And he said, “Neither has **Yhwh** chosen this one.” 25

Thus Jesse made seven [| cf. 17:12; there must have been another who later died and so is not mentioned in |Ch 2:13; |Ru 4:22] of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, “**Yhwh** has not chosen these.” 26

And Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all the young men here?” 27

Then he said, “There remains yet the youngest, and there he is, keeping the sheep.” 28

And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him. For we will not sit down [to eat] till he comes here.” 29

So he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy [red (auburn) hair?], with bright eyes, and good-looking. 30

And **Yhwh** said, “Arise, anoint him; for this is the one!” 31

Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brethren; 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.
Goliath Challenges Israel

1 Samuel 17:1 Now the Philistines gathered their armies together to battle, and were gathered together between 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). 2 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. 3

17:33 But if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us.” 10

And the Philistine said, “I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together.” 11

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

David Takes Up the Challenge

17:44 Now David was the son of that Ephrathite 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. 13 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. 14

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

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

Then Jesse said to his son David, “Take now for your brothers an ephah [~40 litres] of this dried grain and these ten [10] cheeses, and run to your brothers at the camp. 18 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.” 19

Now Saul and they and all the men of Israel were in the Valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines. 20

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. 21

For Israel and the Philistines had drawn up in battle array, army against army. 22 And David left his supplies in the hand of the supply keeper, ran to the army, and came and greeted his brothers. 23 Then, as he talked with them, there was the champion, the Philistine of Gath. Goliath by name, coming up from among the armies of the Philistines; and he spoke according to the same words. So David heard them. 24 And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him and were dreadfully afraid. 25 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.” 26

[1” 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?” 27 And the people answered him in this manner, saying, “[Thus and] So shall it be done for the man who kills him.” 28

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.” 29

And David said, [cf. Ps 51:5, 27:10] “What have I done now? Is there not a cause?” 30

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.” 33

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.” 34 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.” 37

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!” 38 [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]. 43

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!” 45

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.] 49

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.)
April 15
1 Samuel 18
Jonathan’s Soul Knit to David’s Soul

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).]

Saul took him that day, and would not let him go home to his father’s house anymore.

Then Jonathan and David made a covenant, because he loved him as his own soul.

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?]

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 was afraid of David because YWH was with him, but had departed from Saul.

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].

And David behaved wisely in all his ways, and YWH was with him.

Therefore, when Saul saw that he behaved very wisely, he was afraid of him.

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].

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 YWH’s battles.”

For Saul thought,

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

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?”

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.

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.

“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.”

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 or gift, but one foreskin 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. 3 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. 4 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.”

Thus Jonathan spoke well of David, and stood beside his father in the field where he was in his presence. 5 When Jonathan spoke with Saul his father, Jonathan called David, 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. 6 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?”

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. 8 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.”

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. A Michtam of David. Set to “Do Not Destroy”. 2 Deliver me from my enemies, O my God; Defend me from those who rise up against me. 3 Deliver me from the workers of iniquity. And save me from bloodthirsty men. 4 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, my Strength; For God is my defense;
My God of mercy shall come to meet me; God shall let me see my desire on my enemies. Do not slay them, lest my people forget; Scatter them by Your power. And bring them down, O Lord, our shield. 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. 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?]:

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

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 standing 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 messengers, 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

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 But 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 YHVH 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 Bethel, 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 shall have brought your servant into a covenant of YHVH with you [v=42]. 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: “YHVH 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 YHVH 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 YHVH be with you as He has been with my father. 14 And you shall not only show me the kindness of YHVH 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 YHVH 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 YHVH require it at the hand of David’s enemies.” [NIV: “May YHVH 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 shall be missed, because your seat will be empty. 19 And when you have stayed three [?] days, go down quickly
and come to the place where you hid on the day of the deed; and remain by the stone Ezel [“departure”]. Then I will shoot three arrows to the side, as though I shot at a target; and there will I 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 Yahweh lives, there is safety for you and no harm. But if I say thus to the young man, ‘Look, the arrows are beyond you’ — go your way, for Yahweh has sent you away. And as for the matter that you and I have spoken of, indeed Yahweh be between you and me forever.”

24 ¶ David hid in the field. And when the New Moon [1st of a month: v27] had come, the king sat down to eat the feast. Now the king sat on his seat, as at other times, on a seat by the wall. And Jonathan arose, and Ahner sat by Saul’s side, but David’s place was empty. Nevertheless Saul did not say anything that day, for he thought, “Something has happened to him; he is unclean, surely he is unclean.” 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?” So Jonathan answered Saul, “David earnestly asked permission of me to go to Bethlehem. 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.”

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?” 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.] And Jonathan answered Saul his father, and said to him, “Why should he be killed? What has he done?” Then Saul cast a spear at him to kill him, by which Jonathan knew that it was determined by his father to kill David. 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. Then he said to his lad, “Now run, find the arrows that I shoot.” As the lad ran, he shot an arrow beyond him. When the lad had come to the place where the arrow was that Jonathan had shot out after the lad and said, “Is not the arrow beyond you?” 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. But the lad did not know anything — only Jonathan and David knew — of the matter. Then Jonathan gave his weapons to his lad, and said to him, “Go, carry them to the city.” 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 times. And they kissed one another; and they wept together, but David more so.

Then Jonathan said to David, “Go in peace, since we have both sworn in the name of Yahweh, saying, ‘May Yahweh be between you and me, and between your descendants and my descendants, forever.’” So he arose and departed [not the Hebrew word for ‘fled’ here], and Jonathan went into the city. 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. Then he said to his lad, “Now run, find the arrows that I shoot.” As the lad ran, he shot an arrow beyond him. When the lad had come to the place where the arrow was that Jonathan had shot out after the lad and said, “Is not the arrow beyond you?” 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. But the lad did not know anything — only Jonathan and David knew — of the matter. Then Jonathan gave his weapons to his lad, and said to him, “Go, carry them to the city.” 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 times. And they kissed one another; and they wept together, but David more so.

Then Jonathan said to David, “Go in peace, since we have both sworn in the name of Yahweh, saying, ‘May Yahweh be between you and me, and between your descendants and my descendants, forever.’” So he arose and departed [not the Hebrew word for ‘fled’ here], and Jonathan went into the city. 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. Then he said to his lad, “Now run, find the arrows that I shoot.” As the lad ran, he shot an arrow beyond him. When the lad had come to the place where the arrow was that Jonathan had shot out after the lad and said, “Is not the arrow beyond you?” 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. But the lad did not know anything — only Jonathan and David knew — of the matter. Then Jonathan gave his weapons to his lad, and said to him, “Go, carry them to the city.” 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 times. And they kissed one another; and they wept together, but David more so.

Then Jonathan said to David, “Go in peace, since we have both sworn in the name of Yahweh, saying, ‘May Yahweh be between you and me, and between your descendants and my descendants, forever.’” So he arose and departed [not the Hebrew word for ‘fled’ here], and Jonathan went into the city.

April 16
David Puts Ahimelech in Jeopardy
1 Samuel 21

[Audio: Steve Gregg 1Sa 21-22]

1 Samuel 21
David Puts Ahimelech in Jeopardy

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?” So David said to Ahimelech the priest, “The king has ordered me on some business, and said to me, ‘Do not let anyone know anything 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. Now therefore, what have you on hand? Give me five loaves of bread in my hand, or whatever can be found.”

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.” 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 common, 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 show-bread 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 Abimelech, “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.” 10 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 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 opposes 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, I will trust in You. 4 [future]
In God I will 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]

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,
Psalm 142
I Cry Out to You Lord With My Voice
142:1 <A Contemplation of David. A Prayer when he was in the cave.>

I cry out to You Lord with my voice;
With my voice I make supplication.
I pour out before You my complaint;
Before You I declare my trouble.
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.
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.
I cried out to You, O Lord: I said,
“You are my refuge,
My portion in the land of the living.”
I will sing to You, O Lord:
I will sing to You among the peoples;
I will sing to You among the nations.
For Your mercy reaches unto the heavens,
And Your truth unto the clouds.
Be exalted, O Lord, above the heavens;
Your glory above all the lands [earth].
Selah

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,
Eliah [“my father is God”; v14] Gad: not David’s bro. the third,
Mishannah [“fatness”] the fourth,
Jeremiah [“whom Yhwh has appointed”] the fifth,
Attai [“opportune”] the sixth,
Elie [“my God is God” or “El is God”] the seventh,
Johanan [“Yhwh is graced”] the eighth,
Elzabad [“given by God”] the ninth,
Jeremiah [“whom Yhwh has appointed”] the tenth, and
Machbanai [“the Lord’s bond”] the eleventh.
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].
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 [Philistines, after the death of Saul: ref?], to the east and to the west.
Then some of Benjamin and Judah came to David at the stronghold. 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.”

Doeg Betrays, Kills Ahimelech et al

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. 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]? 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.”

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’]. And he inquired of YHWH for him, gave him provisions, and gave him the sword of Goliath the Philistine.”

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. And Saul said, “Hear now, son of Ahitub!” And he answered, “Here I am, my lord.”

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?” 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? 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.”

And the king said, “You shall surely die, Ahimelech, you and all your father’s house!”

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. 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.

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.

David Finds Protection For His Parents

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

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”].

Moved ahead for chronology

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

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

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 ]Sa 23-25]

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 fulfilled]. 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

Save me, O God, by Your name. 2 And vindicate me by Your strength. 3 Hear my prayer, O God; Give ear to the words of my mouth. 4 For strangers have risen up against me, and oppressors have sought after my life; They have not set God before them. 5 "Save me, O God, by Your name. And vindicate me by Your strength. 6 Hear my prayer, O God; Give ear to the words of my mouth. 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

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.’” 9 And David arose and secretly cut off a corner of Saul’s robe. 10 Now it happened afterward that David’s heart troubled him because he had cut Saul’s robe. 11 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.” 12 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. 13 David also arose afterward, went out of the cave, and called out to Saul, saying, “My lord the king!” 14 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 rebellion 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."
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 BC
25:1 ¶ Then Samuel died [at ~92: Timeline of Judges; per Jones; cf. 28:3]; and the Israelites gathered together and lamented for him, and buried him at 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 upon 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 whom 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 David] 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 have I 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 to me; 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 your 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, and the battles of YHWH and evil is not found in you throughout your...
32 ¶ Then David said to Abigail:

“Blessed is Yehwah 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 Yehwah 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 Yehwah struck Nabal, and he died. 39 So when David heard that Nabal was dead, he said, “Blessed be Yehwah, who has pleaded the cause of my reproach from the hand of Nabal, and has kept His servant from evil! For Yehwah 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’s 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”].

April 18

[For the next and later stories:] 1 Choronicles 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 [“Yehwah is father”], and Asahel [“God-made”]; and three [3].

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)

Now the Ziphites came to Saul at Gibeath, 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 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 Abimelech [“(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 [“Yehwah 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!”

Highlighting, Legend & Latest Notes
And David said to Abishai, “Do not destroy him; for who can stretch out his hand against Yahweh’s anointed, and be guiltless?” 10 David said furthermore, “As Yahweh lives, Yahweh shall strike him, or his day shall come to die, or he shall go out to battle and perish. 11 Yahweh forbid that I should stretch out my hand against Yahweh’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 Yahweh 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?” 15 Then Abner answered and said, “Who are you, calling out to the king?” 16 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. 17 This thing that you have done is not good. As Yahweh lives, you deserve to die, because you have not guarded your master, Yahweh’s anointed. And now see where the king’s spear is, and the jug of water that was by his head.” 18 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 Yahweh has stirred you up against me, let Him accept an offering. But if it is the children of men, may they be cursed before Yahweh, for they have driven me out this day from sharing in the inheritance of Yahweh, saying, ‘Go, serve other gods.’” 20 So now, do not let my blood fall to the ground [earth] before the face of Yahweh. 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 Yahweh repay every man for his righteousness and his faithfulness; for Yahweh delivered you into my hand today, but I would not stretch out my hand against [kill] Yahweh’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 Yahweh, 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 Jezreelitess, and Abigail the Carmelitess, 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.)

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 Yahweh”], the sons of Shemaah [“the rumor”] the Gibeathite [“hillsiness”]; Jeziel [“God’s assembly”] and Pelet [“deliverance”], the sons of Azmaveth [“strong unto death”]; Berachah [“blessing”], and Jehu [“Yahweh is He”] the Anathothite [“affliction”]; 4 Ishmaiah [“Yahweh will hear”] the Gibeonite [“little hill; hilly”], a mighty man among the thirty, and over the thirty; Jeremiah [“whom Yahweh has appointed”], Jahaziel [“God-beheld”]; Johanan [“graced by Yahweh”], and Jozabath [“endowed by Yahweh”] the Gederathite [“a wall”]; 5 Eluza [“my strength is God”], Jeremoth [“He is Most High”], Bealiah [“Yahweh is master”], Shemariah [“Yahweh has kept”], and Shephatiah [“Yahweh has judged”] the Haruphite [“native of Haraph”].
Elkanah ["God has possessed (or created)"], Jishshiah ["Yhwh will lend"], Azarel ["God has helped"], Jozezer ["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 land of the Amalekites ["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.

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 gound [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.
Then the Philistines gathered together all their armies at Aphek [“enclosure”], and the Israelites encamped by a fountain that is in Jezreel [“God sows”].

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.

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.”

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? 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!]

Achish called David and said to him, “Surely, as your life 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. Therefore, return now, and go in peace, that you may not displease the lords of the Philistines.”

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?”

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.’”

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.”

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 defec 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. And they helped David against the bands of raiders, for they were all mighty men of valor, and they were captains in the army. 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.
David Plundered by Amalekites

1 Samuel 30

Now it happened, when David and his men came to Ziklag, on the third [3rd] day, that the Amalekites had invaded the South and Ziklag, attacked Ziklag and burned it with fire. 2 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. 3 So David and his men came to the city, and there it was, burned with fire; 4 and their wives, their sons, and their daughters had been taken captive. 5 And David’s two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the widow of Nabal the Carmelite, had been taken captive. 6 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].

Then David said to Abiathar the priest, Ahimelech’s son, “Please bring the ephod here to me.” And Abiathar brought the ephod to David. 8 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.”

So David went, and 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. 10 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. 11 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. 12 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. 13 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. 14 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 mercenaries soldiers serving later as a bodyguard for king David; also executioners; 2) either Cretans or proto-Philistines (in general)]

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.”

And when he had brought him down, there were, spread out over all the land, eating and drinking and dancing, because of all the great spoil they had taken from the land of the Philistines and from the land of Judah. 17 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.] 18 So David recovered all that the Amalekites had carried away, and David rescued his two wives. 19 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. 20 Then David took all the flocks and herds they had driven before those other livestock, and said, “This is David’s spoil.”

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” — 27 to those who were in[Original: ^ repeated for each line:] Bethel [“house of God”], Ramoth [“heights”] of the South, Jattir [“plenty”]. 28 Arer [“ruins”; right of map?], Siphmoth [“fruitful”], Eshtemoa [“I will make myself heard”], 29 Rachel [“trade”], the cities of the Jerahmeelites [“may God have pity”], the cities of the Kenites [“smiths”], 30 Hormah [“devotion”], Chorashan [“furnace of smoke”], Athach [“lodging place”], 31 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]

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.

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1 Chronicles 10:8-14

Their Bodies Cremated & Buried

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 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 Jabez, ___ and buried their bones under the tamarisk tree at Jabez, and fasted seven [7] days. 13

So Saul died for his unfaithfulness that he had committed against Y'hwh: because he did not keep the word of Y'hwh, and also because he consulted a medium for guidance. 14 But he did not inquire of Y'hwh; 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 Yirmi’”];
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, and
Ahaz, and Ahaz begot
Jarah; Jarah begot
Alemeth, Azmaveth, and
Zimri; and Zimri begot
Moza; 43 Moza begot
Binea [his daughter?],
Rephaiah his son,
Eleasah his son, and
Aziz 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.

[9:35-39]
(Cf. Saul’s Family Tree)
[Meanings of their names:]
[“who is like God”]
[“help against the enemy”]
[“my music”]
[“he has grasped”]
[“he is merciful”]
[“strong unto death”]
[“firstborn”]
[“God will hear”]
[“God is my advocate”]
[“fountain”]
[“Yirmi’ has healed”]
[“made by God”]
[“Yirmi’ valued”]
[“Yirmi’s servant”]
[“tall”]
[“covering”]
[“proximity: he has reserved”]
[“forested”]
[“cunning”]
[“tall”]
[“tall”]

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]