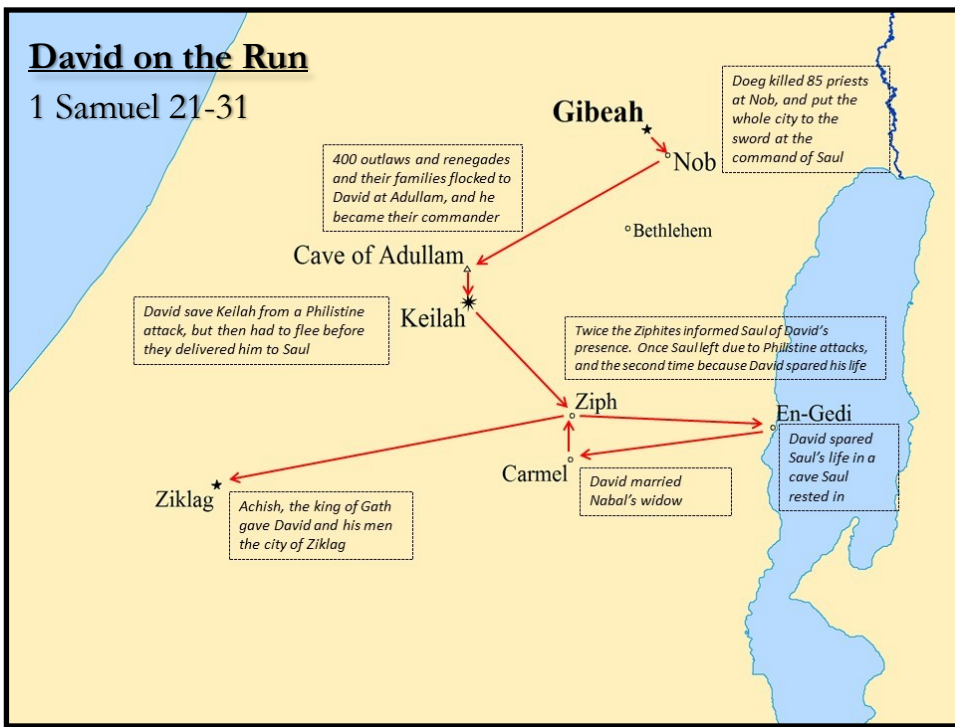


David on the Run

1 Samuel 21-31



Questions:

- Who informed David that Saul had killed the priests at Nob? _____
- Were the people of Keilah going to give David up to Saul? _____
- What did David do when instead of killing Saul in a cave? _____

- What was Abigail's husband's name? What does the name mean? _____

- Who offered to kill Saul for David when they snuck into Saul's camp? _____

- After sparing Saul's life a second time, where did David flee to? _____

- What was Saul's response when he saw the armies of the Philistines? _____

- Why did David's men almost revolt against him and stone him? _____

- The men of what city rescued the bodies of Saul and his sons? _____

“That You May Grow Thereby...”

A weekly Bible reading plan



1 Samuel 22-31

A Hero on the Run

Overview

Things began looking up for young David. At a young age, maybe even a teenager, he was anointed by the prophet Samuel as the man to be Israel's next king. Who wouldn't love that? Soon he found himself in the king's service, which must have been a nice promotion from shepherd. Of course, his battle with Goliath thrust him into the national spotlight and made him the hero of Israel overnight. He was given the king's daughter to marry, and given a high ranking position. Yes, things were going great. And then they weren't. Saul's jealousy grew, and as

quickly as David had risen to national hero, he became public enemy number one. Saul began plotting to kill David, forcing the to-be-king to a life on the run. A few hundred men and family rallied to David, but what was that against the army of Saul? And so David spent the next few years of his life running from Saul. The fickle citizens that once likely sang David's praises were all too willing to give him up to Saul, yet David was able to survive and evade Saul.

It's estimated that David spent 7-8 years running from Saul and living in Philistia. This might seem unfair after being promised the throne of Israel. Instead of palaces he lived in caves. Instead of being protected he was hunted. Despite this, David remained faithful to God. Surely these years of running, relying on God, and leading a rag-tag group of misfits helped shape David into the king he would be one day—the greatest king in Israel's history!

Suggested Reading Schedule

Monday: 1 Samuel 22-23
 Tuesday: 1 Samuel 24-25
 Wednesday: 1 Samuel 26-27
 Thursday: 1 Samuel 28-29
 Friday: 1 Samuel 30-31



Real Witchcraft

In last week's reading, we noticed Samuel's rebuke towards Saul, "For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft..." (15:23). Saul hadn't actually committed witchcraft or consorted with such, but the Lord was clear about how He viewed rebellion. Sin typically leads to more sin. In 1 Samuel 28, we find Saul at the end of his rope. He's facing off with the Philistines, and he's terrified. Samuel is dead, and there's no word from God. Despite all his efforts to obtain a word from the Lord, there is nothing. Thus, Saul resorts to his usual tendency of taking things into his own hands. He seeks out a witch, and asks her to "bring up Samuel" so he can speak with him. This time, Saul *is* quite literally partaking in witchcraft. That's how rebellion goes. We may start with something "small," but rebellion begets rebellion, until we find ourselves doing the unthinkable. That's why rebellion and sin must be stopped immediately, before they take us down a road we never meant to travel.

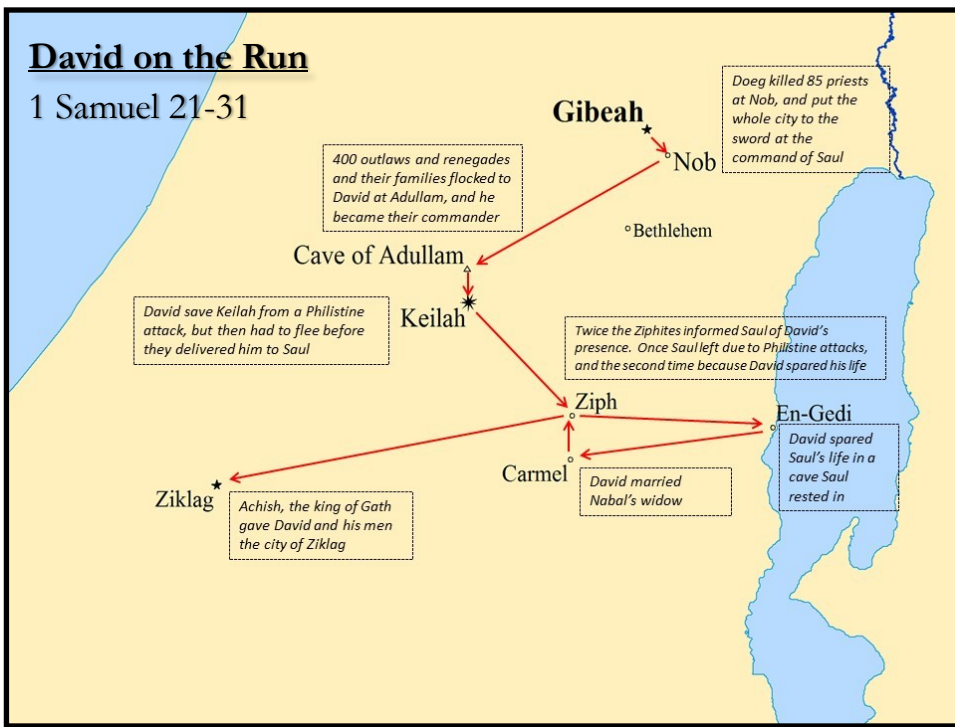
Psalms in Distress

Some of David's Psalms were written during his time running from Saul. Here are some Psalms that are either known or suspected to have been written during that period of David's life. Why not supplement your reading this week with some of these Psalms?

Psalm 7
Psalm 18
Psalm 34
Psalm 52
Psalm 54
Psalm 56
Psalm 59
Psalm 63
Psalm 142

David on the Run

1 Samuel 21-31



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