

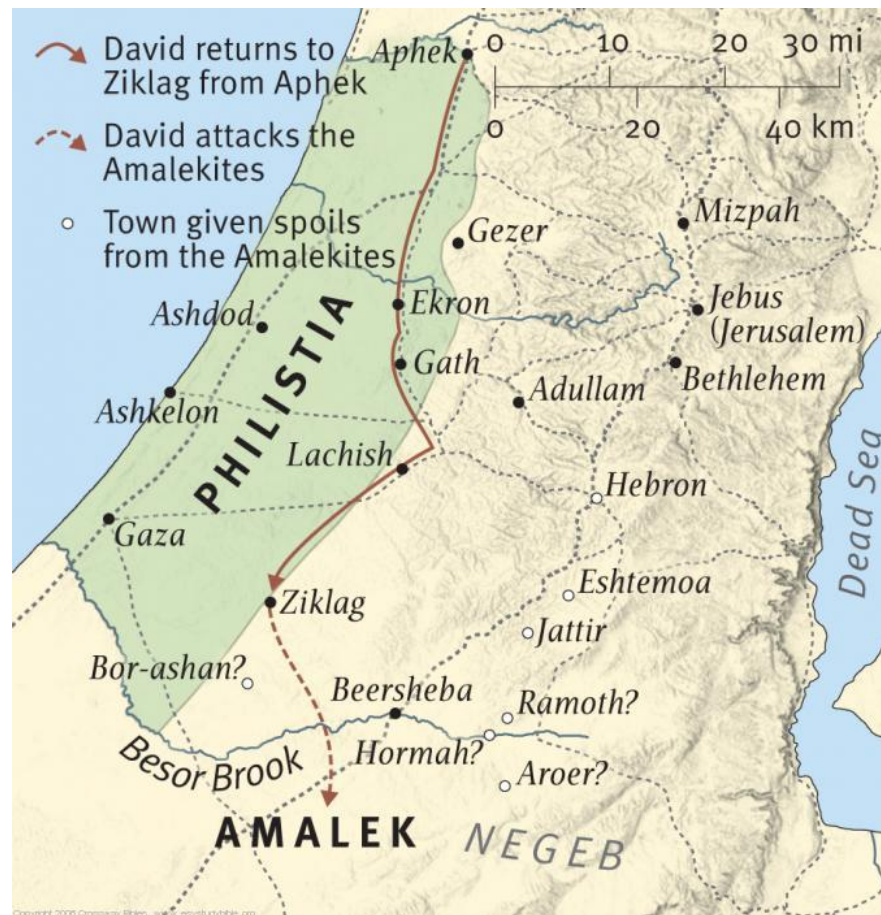
NOON BIBLE STUDY: 1 SAMUEL 29-31

1 SAMUEL 29:1-7 - PHILISTINE LORDS UNEASY ABOUT HAVING DAVID AMONGST THEIR RANKS

V. 4-5 - THE PHILISTINE LEADERS ARE CONCERNED ABOUT DAVID'S LOYALTY. THOUGH THEY UNDERSTAND HE HAS SERVED ACHISH FAITHFULLY UP TO THIS POINT, FACING SAUL AND THE ARMY OF ISRAEL MIGHT BE THE MOMENT THAT CHANGES DAVID'S HEART/ALLEGIANCE. THEY ALSO RECOGNIZE THAT DAVID IS THE ONE WHOM THE NATIONAL SONG HAD BEEN SUNG - IN REGARDS TO HIS VICTORIES, AGAINST THE PHILISTINES!

1 SAMUEL 29:8-11 - ACHISH INFORMS DAVID. DAVID RETURNS TO THE LAND OF THE PHILISTINES

V. 8 - IF DAVID HAD ANY QUALMS ABOUT BEING JOINED WITH THE PHILISTINES AGAINST ISRAEL, HE SHOWS NO INDICATION OF THAT HERE. PERHAPS DAVID RECOGNIZES THAT THIS IS HIS WAY "OUT".



1 SAMUEL 30:1-5 - DAVID RETURNS TO ZIKLAG TO FIND IT DESTROYED BY THE AMALEKITES, WITH THE CITY'S INHABITANTS KIDNAPPED.

V. 4-5 - DAVID'S WIVES WERE KIDNAPPED. THERE IS TREMENDOUS GRIEF AMONG DAVID AND THE PEOPLE WHO WERE WITH HIM. IMAGINE RETURNING HOME AFTER A BRIEF TRIP TO FIND YOUR HOME DESTROYED AND YOUR FAMILY TAKEN. THIS IS WHAT HAS HAPPENED!

1 SAMUEL 30:6 - THE PEOPLE TURN THEIR ANGER TOWARDS DAVID

NLT: "DAVID WAS NOW IN GREAT DANGER BECAUSE ALL HIS MEN WERE VERY BITTER ABOUT LOSING THEIR SONS AND DAUGHTERS, AND THEY BEGAN TO TALK OF STONING HIM. BUT DAVID FOUND STRENGTH IN THE LORD HIS GOD."

1 SAMUEL 30:7-8 - DAVID SEEKS THE LORD THROUGH THE EPHOD

LET'S PAUSE FOR A MOMENT TO CONSIDER SOME OF THE MOMENTS OF DAVID'S LIFE SO FAR. HE IS LEFT OUT OF THE FAMILY MEETING WITH SAMUEL THE PROPHET TO TEND THE SHEEP (16). HE GETS ANOINTED KING AND YET NO ONE KNOWS IT (16). HE IS MOCKED WHEN HE BELIEVES HE CAN DEFEAT GOLIATH (17). HE GETS GIVEN A DIFFERENT WIFE THAN THE ONE HE WAS PROMISED BY SAUL (18). HE IS

ALMOST KILLED MULTIPLE TIMES BY HIS FATHER IN LAW (18, 20, ETC). HE IS FORCED TO LEAVE HIS WIFE AND BECOME A FUGITIVE (19). THE GODLY MEN WHO HELP HIM ARE ALL VICIOUSLY MURDERED BY DOEG THE EDMITE, BECAUSE THEY HELPED DAVID, NO LESS (20-22). HE IS LIED TO (MULTIPLE TIMES) BY THE MAN DETERMINED TO KILL HIM (24). HE IS INSULTED BY NABAL (25). HIS WIFE IS MARRIED TO ANOTHER MAN WHILE HE IS ON THE RUN (25:44). HE IS FORCED TO LEAVE HIS HOMETLAND AND MOVE IN WITH HIS PEOPLE'S ARCH ENEMIES (27). HE IS SENT HOME FROM THE BATTLE, AFTER HE IS PERCEIVED TO BE A LESS THAN LOYAL SOLDIER (29). AND NOW, WHEN HE RETURNS HOME, HE FINDS HIS CITY BURNED AND HIS WIVES KIDNAPPED, ALONG WITH ALL OF HIS MEN'S WIVES AND CHILDREN. AND THERE IS TALK OF EVERYONE BLAMING HIM FOR THIS HAPPENING IN THE FIRST PLACE.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO IN A TIME LIKE THIS? DAVID, YET AGAIN, "STRENGTHENS HIMSELF IN THE LORD HIS GOD" AND THEN SEEKS THE LORD, KNOWING THIS IS WHERE HE FINDS STRENGTH, HOPE, LIFE AND DIRECTION. HE IS CONVINCED THAT THE LORD IS GOOD AND HIS STEADFAST LOVE ENDURES FOREVER. THE LORD IS NOT JUST "A GOD" OR "THE GOD OF ABRAHAM, ISAAC AND JACOB" OR THE NATIONAL DEITY OF ISRAEL - THE LORD IS DAVID'S GOD!! WHAT AN EXAMPLE!

56X TOTAL IN PSALMS - "MY GOD" 37 SPECIFICALLY BY DAVID, 13 UNATTRIBUTED (6 NOT BY DAVID)

V. 8 - THE LORD DIRECTS DAVID TO PURSUE THE AMALEKITES WHO DID THIS EVIL.

1 SAMUEL 30:9-10 - DAVID HAS 400 MEN. 200 WERE NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO PASS THROUGH THE BROOK.

1 SAMUEL 30:11-17 - DAVID AIDED BY SERVANT OF AN AMALEKITE. BRINGS VICTORY AND VINDICATION

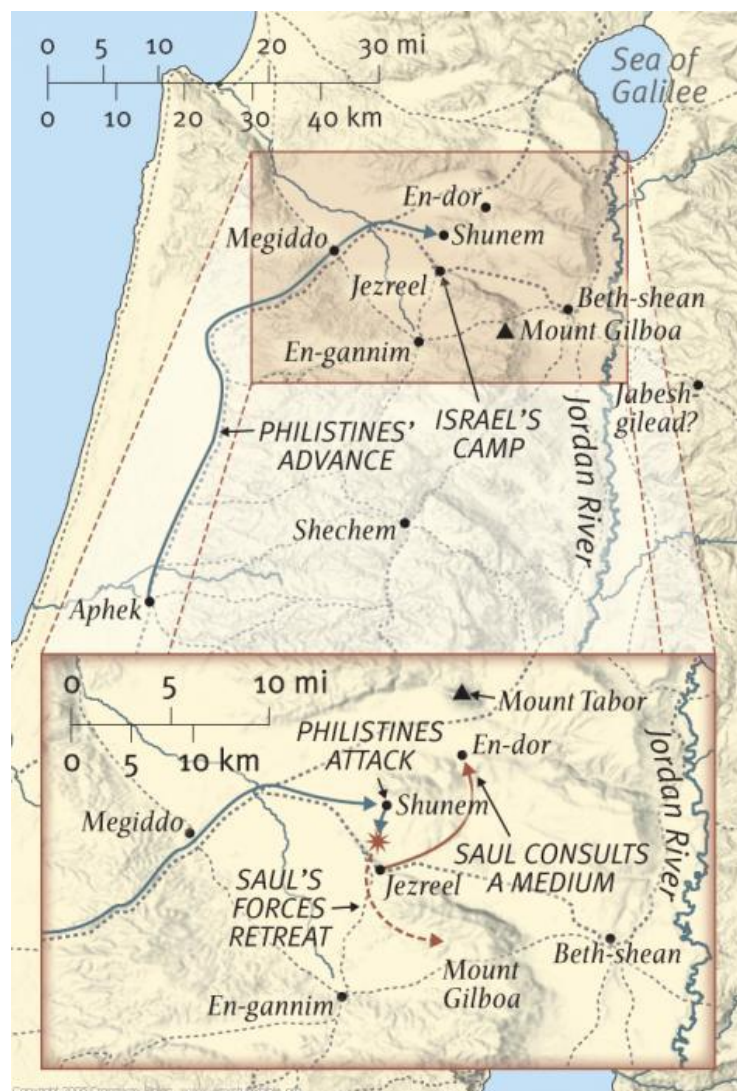
V. 15 - THE AID IS CONCERNED ABOUT HIS OWN WELL-BEING AND DOESN'T HAVE STRONG ALLEGIANCE TO AMALEK.

1 SAMUEL 30:18-25 - DAVID RECOVERS EVERYONE AND EVERYTHING.

V. 23-25 - DAVID IS A COMPASSIONATE LEADER. HE ALSO RECOGNIZES THAT THE SIEGE UPON ZIKLAG HAPPENED BECAUSE ALL OF THE MEN LEFT. PERHAPS IF SOME OF THEM HAD STAYED, LIKE IN THIS CASE, THE KIDNAPPING WOULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED. THIS WILL LATER BECOME AN ORDINANCE IN ISRAEL DURING DAVID'S REIGN.

Q - WOULD HE HAVE HAD SUCH SUCCESS IF HE HAD NOT SOUGHT THE LORD?

1 SAMUEL 30:26-31 - DAVID SENDS GIFTS TO HIS FAMILIAR CITIES IN JUDAH



1 SAMUEL 31:1-6 - ISRAEL DEFEATED. SAUL'S SONS KILLED. SAUL DIES.

V. 4 - SAUL KILLS HIMSELF.

THIS IS A HEART-BREAKING MOMENT. THE FIRST KING OF ISRAEL, WHO HAD THE POTENTIAL TO RULE GOD'S PEOPLE AND HAVE GREAT SUCCESS DIES BY HIS OWN SWORD. ALSO, HIS THREE SONS ARE KILLED (SAUL MAY HAVE HAD A 4TH SON, ISHVI, BUT WE NEVER HEAR OF WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM). WE CAN RIGHTLY CONCLUDE THAT THE NEXT GENERATION OF THE MONARCHY HAS JUST BEEN CUT OFF (CP. 1 CHRON 10.10). SPECIFICALLY SAD IS THE DEATH OF JONATHAN, THE FAITHFUL FRIEND TO DAVID AND DEVOTED SERVANT OF THE LORD. (MORE ON THIS IN 2 SAMUEL)

THIS ALL HAPPENED JUST AS "SAMUEL" HAD SPOKEN TO SAUL IN EN-DOR:

1 SAMUEL 28:19 - "MOREOVER THE LORD WILL ALSO GIVE OVER ISRAEL ALONG WITH YOU INTO THE HANDS OF THE PHILISTINES, THEREFORE TOMORROW YOU AND YOUR SONS WILL BE WITH ME. INDEED THE LORD WILL GIVE OVER THE ARMY OF ISRAEL INTO THE HANDS OF THE PHILISTINES!"

1 SAMUEL 31:7 - REPERCUSSIONS OF ISRAEL'S DEFEAT

THE PEOPLE LIVING ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE JEZREEL VALLEY LEAVE THEIR CITIES, ASSUMING THEY WILL BE THE PHILISTINE ARMY'S NEXT TARGET. KNOWING THEIR KING AND HIS SONS ARE DEAD, THEY HAND THEIR CITIES OVER TOT THE PHILISTINES, WITHOUT EVEN A FIGHT. (CONTRAST THIS TO JONATHAN'S BRAVERY IN 1 SAMUEL 14 WHICH SENT RIPPLE EFFECTS OF FAITH THROUGHOUT THE LAND). THIS IS A GOOD TIME FOR US TO REMEMBER WHAT SAMUEL FIRST SAID WHEN THE PEOPLE ASKED FOR A KING:

1 SAMUEL 12:13-15 - "NOW THEREFORE, HERE IS THE KING WHOM YOU HAVE CHOSEN, WHOM YOU HAVE ASKED FOR, AND BEHOLD, THE LORD HAS SET A KING OVER YOU. 14 "IF YOU WILL FEAR THE LORD AND SERVE HIM, AND LISTEN TO HIS VOICE AND NOT REBEL AGAINST THE COMMAND OF THE LORD, THEN BOTH YOU AND ALSO THE KING WHO REIGNS OVER YOU WILL FOLLOW THE LORD YOUR GOD. 15 "IF YOU WILL NOT LISTEN TO THE VOICE OF THE LORD, BUT REBEL AGAINST THE COMMAND OF THE LORD, THEN THE HAND OF THE LORD WILL BE AGAINST YOU, AS IT WAS AGAINST YOUR FATHERS.

1 SAMUEL 12:24-25 - "ONLY FEAR THE LORD 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, BOTH YOU AND YOUR KING WILL BE SWEEP AWAY."

1 SAMUEL 31:8-10 - THE PHILISTINE'S FIND AND SHAME THE BODY OF SAUL & HIS SONS

THIS APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN A COMMON PRACTICE BY VICTORIOUS ARMIES. AFTER COLLECTING THE VALUABLE BELONGINGS AND WEAPONS OF THE OPPOSING ARMY'S DEAD, THEY WOULD BRING BACK SIGNIFICANT MEMBERS OF THE OPPOSITION AS A TROPHY OF SORTS IN THEIR OWN LAND. (REMEMBER WHEN DAVID BROUGHT BACK THE HEAD OF GOLIATH TO ISRAEL - 1 SAM 17:54). THEY ALSO "POSTED" HIS BODY IN A TEMPLE IN BETH-SHAN.

1 SAMUEL 31:11-13 - JABESH-GILEAD

V. 12 - SOME VALIANT MEN FROM JABESH-GILEAD TOOK THE BODIES OF SAUL AND HIS SONS FROM BETH-SHAN AND HONORED THEM WITH A BURIAL AND MOURNING PERIOD. JABESH-GILEAD WAS THE SITE OF ONE OF SAUL'S GREATEST MOMENTS AS KING, WHERE HE ORGANIZED THE NATION TO SAVE THEM WHEN THE AMMONITES HAD BESIEGED THEM (1 SAMUEL 11). THIS WAS A 20-22 MILE ROUND-TRIP JOURNEY.

1 SAMUEL:

AS WE CLOSE THIS BOOK AND OPEN A NEW ONE, WE FIND OURSELVES IN A MIDNIGHT HOUR. DARKNESS, DEATH AND DEFEAT LIES THICK OVER THE LAND OF THE PEOPLE OF ABRAHAM. THEIR KING IS DEAD, THE ENEMIES EMBOLDENED AND THEMSELVES ON THE RUN. BUT JUST AS THE STRIKE OF MIDNIGHT CAN SIGNAL THE END OF NIGHT, IT ALSO RESOUNDS THE CHIME OF THE NEW DAY. AFTER NIGHT COMES MORNING. THE SHADOWS OF NIGHT MELT AWAY WITH THE NEW RISING SUN. THOUGH THE REIGN OF SAUL HAS BEEN THROWN DOWN, THE RULE OF DAVID AND THE TIME OF ZION IS RISING ON THE HORIZON.