

## The Jewish Kingdom - Lesson 22

### Friends and Family of the Fugitive David

David has narrowly escaped from Saul and the Philistines and is on the run, but not alone. Meanwhile, Saul commits one of the most heinous crimes in the history of Israel.

#### **56. David at Adullam - I Samuel 22:1-2**

- David heads back into Judah after fleeing King Achish and Gath.
- Adullam - was an ancient Canaanite settlement located in Judah near Philistia. We find Judah meeting an Adullamite in Genesis 38:1 and its king is listed among the conquered foes in Joshua 12:15. It is believed to have been fortified and the cave spoken of may have been part of those fortifications.
- vs. 1 - note that his family met him here. They too would have been targets for Saul.
- vs. 2 - the description of these men sounds like they were a bunch of outcasts, and many were. What is wonderful here is that it appears from these came many of David's "mighty men" that we read of in I Chronicles 12.
- David pens Psalm 142 during this time.

#### **57. David in Moab - I Samuel 22:3-4**

- Moab was a kingdom and people located southwest of Israel. They were descended from Lot and his daughters (Genesis 19:37)
- Mizpeh would have been located on the eastern side of the Dead Sea.
- Why did David feel safe turning to the Moabites? Perhaps because he was the great-grandson of Ruth.
- It is wonderful to see David's care for his parents in this time of crisis.
- Sadly, Jewish tradition says that the Moabites dealt treacherously with David and killed both of his parents. David will return to Moab years later and conquer it in II Samuel 8.

#### **58. David Returns to Judah - I Samuel 22:5**

- Gad - a prophet that had a special relationship to David. We will meet him again a few times.
- Forest of Hareth - this place is unknown to us today, but many believe it was near Adullam or Jerusalem.

#### **59. Slaughter of the Priests at Nob - I Samuel 22:6-23**

- About the time that David returns to Judah, it is reported to Saul about his condition and the people following him
- vs. 6 - Note that Saul is still just sitting around at this point, and that no one has taken that spear away from him!
- vs. 7-8 - Saul's paranoia targets not only his servants and soldiers, but also his son!

- vs. 9 - Remember Doeg from last week? I told you he'd be back!
- vs. 11 - Saul calls basically the entire household of the High Priest before him.
- vs. 12 - can you feel the contempt in the way he addresses the High Priest?
- vs. 14-15 - Ahimelech's defense is two-fold. First, that David has honorable and a faithful servant of Saul so that Ahimelech had no reason to suspect him of any crime or treason. Second, that he had a history with David and was ignorant of Saul's hatred toward him.
- vs. 16 - Saul condemns this man and all his family to death for simply aiding David. Also remember who these people were: they were the head of God's holy priesthood.
- vs. 17 - Even Saul's servants knew this was the wrong thing to do.
- vs. 18 - Doeg has no qualms about committing these murders. He slays 85 priests and possibly more that came with them.
- vs. 19 - Saul's anger is not lessened and now he moves against the entire city of Nob. It is interesting here to not that he is more thorough in executing God's priests than he was in dealing with the Amalekites!
- Abiathar - perhaps hearing of the execution of his father, he takes some of the holy things, such as the High Priest's ephod and the Urim and Thummim, and escapes to David. He will serve as High Priest into the reign of Solomon.
- David here pens Psalm 52.