

## The Life of David – Lesson 5

# David's Search for Refuge

### 14. David Flees to Nob

*I Samuel 21:1-9, 1065 B.C., Age 20*

- Nob is maybe 4-5 miles southeast of Gibeah.
- The bread he gives to David is the previous week's shewbread from the tabernacle. See Leviticus 24:5-9.
  - This event is also spoken of by Christ – Matthew 12:3-4, Mark 2:25-27, Luke 6:3-4
- Also note (1) the presence of Doeg and (2) David obtaining Goliath's sword.
- In I Samuel 22:10 we also find that David sought God's direction while there, possibly using Urim and Thummim - Numbers 27:21, I Samuel 14:37-45 etc.

### 15. David Flees to Gath

*I Samuel 21:10-15, 1065 B.C., Age 20*

- David now turns in desperation to Israel's enemies, the Philistines.
- David senses his mistake and escapes by acting like a mad man.

### 16. David Flees to Adullam

*I Samuel 22:1-2, 1065 B.C., Age 20*

- David seeks to hide himself in the remote caves of Judah, about 13 miles west of Bethlehem.
- Here his family and others begin to rally to David, many of these become powerful fighters in his "mighty men". For more on these warriors, see II Samuel 23:8-39 and I Chronicles 11:10-47.

#### ♪ Psalm 34

- This Psalm is an acrostic in Hebrew, written to commemorate David's deliverance from the Philistines at Gath.
- Spurgeon: "It is well to mark our mercies with well carved memorials. God deserves our best handiwork."

#### ♪ Psalm 56

- From the psalm's title:
  - *Jonathelemrechokim* "may be rendered, 'concerning the mute dove among them that are afar off'" (John Gill) and is likely the name of tune.
  - "Michtam, meaning 'gold,' 'A Golden Psalm'; this means excellence or mystery." – B.H. Carroll.

♪ **Psalm 57**

- *Altaschith* means “destroy not”. Spurgeon: “This petition is a very sententious prayer, as full as it is brief, and well worthy to be the motto for a sacred song.” Likely the tune, also seen in Psalms 58, 59, and 75.

♪ **Psalm 142**

- *Maschil* means “‘instruction’, a didactic poem.” – B.H. Carroll
- Spurgeon: “The gloom of the cave is over the psalm, and yet as if standing at the mouth of it the prophet poet sees a bright light a little beyond.”

## 17. David Travels to Moab

*I Samuel 22:3-5, 1064 B.C., Age 20*

- I do not think David sought refuge in Moab, but rather he sought a safe place for his parents. After all, his great-grandmother was Ruth the Moabitess!

## 18. The Crimes of Saul and Doeg

*I Samuel 22:6-23, 1064 B.C.*

- I believe these crimes rank among the vilest crimes in the record of Scripture. While Doeg is committing these atrocities we must not forget that it is all at Saul’s direction.
- vs. 7-8 – note Saul’s paranoia
- vs. 14-15 – Ahimelech’s defense is ignorance. He had assumed David was still a favored person in Saul’s court when he arrived that day seeking aid.
- vs. 18-19 – Saul, who would not fully destroy the Amalekites (I Samuel 15), has not problem ordering the execution of God’s priests for no actual sin or crime.
- vs. 20 – Abiathar is the lone survivor of the High Priest’s family and takes on that role.
- As hideous as this crime is, it is also working to fulfill the prophecy of I Samuel 2:35-36. Both Ahimelech and Abiathar were descendants of Eli through his son Phineas (I Samuel 14:3), and all were believed to be descended from Aaron’s son Ithamar (I Chronicles 24:3). However, the High Priest was supposed to be a descendant of Aaron’s other son Eleazar (Numbers 20:22-29). This was restored with Abiathar was deposed by Solomon (I Kings 2:27) and Zadok became the sole High Priest (I Kings 2:35)

♪ **Psalm 52**

- I see Doeg as the “anti-David”, an idea reinforced in this Psalm.
- *Selah* means “Singers, pause”. – B.H. Carroll.

♪ **Psalm 140**

- Spurgeon titles this psalm “The Cry Of A Hunted Soul”.