

BOOK OF 1 SAMUEL
DAVID ON THE RUN!—PART 2
1 SAMUEL 22:1-23

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Introduction

Last week we began to see David on the run as a fugitive from King Saul. He is on the run for his very life as he received a clear signal from his dear friend Jonathan that Jonathan's father, King Saul, was bent on killing him.

I. DAVID FLED TO A PLACE CALLED NOB. (1 Samuel 21:1-9)

A. David's Had An Audience With Ahimilech the Priest. (Vs 1)

B. David's Deception Before The Priest. (Vs 2)

He lied to the priest about what he was doing making it appear he was on a secret mission for King Saul.

C. David's Requested Bread From The Priest. (Vs 3-6)

There wasn't any bread available except the hallowed or holy shewbread.

D. A Brief Mention Of Doeg The Edomite. (Vs 7)

E. David Secured A Weapon From The Priest. (Vs 8-9)

He secured the sword of Goliath that had been put up after David slew Goliath and cut his head off with it.

**II. DAVID FLED TO A PLACE CALLED GATH.
(1 Samuel 21:10-14)**

The Philistine city where Goliath was from. Believing that his life was in danger he pretended to be crazy!

We saw how that Psalm 34 is a Psalm that David wrote at this particular time in his life!

Tonight we see that...

**III. DAVID WENT TO A PLACE CALLED ADULLAM.
(1 Samuel 22:1-5)**

He left Gath and actually escaped to the cave of Adullam.

His family got news that he was hiding there and came to see him. (Most likely they came because Saul was not only coming after David, but after David's family in trying to look for David).

Many of those who were *in distress* or *in debt* or *discontented* gathered around him, and he became the leader of 400 men.

His elderly parents couldn't be staying with him in the cave, so he made arrangement for them to get a refuge in Mizpah of Moab.

It is probable that **David's descent from Ruth the Moabitess** may have had something to do with his seeking an asylum for Jesse, Ruth's grandson, in the land of her birth.

A prophet by the name of Gad told David that he should not stay where he was, but rather that he should go back to the land of Judah.

We see that David obeyed and went to the forest of Hareth. The LORD DIRECTS his actions here!

David may be running for his life as a fugitive, but **the LORD is with him—providing for him, delivering him, and directing him!**

Throughout this ordeal, we see that David kept up his conversations or prayers with the LORD. In fact, we will look at a couple more of the Psalms that he wrote during this time!

He is on the RUN but not without God! He is running with God!

In **Psalm 142** we can feel **his anguish at his circumstances**, but we can also sense **his dependence on the LORD!**

Psalm 57 was his prayer to God when he was in the cave at Adullam.

We are almost led to sing and worship with David in this Psalm!

We may tend to think that we need to get out of our difficult circumstances and be freed from our troubles before we can sing and make music, but that ought not to be so.

David worshiped God in the midst of it all!

To him, there was no correlation between what he was experiencing and the character of God.

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The LORD was good to David. He was David's true refuge. David was confident that the LORD would deliver him.

He knew the LORD had His purposes. He also knew the LORD's great love and His faithfulness in his life by experience!

This was the posture of David's heart. No wonder God declares that this man DAVID was "*a man after God's own heart!*"

His trust in the character of the LORD did not waver, no matter what!

This was the right perspective but it is a difficult one for many people!

We might be tempted to think, if things are in a mess, how can God be good? If I'm running for my life, how can God be loving?

But we shouldn't use hardships to COLOR God (or should I say to DISCOLOR God!). God does not and will not change!

Sing like David does in **Psalm 57:7!** ("*I shall not be moved!*")

Remember that God is on our side! He is in the suffering with us!
He will provide, deliver and direct us through those difficult times!

When the PROPHET GAD tells David (22:5) not to stay in the stronghold but go back to Judah, DAVID LEFT and went to the forest of Hereth. God directed Him there through His Word to the prophet.

As simple as that. It comes from the prophet. It's the Word from God!

This is the first time we meet the prophet GAD in the Bible. 2 Samuel 24:11 and 1 Chronicles 21:9 tells us GAD became David's seer.

David had 3 prophets who guided and instructed him throughout his life—Samuel, Nathan and Gad.

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1 Chronicles 29:29 Now the acts of David the king, first and last, behold, they are written in the book of Samuel the seer, and in the book of Nathan the prophet, and in the book of Gad the seer,

Prophets spoke God's word and will! We can tell David's heart towards God by the way he responds to God's prophets!

We see his great respect for the prophets words. Later, in 2 Samuel 12:7 when prophet Nathan confronted him (regarding his adultery and murder), he repents immediately.

As a King, no one is above him (authority over the entire nation). But when it comes to the words of prophets (Samuel, Nathan, Gad), when God's Word is concerned, we see DAVID'S SUBMISSION!

Prophets words were the highest authority to him—absolute authority! He recognized that the LORD is the King of all kings! This king listened to the King of kings.

This is the reason why he is called the "*man after God's own heart.*" (1 Sam 13:14). This is one thing we need to emulate – his HONOR and RESPECT for the Word of God!

We can always tell a person's heart towards God by the way he or she responds to God's Word.

IF YOU ARE HIS, WHEN YOU ARE SUFFERING, remember:

1. GOD IS IN YOU AND SO HE IS WITH YOU!
He can transform even the bad things into something good.
He promises never leave you nor forsake you.
2. KEEP THE LINE WITH GOD OPEN!
David PRAYED throughout the ordeal, as the psalms reveals.

He did not blame God nor abandon God!

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3. **KEEP FAITH THROUGH SUBMISSION TO GOD!**
Nothing can stand in God's way. We will triumph in the end.
God and His will, will ultimately prevail!

What God had started – anointing David as King - He will finish it.

The same is true in our lives:

Philippians 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

We just need to wait and persevere.

IV. DOEG THE TATLETALE AND TROUBLE MAKER!
(1 Samuel 22:6-23)

Look at **Psalm 52** that was written from this time period about David's observations and thoughts on this individual.

1. The Wickedness Of Doeg. (Psalm 52:1-5)

A. What Doeg Did. (Psalm 52:1-4)

1. Doeg's Boastings. (Vs 1)

We see that he was a mighty man in the flesh who loved to boast in mischief.

2. Doeg's Tongue. (Vs 2)

We see that Doeg's tongue worked deceitfully while he was continually devising mischief.

He had no qualms about telling a lie to bring about evil to someone or to do them in!

David's description here brings to mind James' admonitions in James 3 regarding the tongue. Oh what a powerful weapon the tongue is either for good or against good!

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3. **Doeg's Temperment. (Vs 3-4)**
- a. **He loved evil more than good!**
 - b. **He loved lying more than truth and righteousness!**
 - c. **He loved all devouring words!**
(The idea that is that he loved to get folks in deep trouble!)

B. What Doeg Deserved. (Vs 5)

This is actually a prophecy of David regarding Doeg's end.

The Wickedness of Doeg...

2. The Well-Being Of David. (Psalm 52:6-9)

A. The Strengthening Of His Friends. (Vs 6-7)

B. The Strengthening Of His Faith. (Vs 8-9)