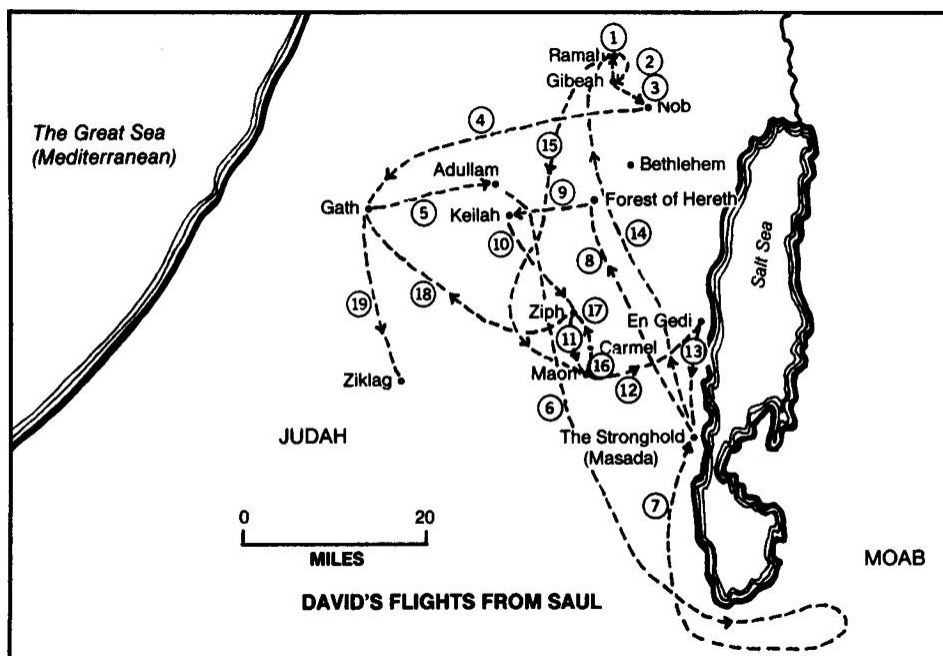


Life of David

A Man After God's Own Heart

David Spares Saul

- After leaving Maon, David went to the strongholds of Engedi [1 Sam 23:29].
 - Located on the western shore of the Dead Sea, Engedi was a city in Judah [Josh 15:21, 62].
 - After climbing a few hundred yards inland from the Dead Sea, the beautiful falls of Engedi come into view.
 - Engedi was known for its vineyards [Song 1:14].



- When Saul had finished his pursuit of the Philistines, he once again turned his attention to David [1 Sam 24:1].
 - Saul assembled 3,000 chosen men and went after David [1 Sam 24:2].
 - Keep in mind that David had about 600 men with him [1 Sam 23:13].
- Along the way Saul needed to relieve himself and unknowingly chose the cave where David and his men were hiding [1 Sam 24:3].
 - David's men were convinced this was the fulfillment of prophecy [1 Sam 24:4a].
 - The direct prophecy referenced by David's men is not recorded in Scripture.
 - Jonathan had pointed out that David would be the next king and that Saul's hand would not be successful against David, but he made no mention of David's hand against Saul [1 Sam 23:17].

- David responded to the urging of his men, but not with violence [1 Sam 24:4b].
 - Though this act would show David's innocence, it still bothered his conscience [1 Sam 24:5].
 - David humbly recognized that Saul was the Lord's anointed and knew that he and his men should not raise their hands against Saul [1 Sam 24:6-7].
- David confronted Saul so he could plead his case before him [1 Sam 24:8].
 - David started by asking why Saul had listened to the lies of certain men [1 Sam 24:9].
 - David continued his argument by stating that he could have killed Saul, but did not [1 Sam 24:10].
 - David showed Saul the edge of his robe as proof that he meant him no harm [1 Sam 24:11].
 - David called upon the Lord to judge between the two of them [1 Sam 24:12].
 - David then quoted an ancient proverb and repeated his assertion that he would not raise his hand against Saul [1 Sam 24:13].
 - David was self-deprecating as he stated his claim to be unworthy of Saul's pursuit [1 Sam 24:14].
 - David concluded his argument by once again calling upon the Lord to judge between the two of them, being willing to lay down his life if that were the Lord's will [1 Sam 24:15].
- Saul responded with sincere grief and sorrow [1 Sam 24:16].
 - Saul recognized that David had a golden opportunity to kill him [1 Sam 24:17-18].
 - Saul realized that this was truly an uncommon act of good that David had done [1 Sam 24:19].
 - Saul now finally understood why God had chosen David to be king of Israel [1 Sam 24:20].
 - Saul asked David to make a vow that, once he was in power as the king of Israel, he would not cut off Saul's descendants [1 Sam 24:21].
 - David agreed to Saul's vow, but chose to remain in Engedi rather than return with Saul [1 Sam 24:22].