

SAUL, DAVID, & SOLOMON

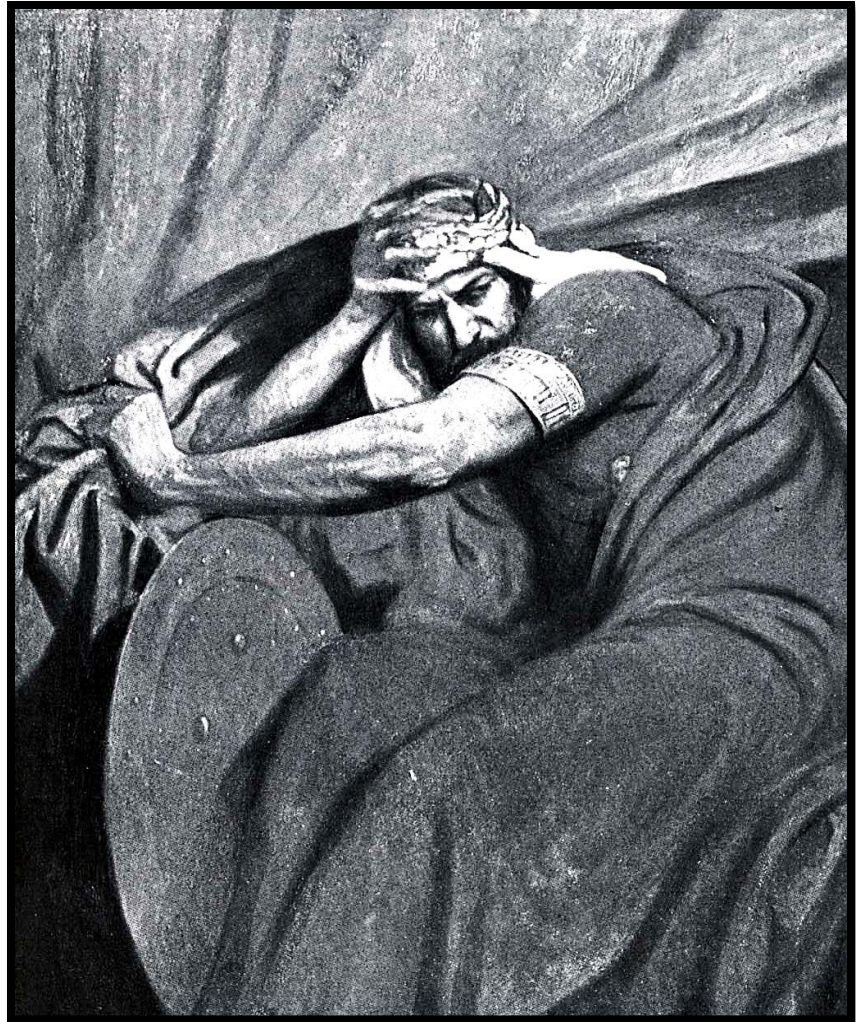
Lessons In Faith

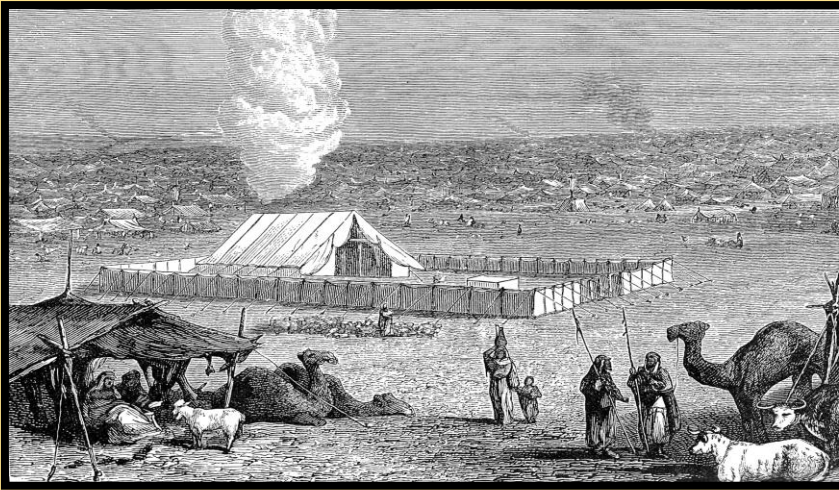




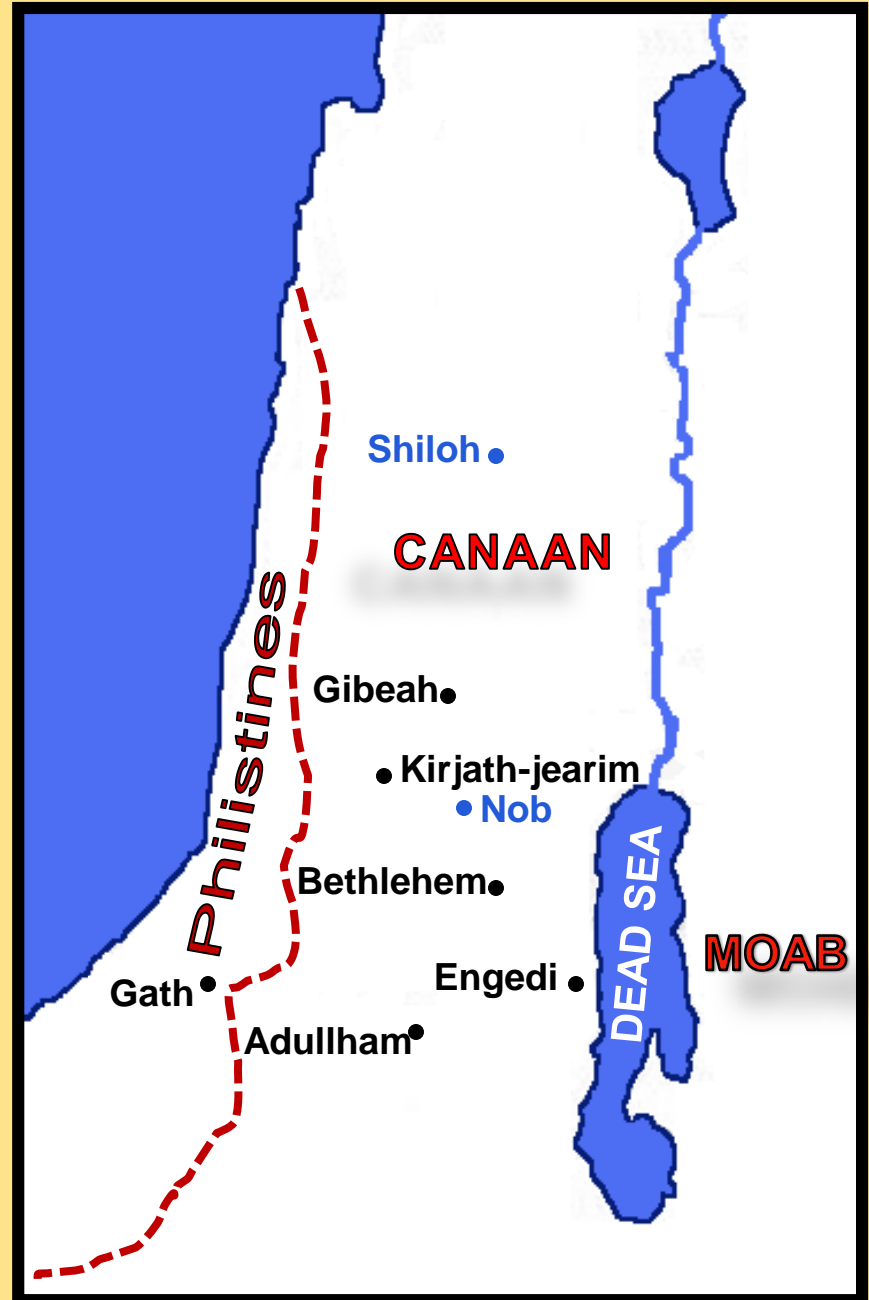
I SAMUEL 21

David's popularity turned King Saul against him. Saul actually wanted to kill David, but his son Jonathan's friendship for David continued.





David, in distress, went to the tabernacle of God, now pitched at **Nob**, a city in the tribe of Benjamin. There is no account given about why or when the tabernacle had been moved from **Shiloh**. At this time Ahimelech was the high priest at the tabernacle.



Jonathan, the prince, could not protect David.
Samuel the prophet couldn't either.
So, next he looked to Ahimelech the priest for protection.



Jonathan, the prince, could not protect David.
Samuel the prophet couldn't either.
So, next he looked to Elimelech the priest for protection.

**JONATHAN PLEADED WITH HIS
FATHER, KING SAUL TO
RECONCILE WITH DAVID—**

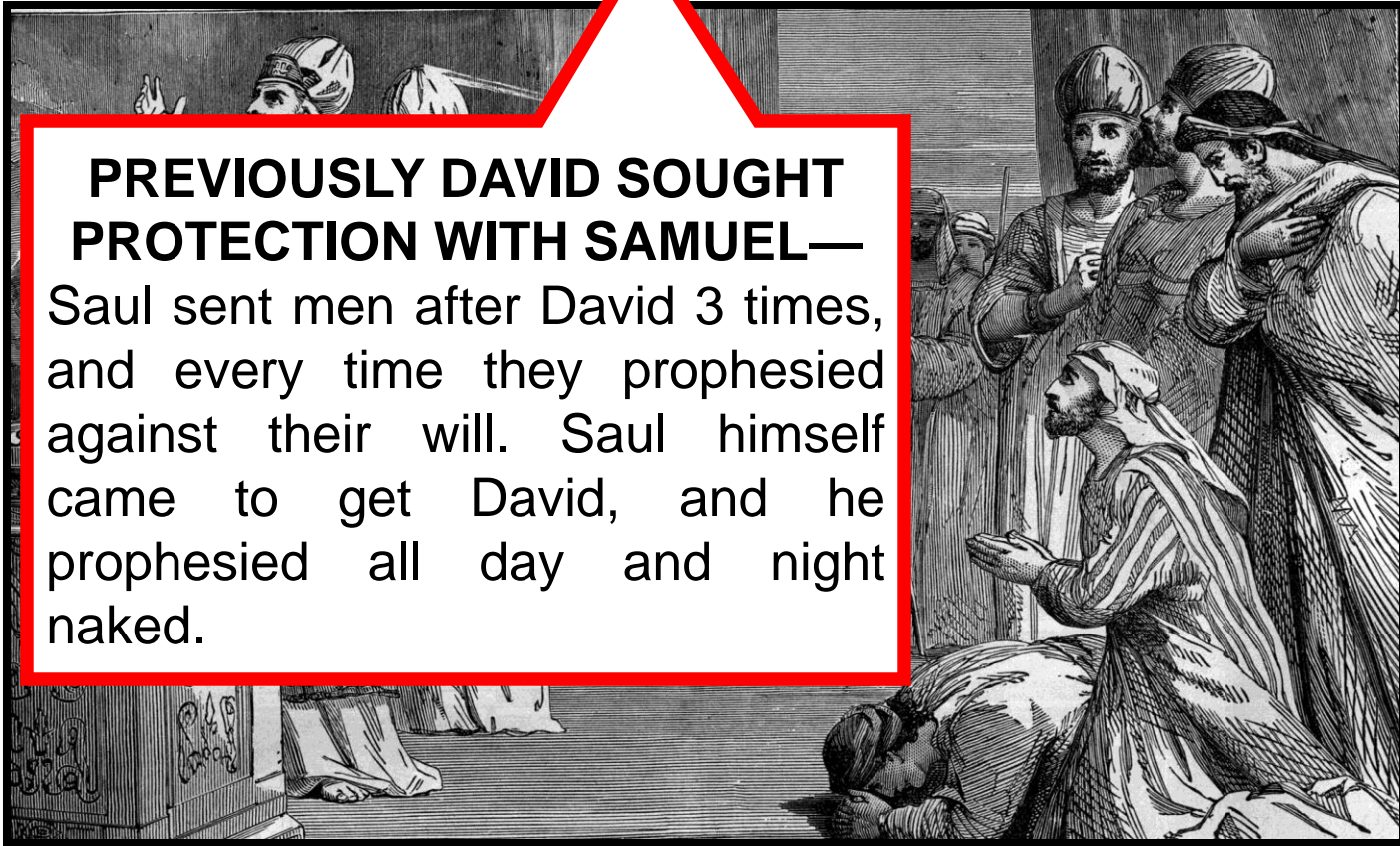
Saul verbally attacked Jonathan
and then threw his spear at him.



Jonathan, the prince, could not protect David.
Samuel the prophet couldn't either.
So, next he looked to Ahimelech the priest for protection.

**PREVIOUSLY DAVID SOUGHT
PROTECTION WITH SAMUEL—**

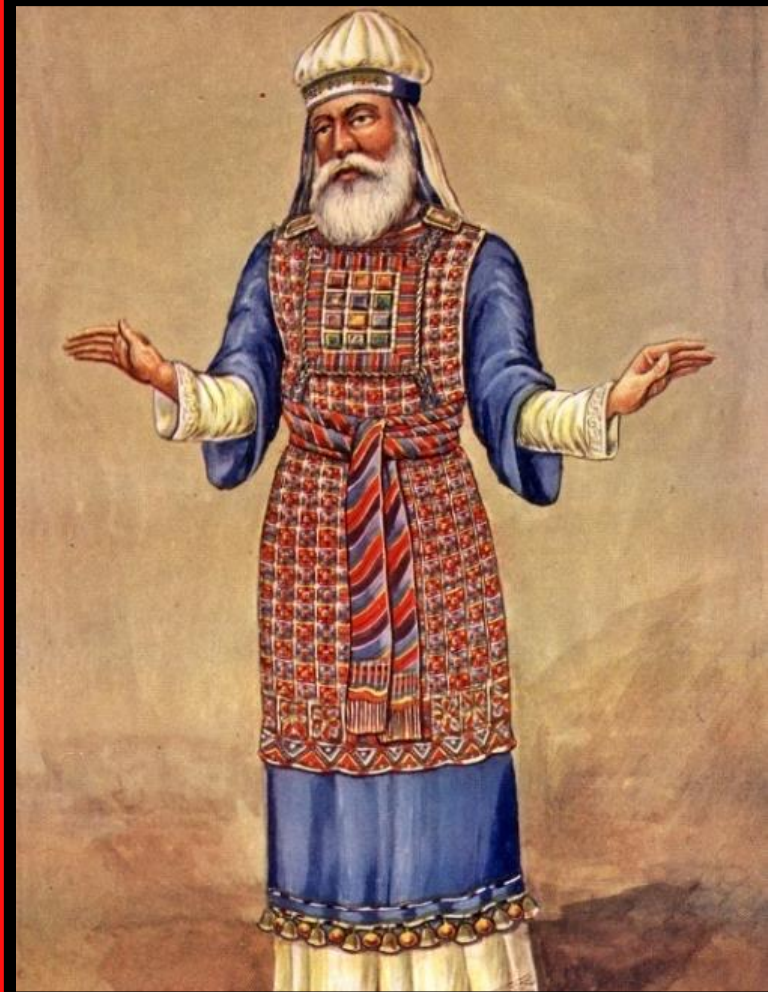
Saul sent men after David 3 times, and every time they prophesied against their will. Saul himself came to get David, and he prophesied all day and night naked.



I Samuel 21

1 Samuel 21

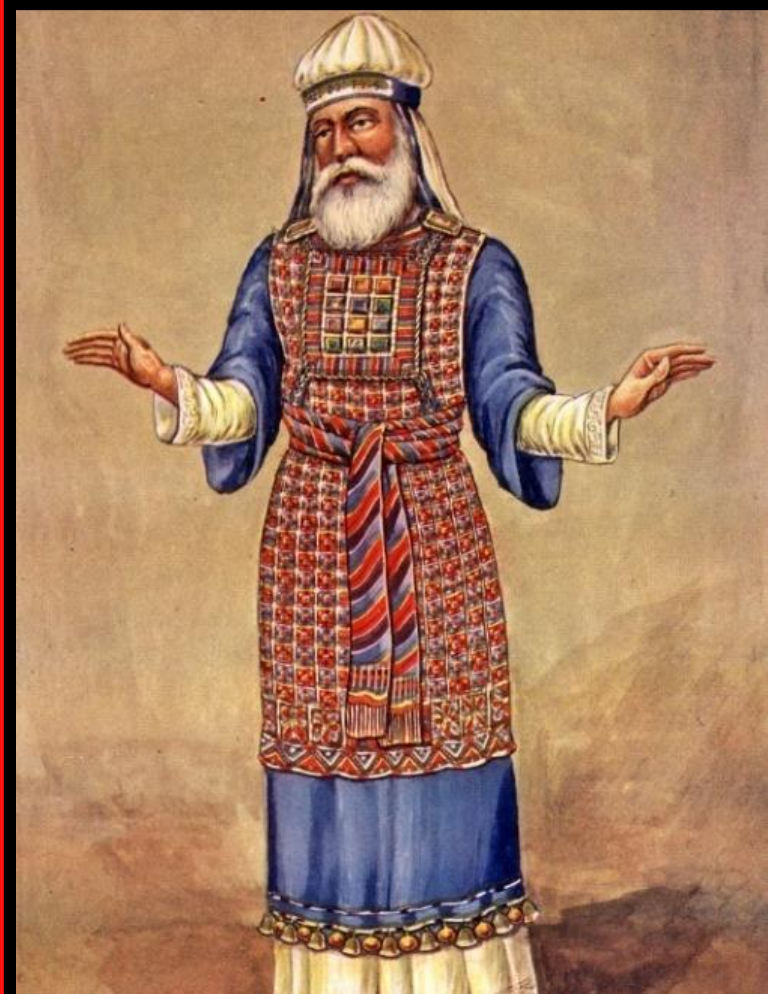
“¹Then came David to Nob to Ahimelech the priest: and Ahimelech was afraid at the meeting of David, and said unto him, Why art thou alone, and no man with thee?



Ahimelech

Ahimelech the priest was afraid of Saul and did not want to get involved in the conflict between King Saul and David.

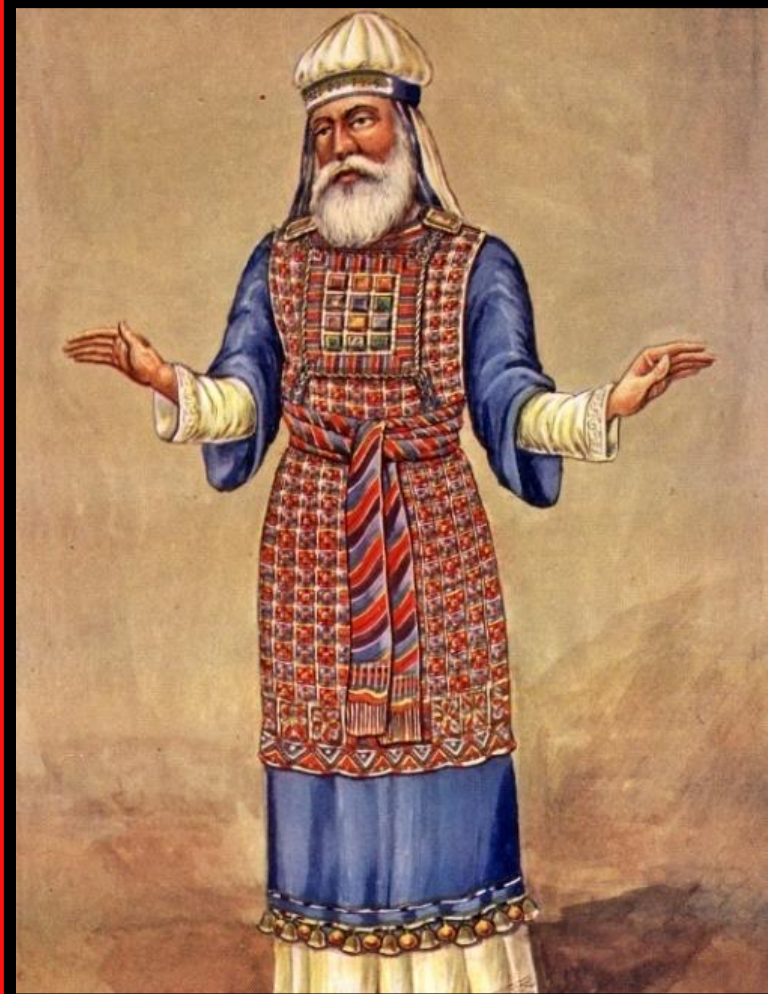
Ahimelech asked David why was he alone, because David only had a few servants with him, not as at other times when he came with a multitude of quality people to the house of God.



Ahimelech

1 Samuel 21

“²And David said unto Ahimelech the priest, **The king hath commanded me a business**, and hath said unto me, Let no man know any thing of the business whereabout I send thee, and what I have commanded thee: and I have appointed my servants to such and such a place. ³Now therefore what is under thine hand? give me five loaves of bread in mine hand, or what there is present.”



Ahimelech

1 Samuel 21

“²And David said unto Ahimelech the priest, **The king hath commanded me a business**, and hath said unto me, Let no man know any thing of the business whereabout I send thee, and what I have commanded thee: and I have appointed my servants to such and such a place. ³Now therefore what is under thine hand? give me five loaves of bread in mine hand, or what there is present.”

DAVID TOLD A LIE . . .

The king had not commanded him any such thing!

Previously, David told Jonathan to tell a lie to Saul; that he asked to go to Bethlehem for the feast. They both knew he did not intend to go to Bethlehem, but it enabled David to avoid Saul who wanted to kill him.

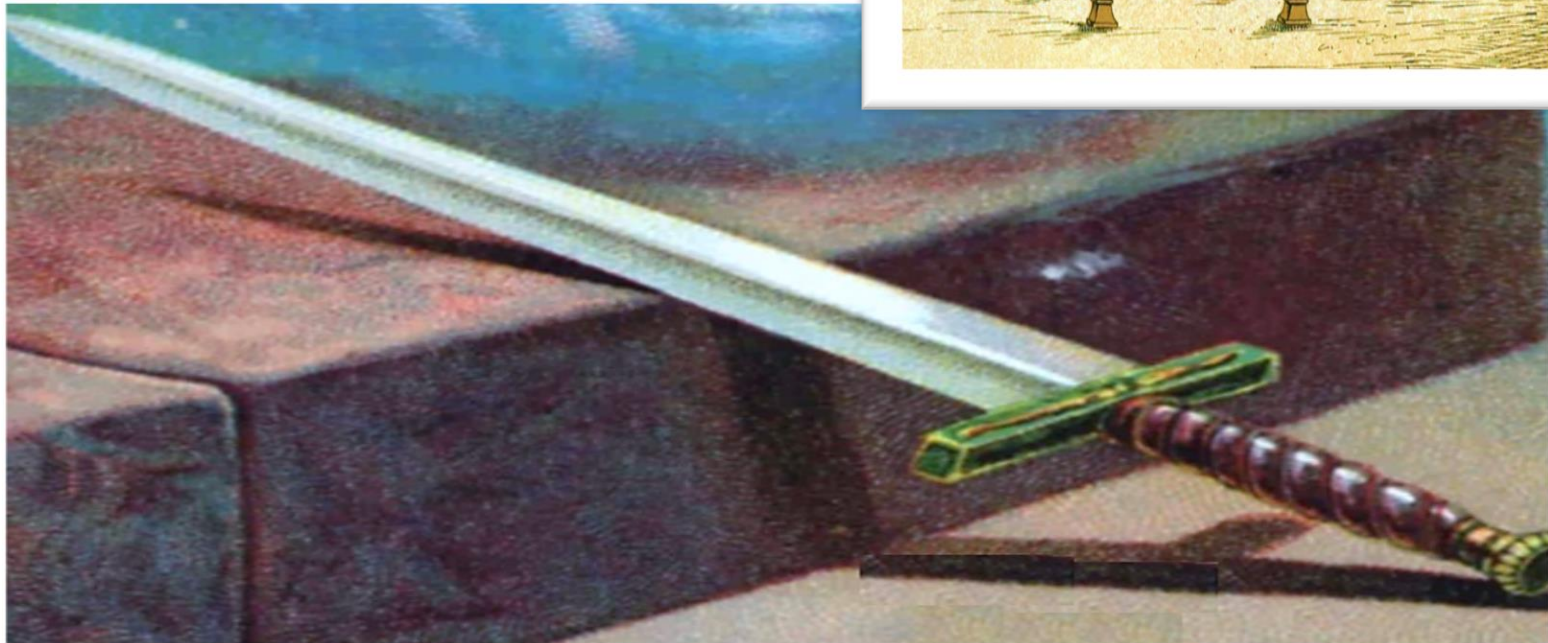
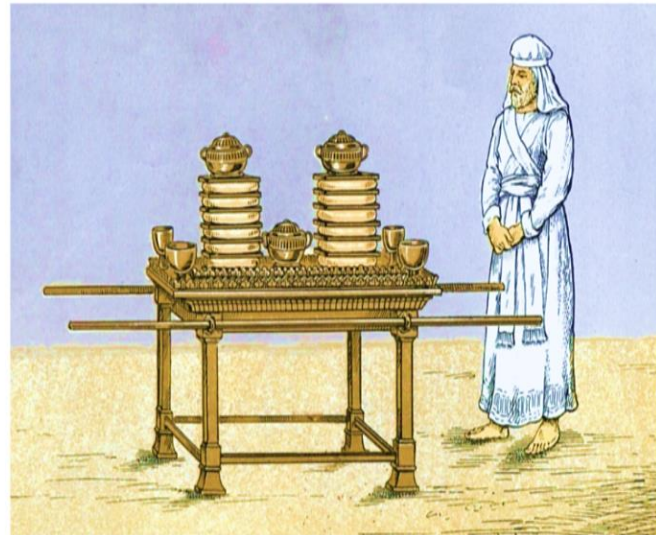
Bible Commentators criticize David for the lie to Ahimelech but call the one to Saul *an excuse*. Later we will see David deceive a Philistine king by feigning insanity, a dishonest action.

These untruths are a stratagem in war, for the preservation of his own life.

David asked Ahimelech for . . .

BREAD AND A SWORD

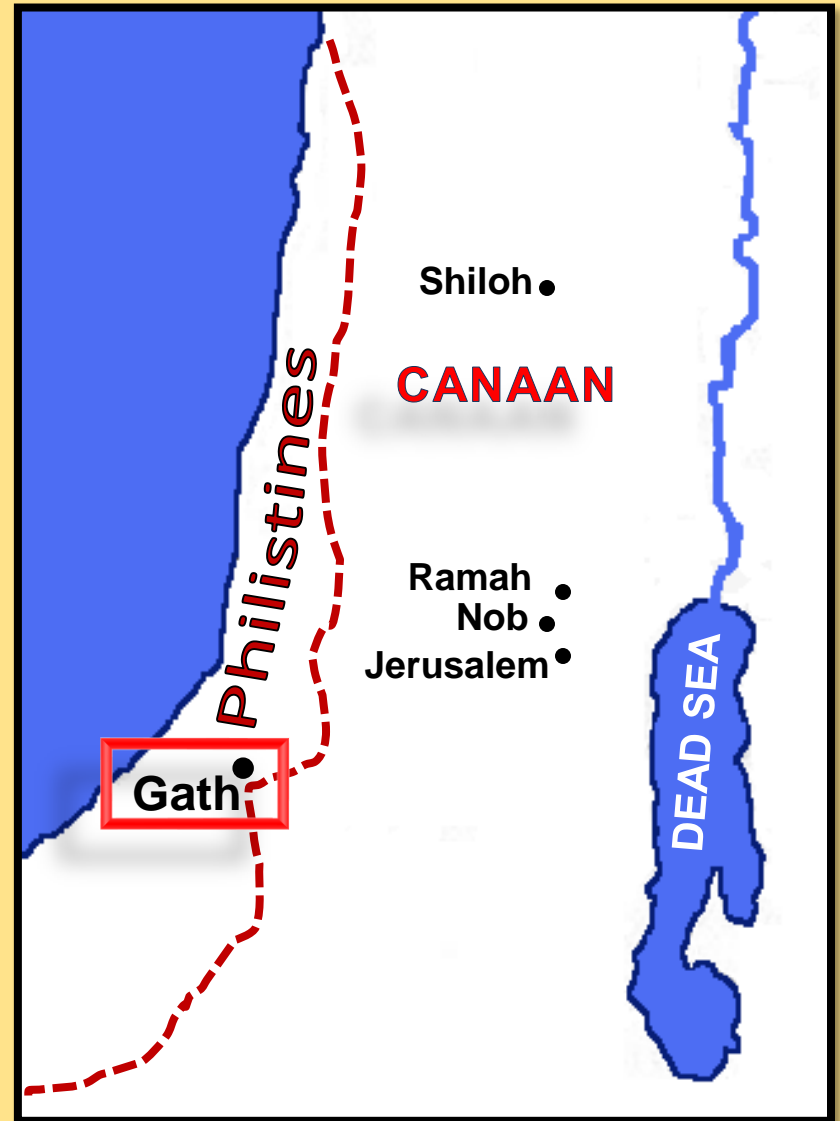
The priest only had holy bread (shew bread), and the only sword was that of Goliath. He gave them to David.



David was now furnished with food and a sword, but a worse problem faced him now. One of Saul's servants was there and saw David. His name was Doeg. David must flee again.



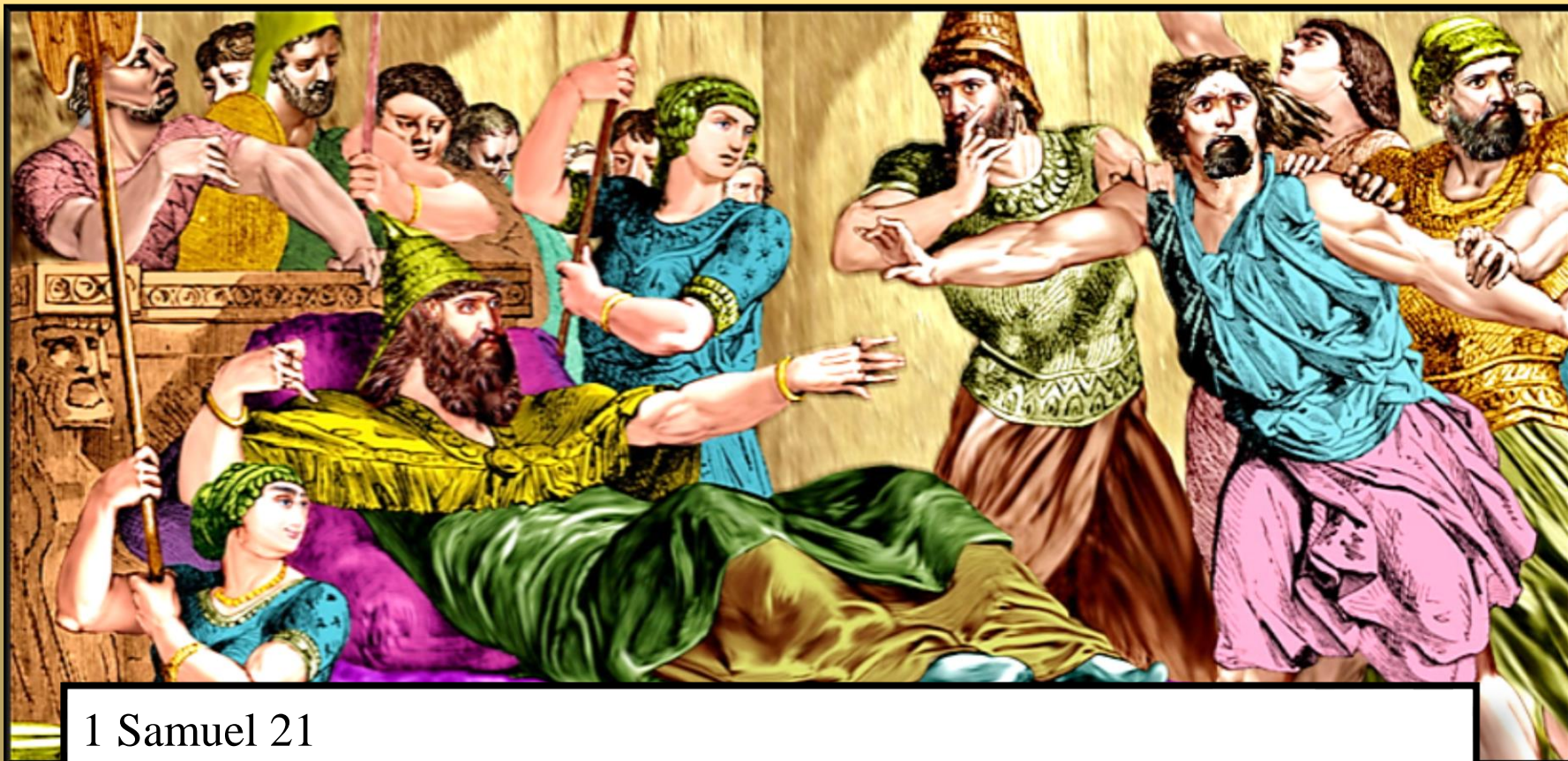
David fled to
GATH
a Philistine city to
escape King Saul



1 Samuel 21

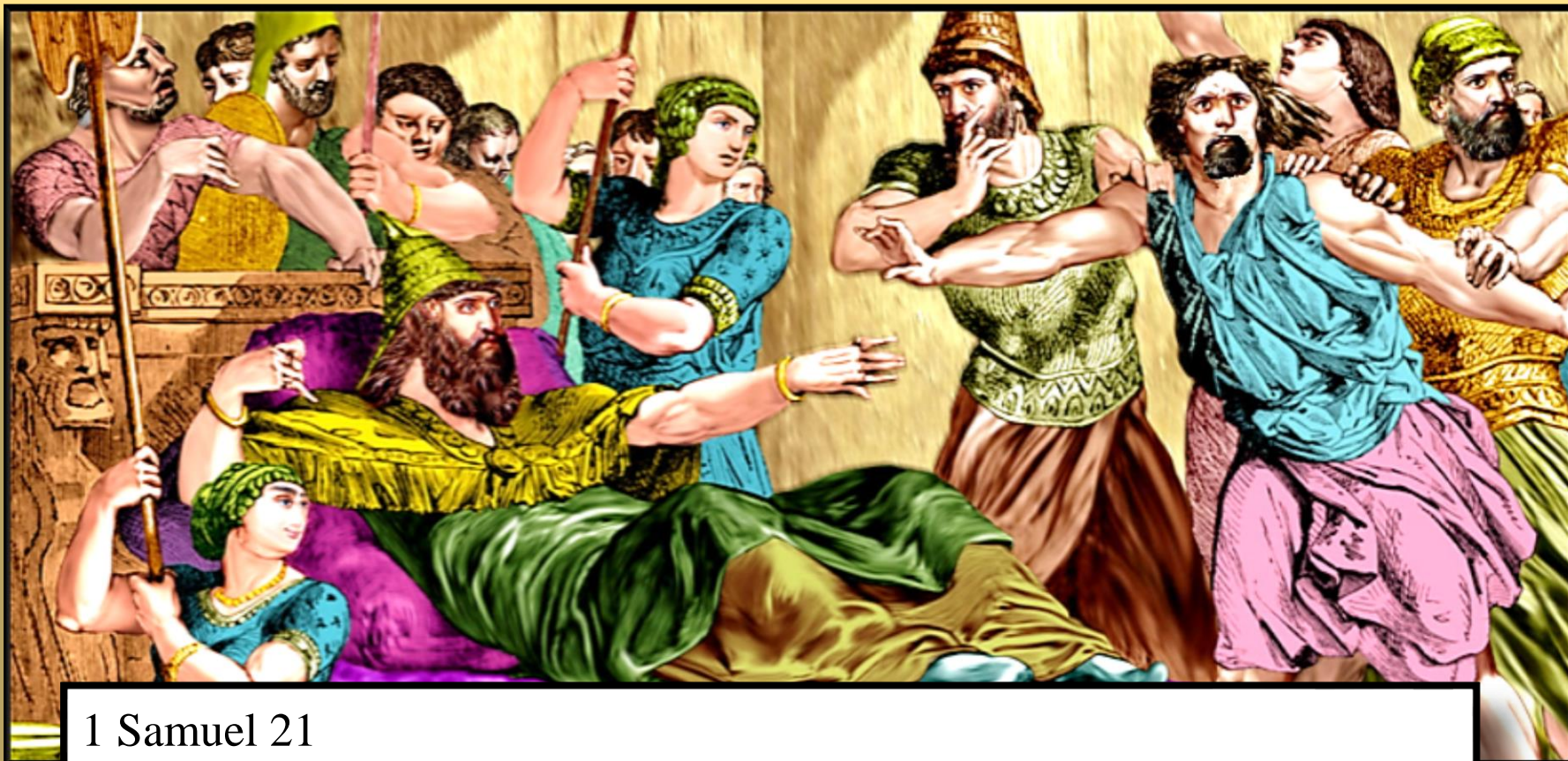
“¹⁰And David arose, and fled that day for fear of Saul, and went to Achish the king of Gath. ¹¹And the servants of Achish said unto him, Is not this David the king of the land? did they not sing one to another of him in dances, saying, Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands?”





1 Samuel 21

“¹²And David laid up these words in his heart, and was sore afraid of Achish the king of Gath. ¹³And he changed his behavior before them, and feigned himself mad in their hands, and scrabbled on the doors of the gate, and let his spittle fall down upon his beard.”



1 Samuel 21

“¹⁴Then said Achish unto his servants, **Lo, ye see the man is mad: wherefore then have ye brought him to me?** ¹⁵Have I need of mad men, that ye have brought this fellow to play the mad man in my presence? shall this fellow come into my house?” THE END OF CHAPTER 21



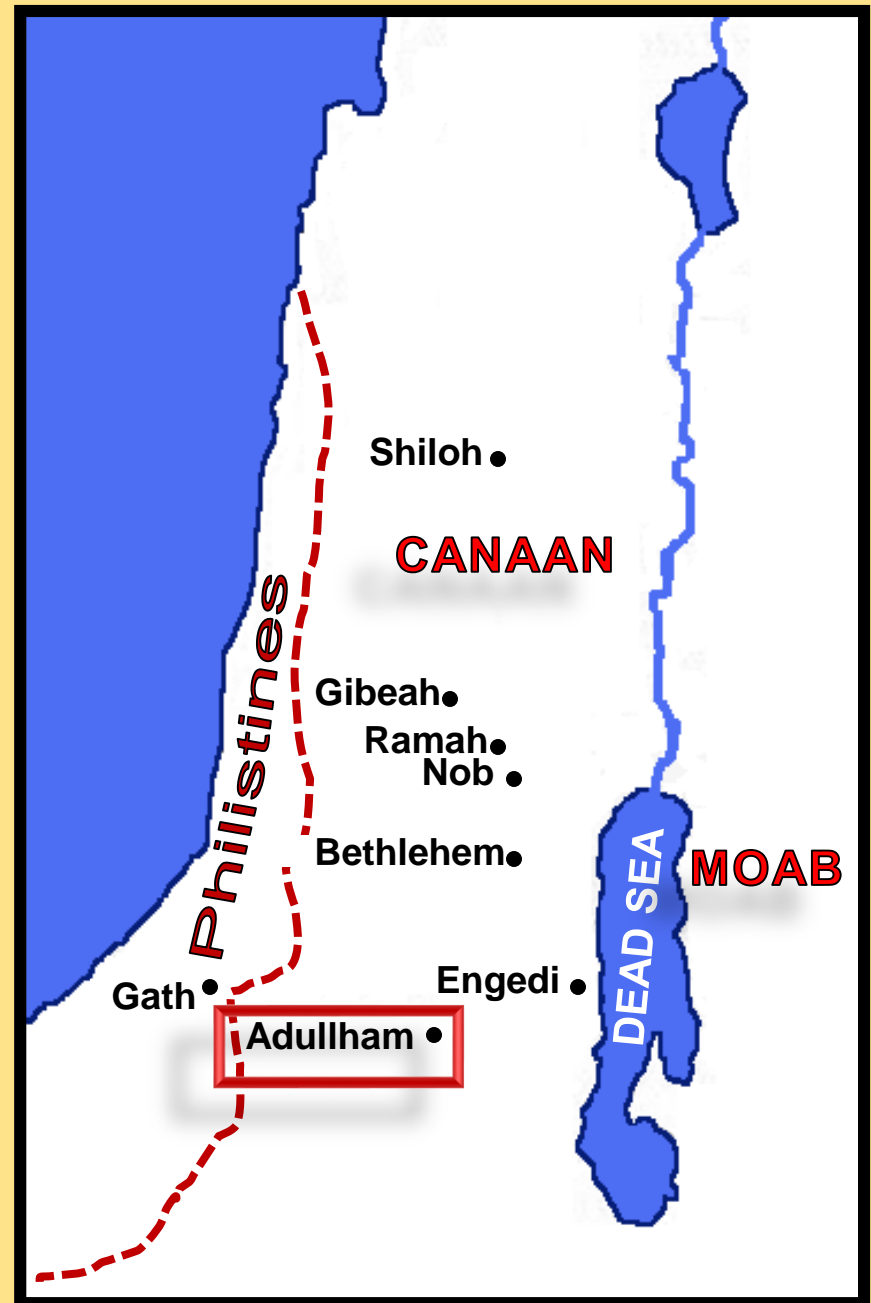
King Achish did not care *who* David was, he didn't want anything to do with a crazy person! David must have been relieved when his ploy was successful, and he was able to go back to Judah. But, even in Judah he was in danger, for King Saul sought his life.

I Samuel 22

David escaped to the cave of Adullam . . .



**David's family
and friends came**
to give assistance
to him, to be
protected by him,
and to show they
were on his side.



*“A friend loveth at
all times and a
brother is born for
adversity”
(Proverbs 17:17).*



1 Samuel 22

“¹David therefore departed thence, and escaped to the cave Adullam: and when his brethren and all his father’s house heard it, they went down thither to him. ²And every one that was in distress, and every one that was in debt, and every one that was discontented, gathered themselves unto him; and he became a captain over them: and there were with him about **four hundred men.**”



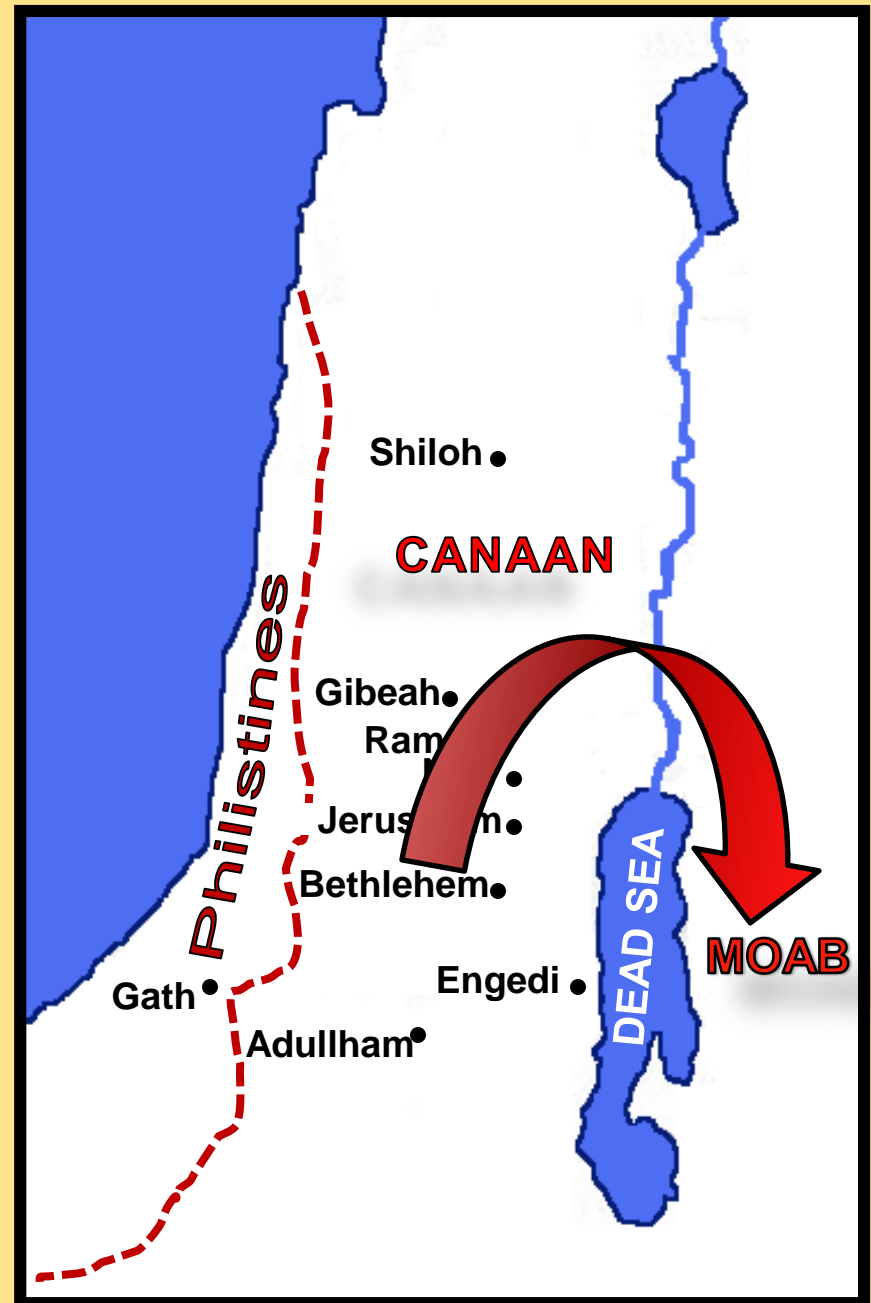
Seeing he could not save himself by flight . . . it became necessary to do it by force. Yet, he did not act offensively. His company of men were only used to guard himself against Saul.

His regiment was not made up of great men or rich, but of men in distress, in debt, and discontented, men of broken fortunes and restless spirits.



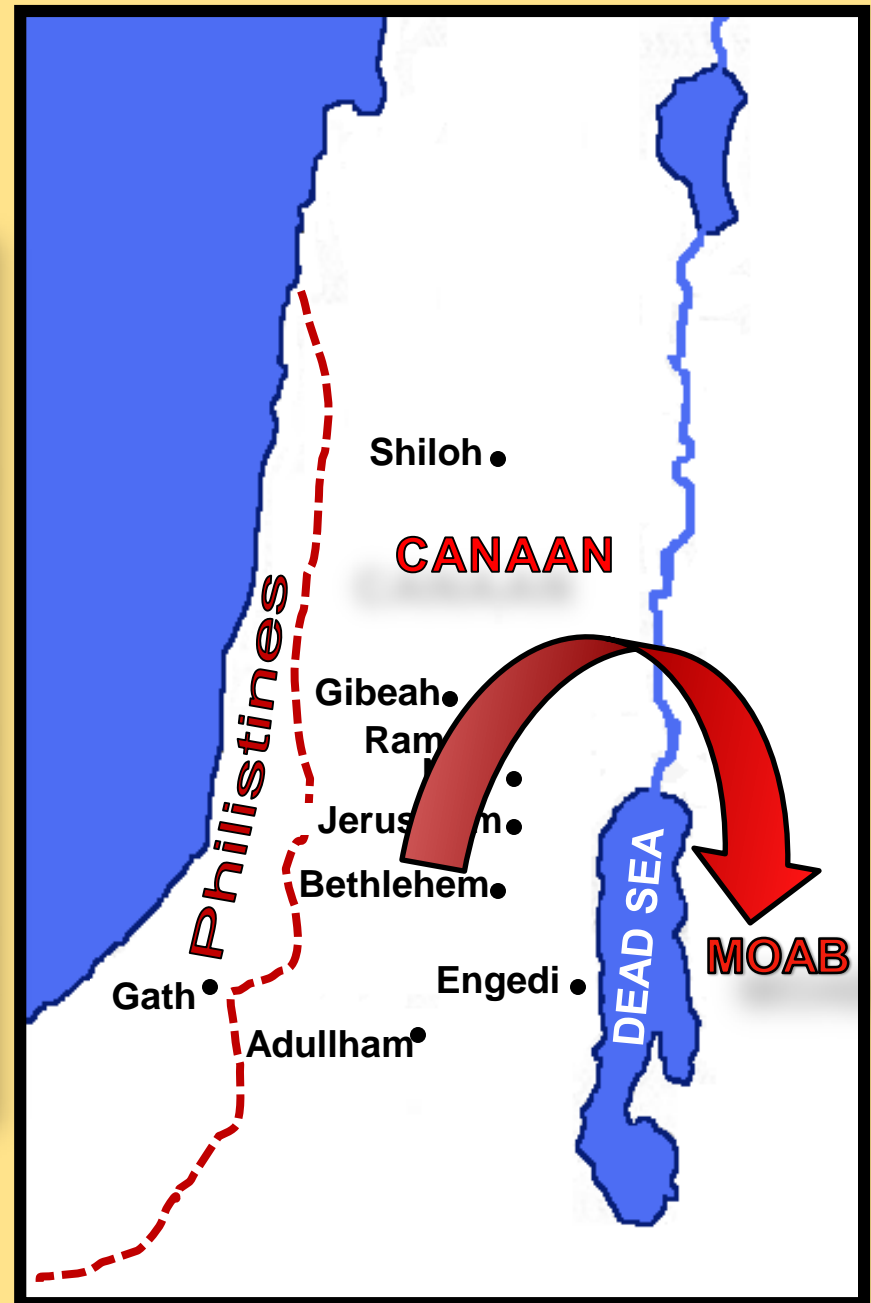
David's parents lived in Bethlehem and were, therefore, in danger.

David took care to settle his parents in a place of safety. No such place could he find in all the land of Israel while Saul was so bitterly enraged against him, therefore, he went to the king of Moab and put them under his protection.



1 Samuel 22

“³And David went thence to Mizpeh of Moab: and he said unto the king of Moab, Let my father and my mother, I pray thee, come forth, and be with you, till I know what God will do for me. ⁴And he brought them before the king of Moab: and they dwelt with him all the while that David was in the hold.”





1 Samuel 22

We have seen the progress of *David's troubles*; now here we have the progress of *Saul's wickedness*—

Saul sought information against David and believed these accusations:

That David seeks his life (which was untrue)

That Jonathan stirred up David to kill Saul (also untrue)

Saul was displeased that his servants would not provide him evidence against David and Jonathan. He accused them of being:

Unwise . . . that David could not reward them as he could

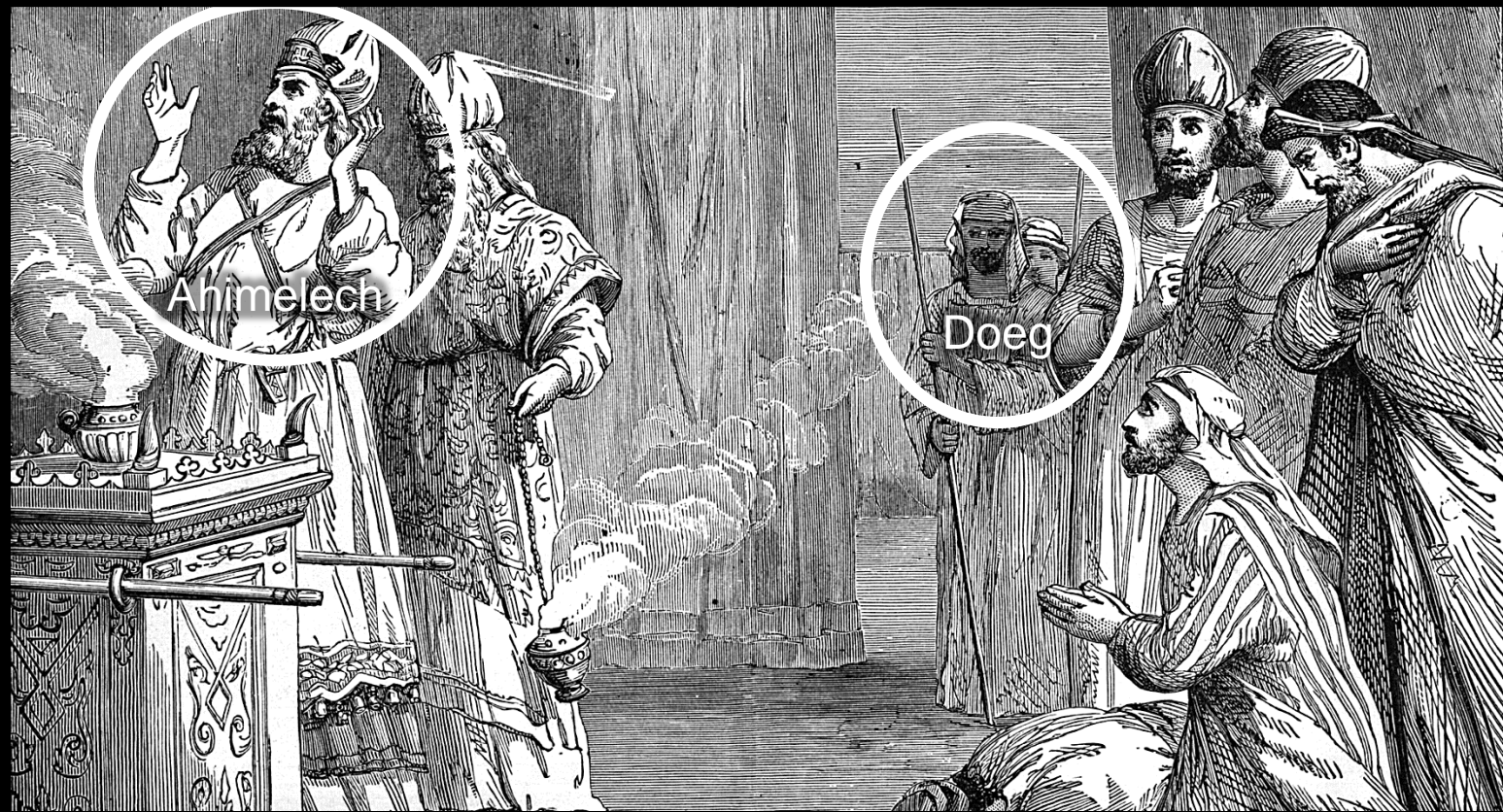
Unfaithful . . . that they were wickedly conspiring against him

Unkind . . . that they did not pity Saul

Saul could not learn anything from his servants against David or Jonathan, but he did get information from Doeg against Ahimelech the priest.



Doeg told Saul about the kindness Ahimelech had shown to David, concerning which he himself happened to be an eyewitness. He told about Ahimelech furnishing David with bread and a sword. All this was true, but it was not the whole truth. He ought to have told Saul further that David made Ahimelech believe he had been sent by King Saul.



Saul's reaction to Doeg's report—

He summoned Ahimelech and all the priests who attended the sanctuary. He assumed they all had given aid to David.



Saul reacts to Doeg's report—

There were 85 priests assembled.

Saul gave judgment against them.

The punishment was death.

Saul ordered immediate execution by his footmen, but they refused.

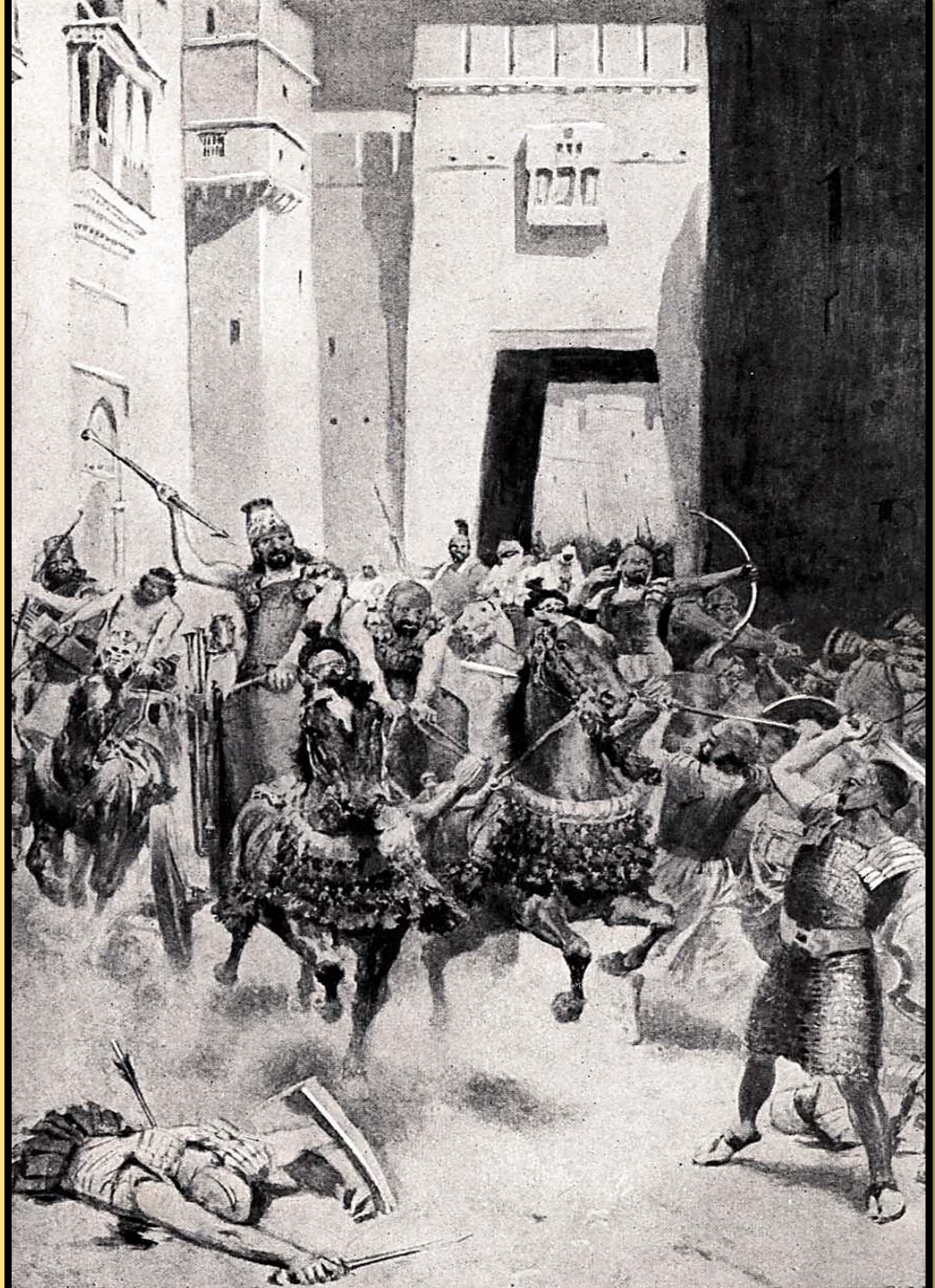
Saul ordered Doeg (the accuser) to carry out the execution; he obeyed.

The priests did not resist, and 85 were killed by Doeg.



Then Doeg went to Nob, the city of the priests, and killed men, women, children, nursing infants, oxen, asses, and sheep.

In this we see not just the wickedness of Doeg but the determined and desperate actions of an evil king.

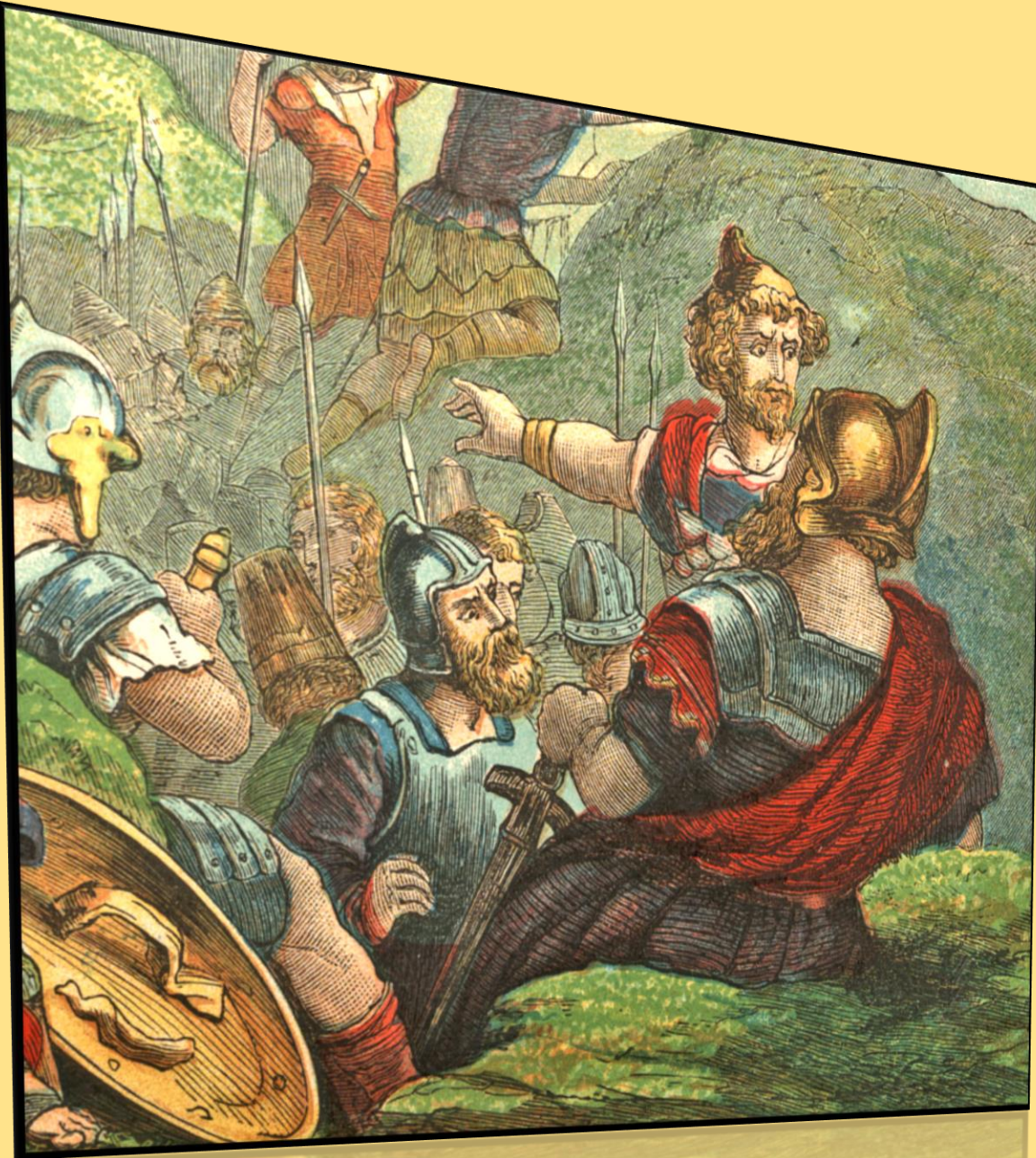


Abiathar's escape . . .

Probably when Abiathar's father went to appear, upon Saul's summons, he was left at home to attend the altar and, therefore, escaped the first execution. Before Doeg came to Nob, Abiathar had heard of the danger and had time to escape again.



Abiathar, son of Ahimelech the Priest



1 Samuel 22

“20. . . **Abiathar, escaped, and fled after David.** ²¹And Abiathar showed David that Saul had slain the LORD’S priests.”



1 Samuel 22

“²²And David said unto Abiathar, **I knew it that day, when Doeg the Edomite was there, that he would surely tell Saul:** I have occasioned the death of all the persons of thy father’s house. ²³Abide thou with me, fear not: for he that seeketh my life seeketh thy life: but with me thou shalt be in safeguard.”

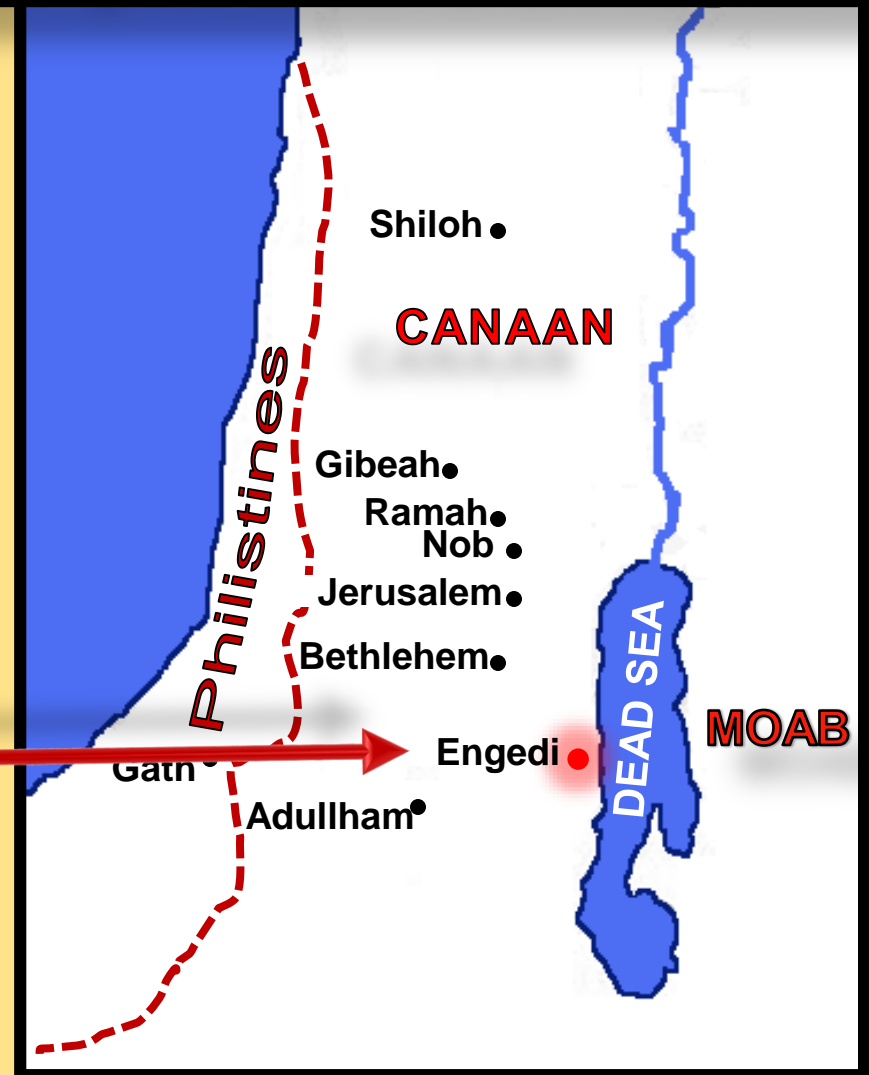
Saul continued to pursue David . . .

1 Samuel 24

“¹And it came to pass, when Saul was returned from following the Philistines, that it was told him, saying, Behold, David is in the wilderness of **Engedi**.”

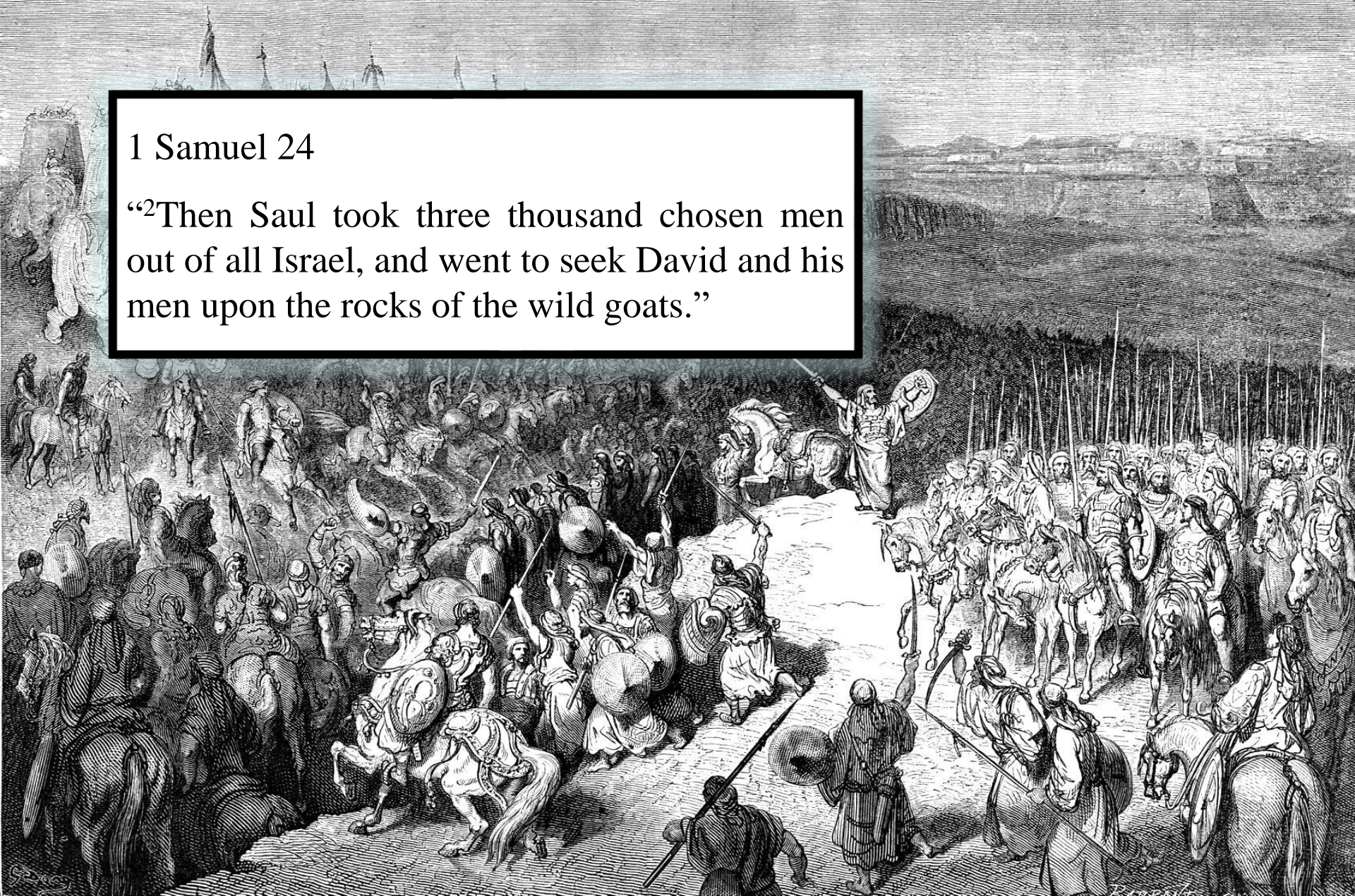
Engedi—

(Spring of wild goats) An oasis on the west coast of the Dead Sea in the territory of Judah.



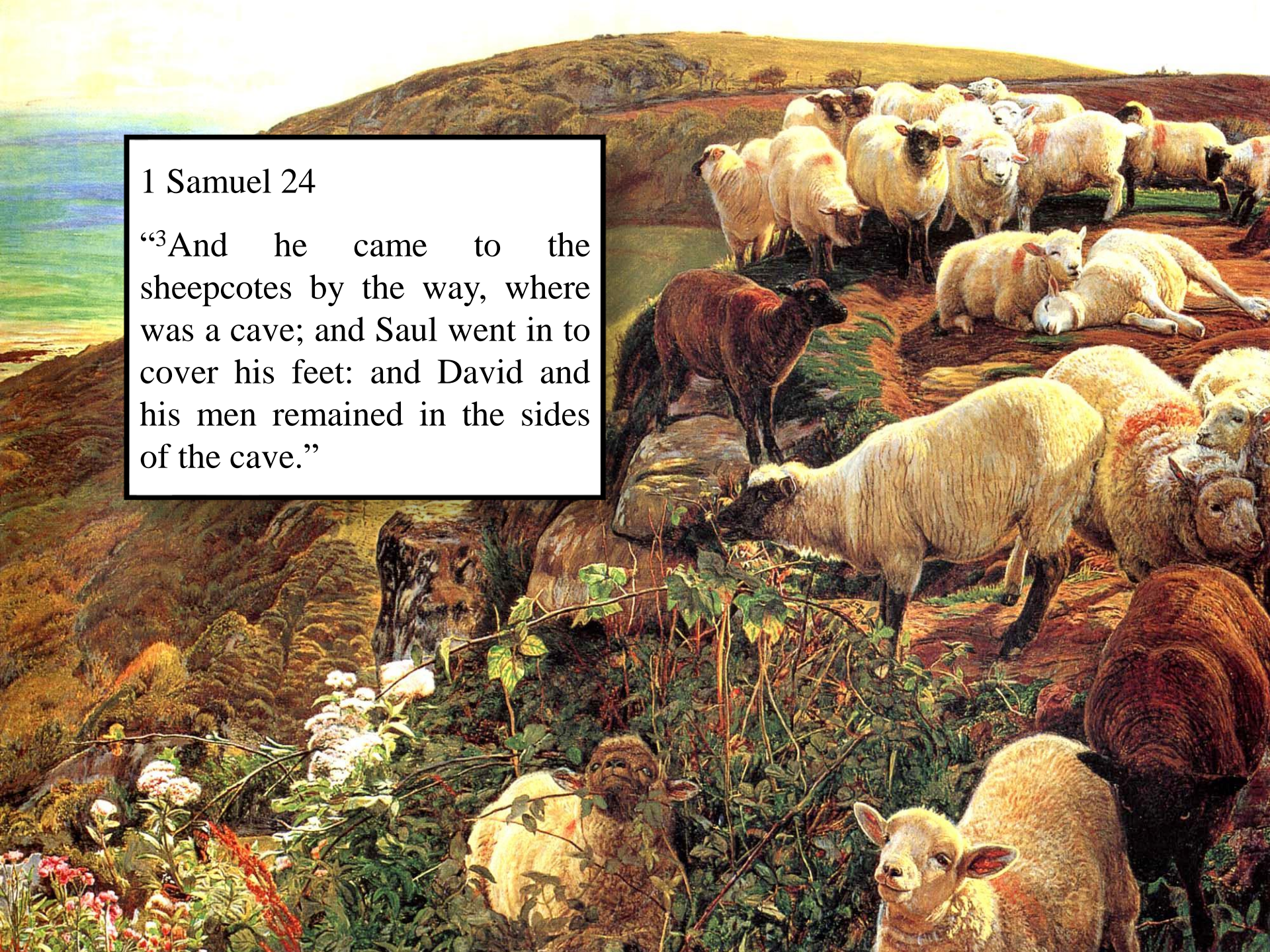
1 Samuel 24

“²Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel, and went to seek David and his men upon the rocks of the wild goats.”



1 Samuel 24

“³And he came to the sheepcotes by the way, where was a cave; and Saul went in to cover his feet: and David and his men remained in the sides of the cave.”



David and his men
were in the cave!

David cut off some
of Saul's robe.

Saul was unaware.

David did not let his
men harm Saul.



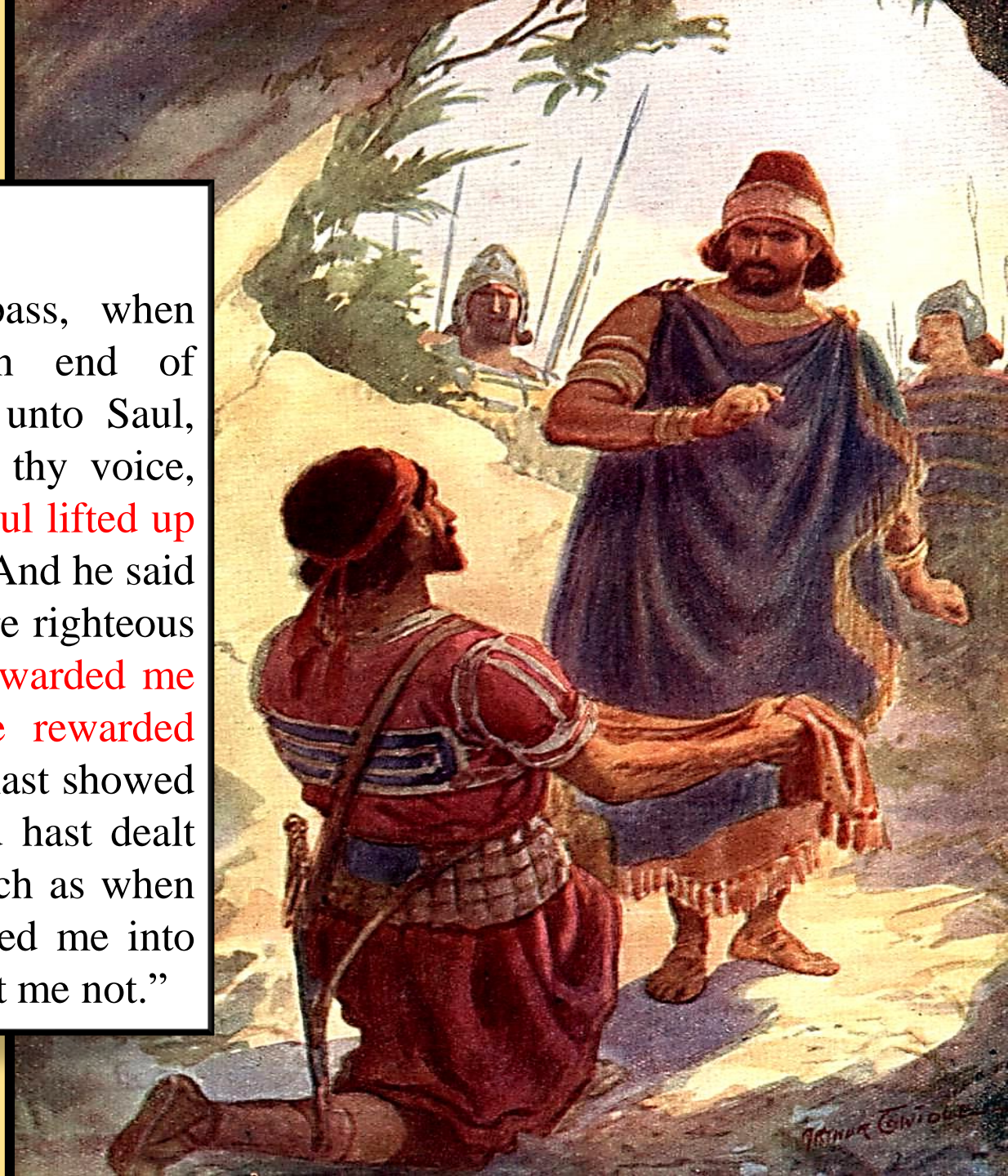
After Saul left the cave David came out, bowed before Saul, and showed the cut garment to demonstrate that he could have killed Saul but did not.

He wanted to show Saul that they should not be enemies.



1 Samuel 24

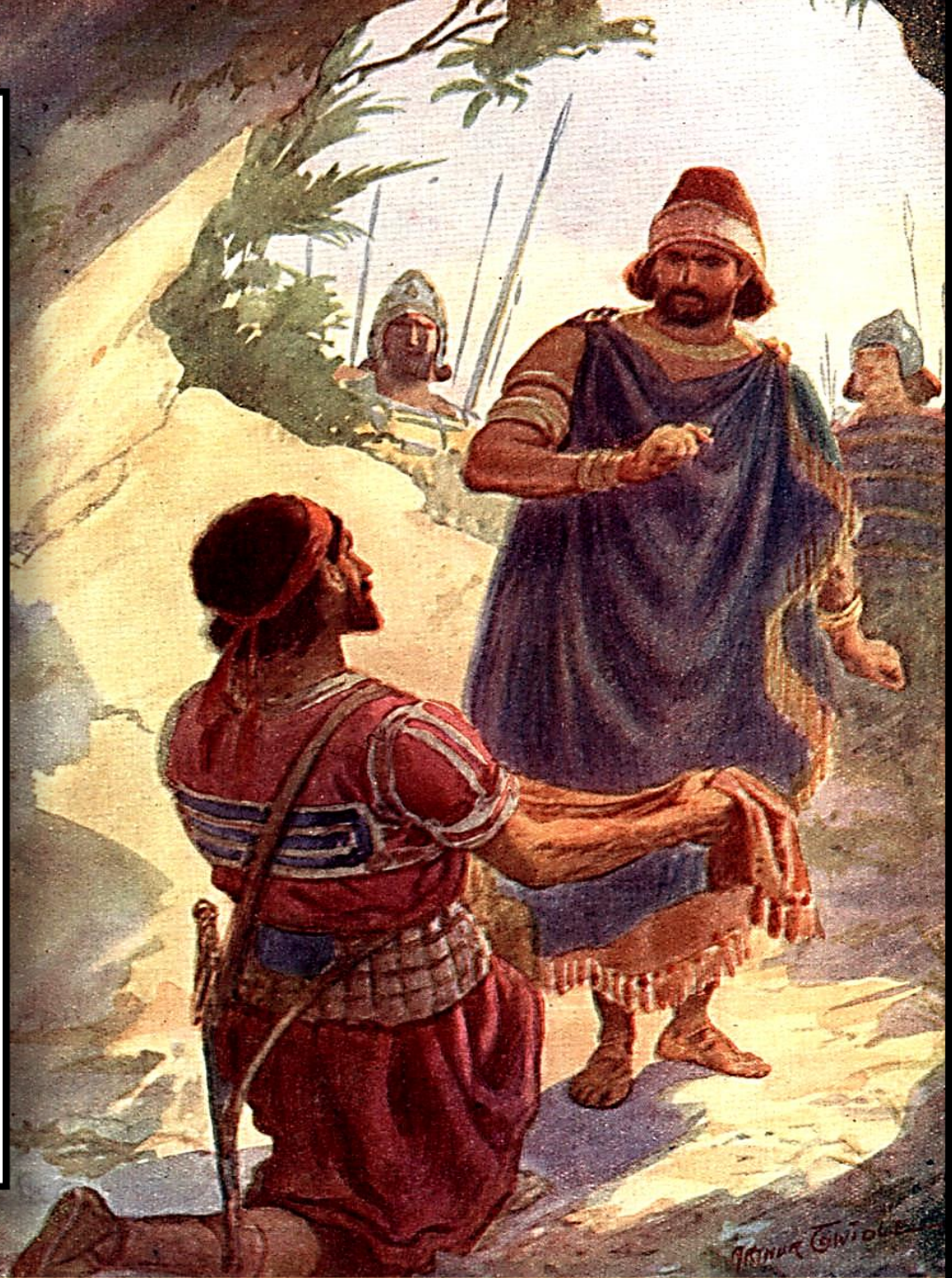
“¹⁶And it came to pass, when David had made an end of speaking these words unto Saul, that Saul said, Is this thy voice, my son David? And **Saul lifted up his voice, and wept.** ¹⁷And he said to David, Thou art more righteous than I: for **thou hast rewarded me good, whereas I have rewarded thee evil.** ¹⁸And thou hast showed this day how that thou hast dealt well with me: forasmuch as when the LORD had delivered me into thine hand, thou killedst me not.”



John G. S. G. G.

1 Samuel 24

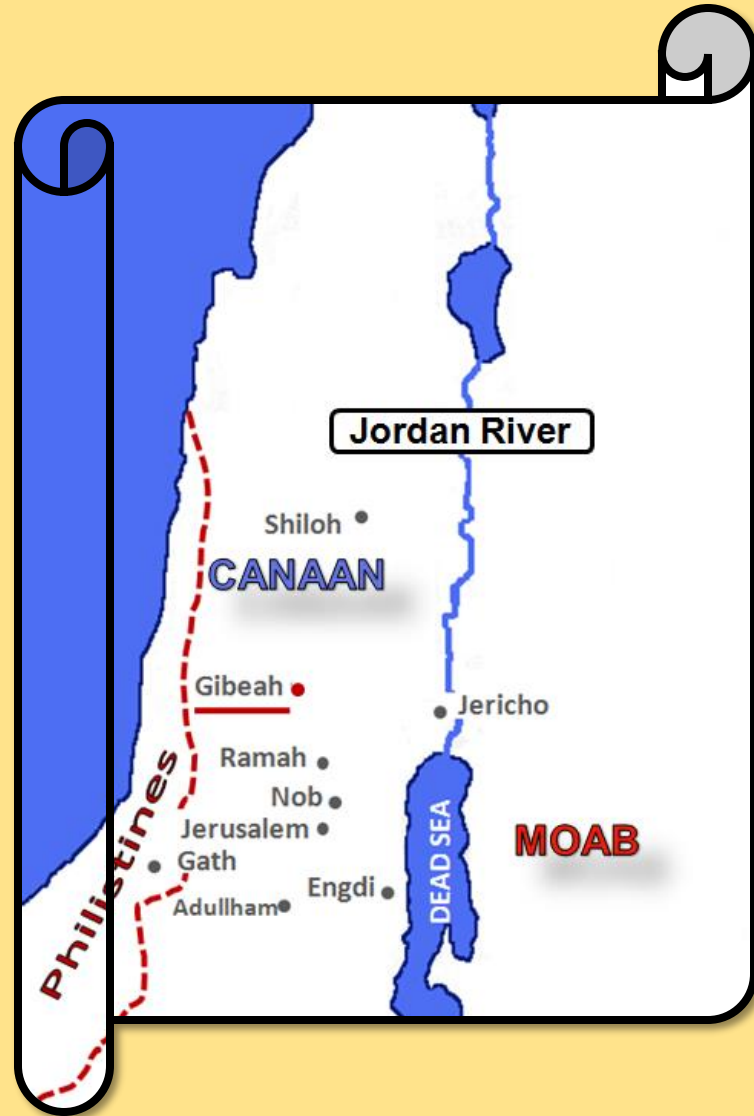
“¹⁹For if a man find his enemy, will he let him go well away? Wherefore the Lord reward thee good for that thou hast done unto me this day. ²⁰And now, behold, **I know well that thou shalt surely be king**, and that the kingdom of Israel shall be established in thine hand. ²¹Swear now therefore unto me by the LORD, that thou wilt not cut off my seed after me, and that thou wilt not destroy my name out of my father’s house. ²²And David sware unto Saul. And Saul went home; **but David and his men gat them up unto the hold.**”





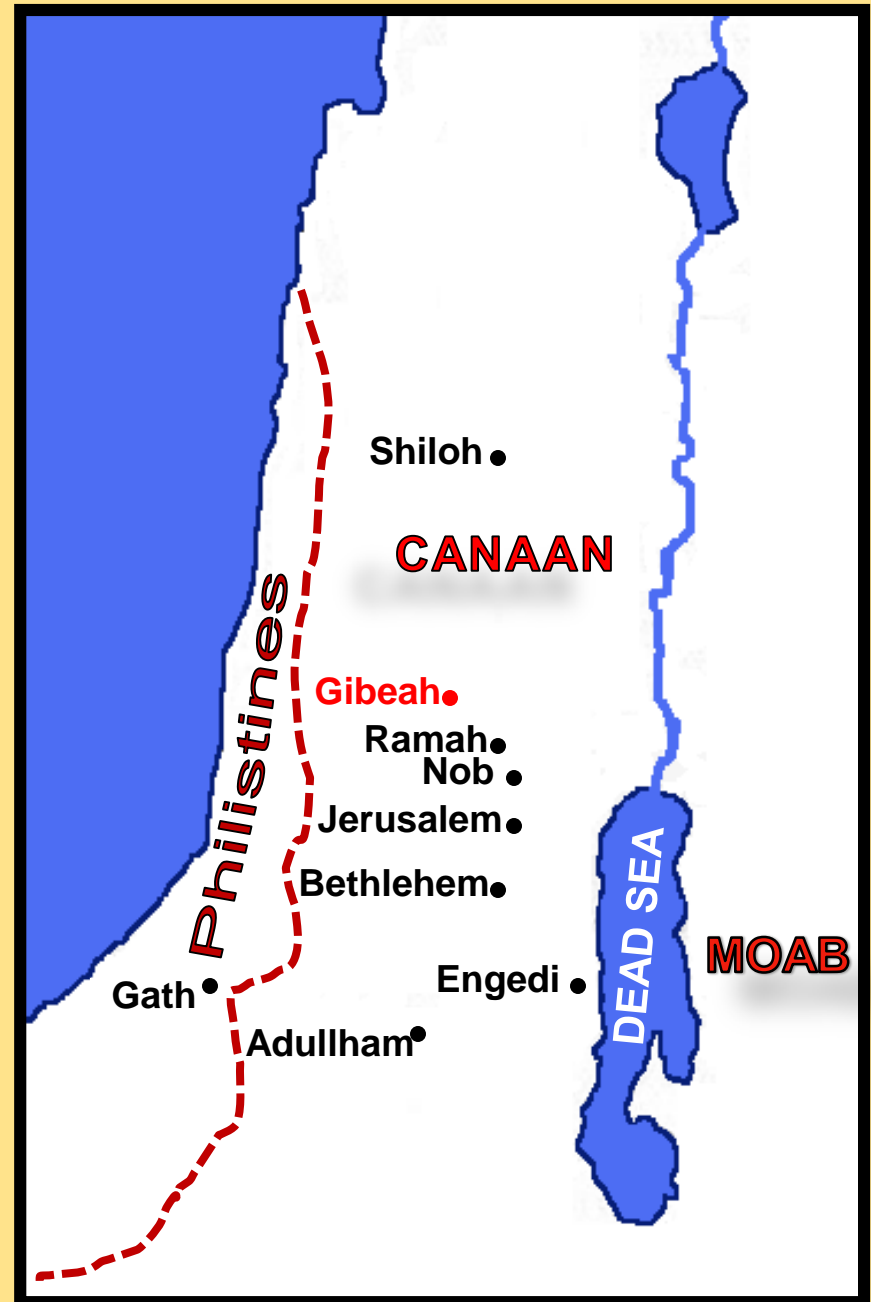
But,
Saul was not
through seeking the
life of David . . .

MAP REVIEW





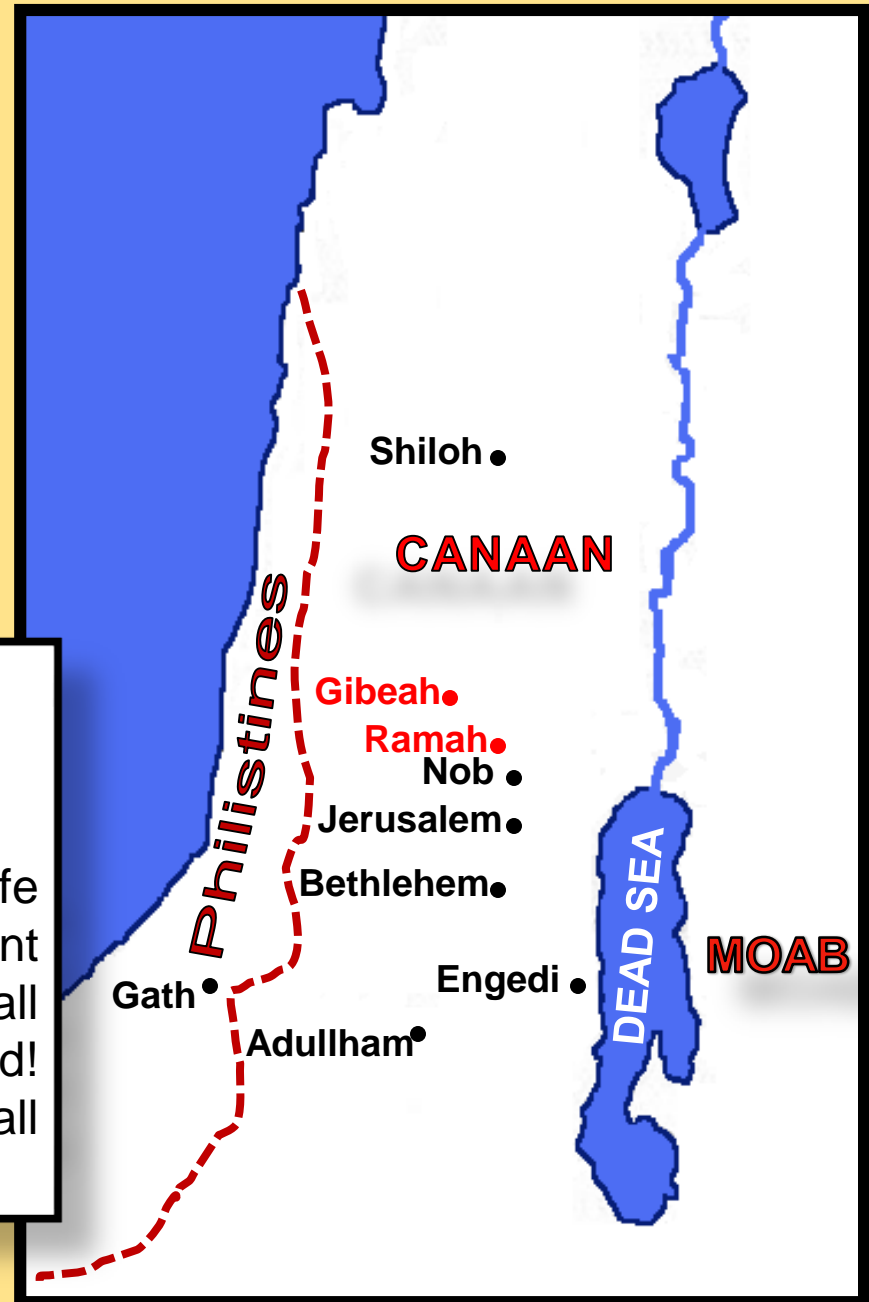
David went to Saul's home in **Gibeah**, and was warned by Jonathan that Saul wanted to kill him.





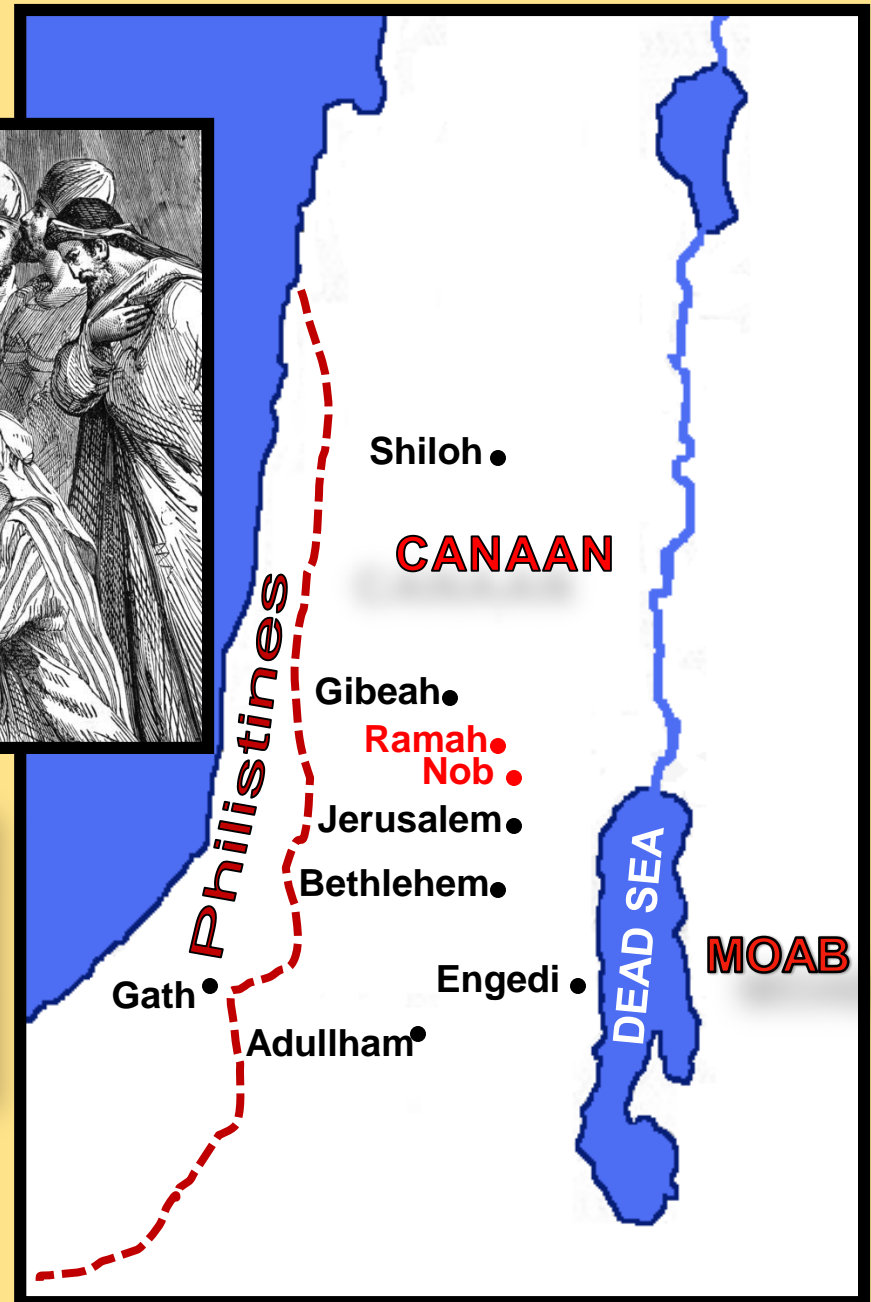
David went from **Gibeah** to **Ramah**.
Saul lived in Gibeah.
Samuel lived in Ramah.

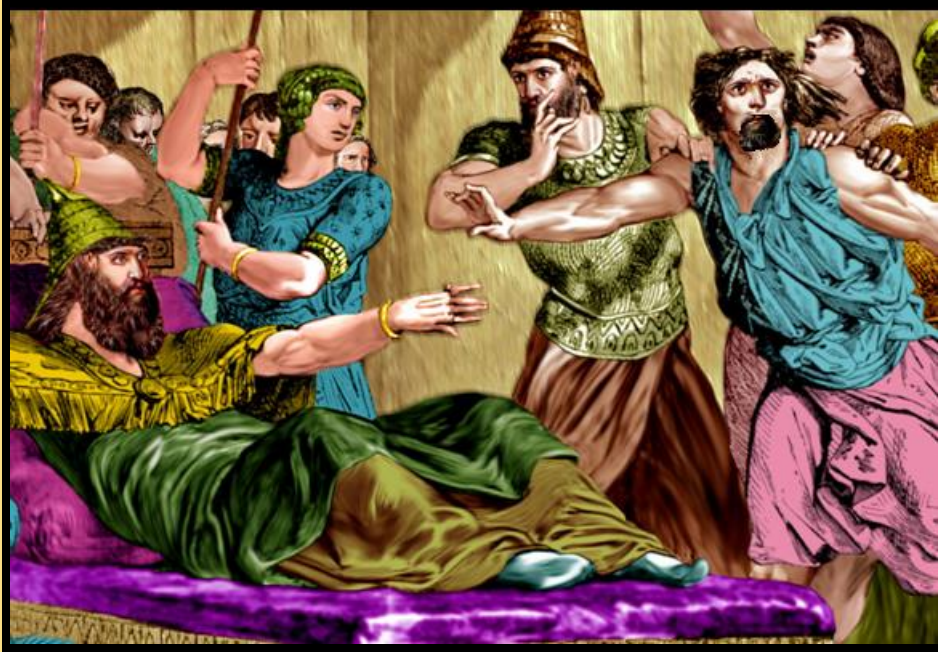
David was hoping he would be safe with Samuel but, 3 times Saul sent men to get David. They all prophesied instead of harming David! So, Saul came and he prophesied all day and night, naked.



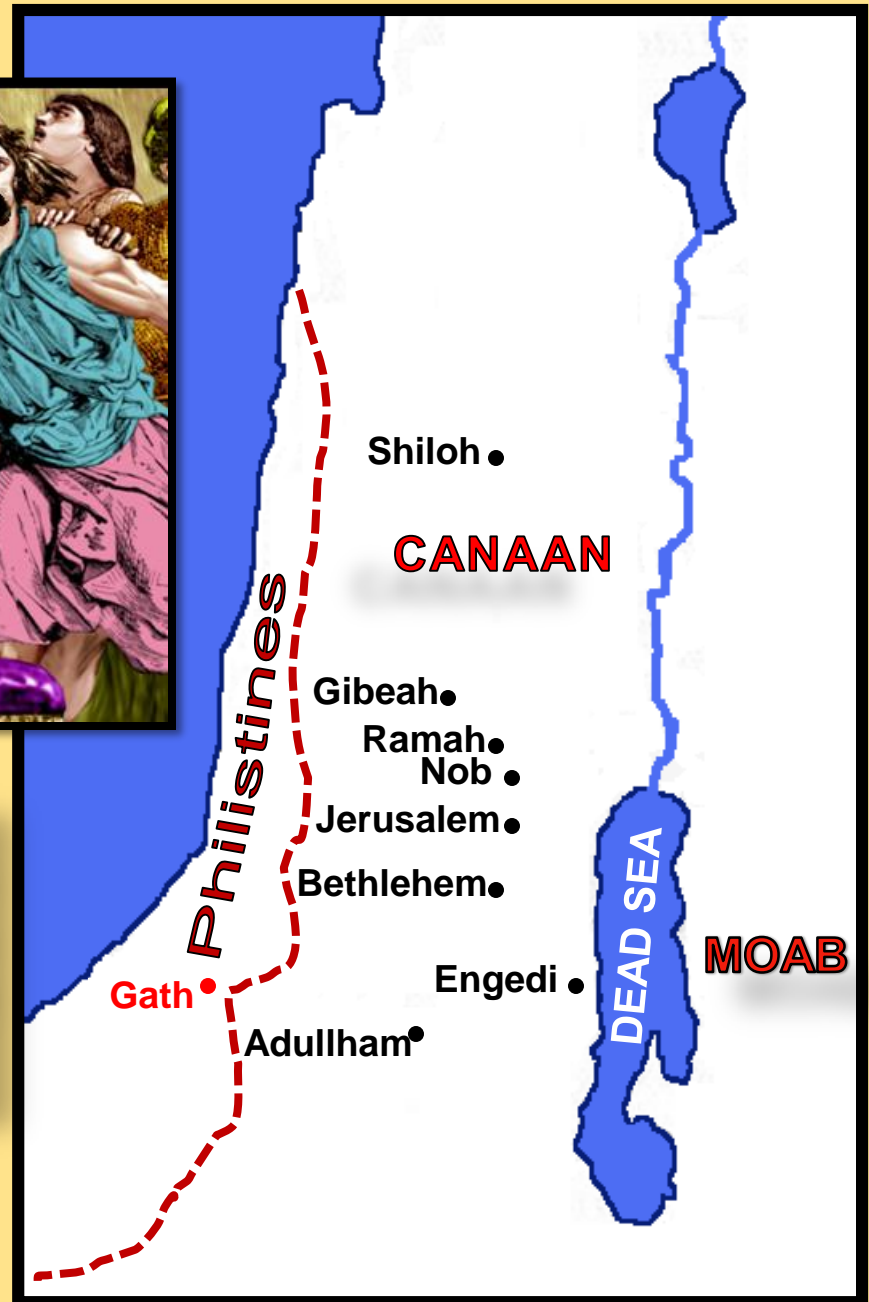


David left Samuel at **Ramah** and went to the tabernacle at **Nob**. Ahimelech the priest gave him bread and Goliath's sword.





David then looked for refuge in **Gath** of the Philistines where he had to feign insanity to avoid death.

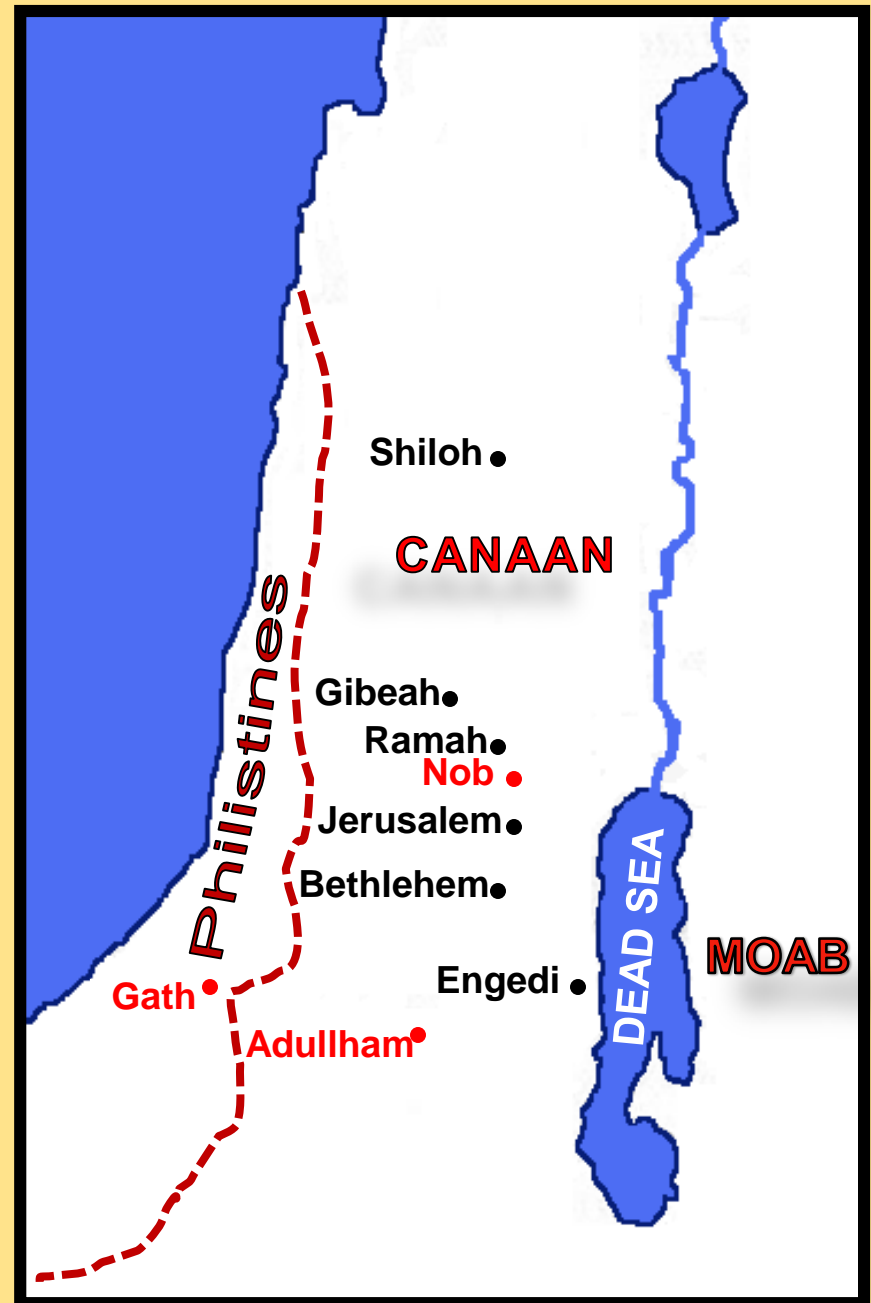


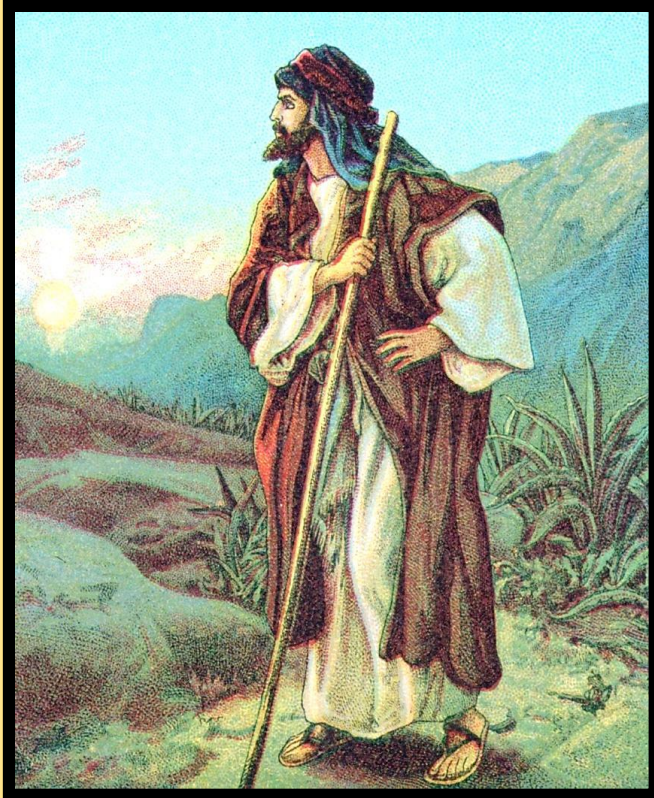
David fled the Philistines and hid in a **cave at Adullam**. He was joined by family and friends.



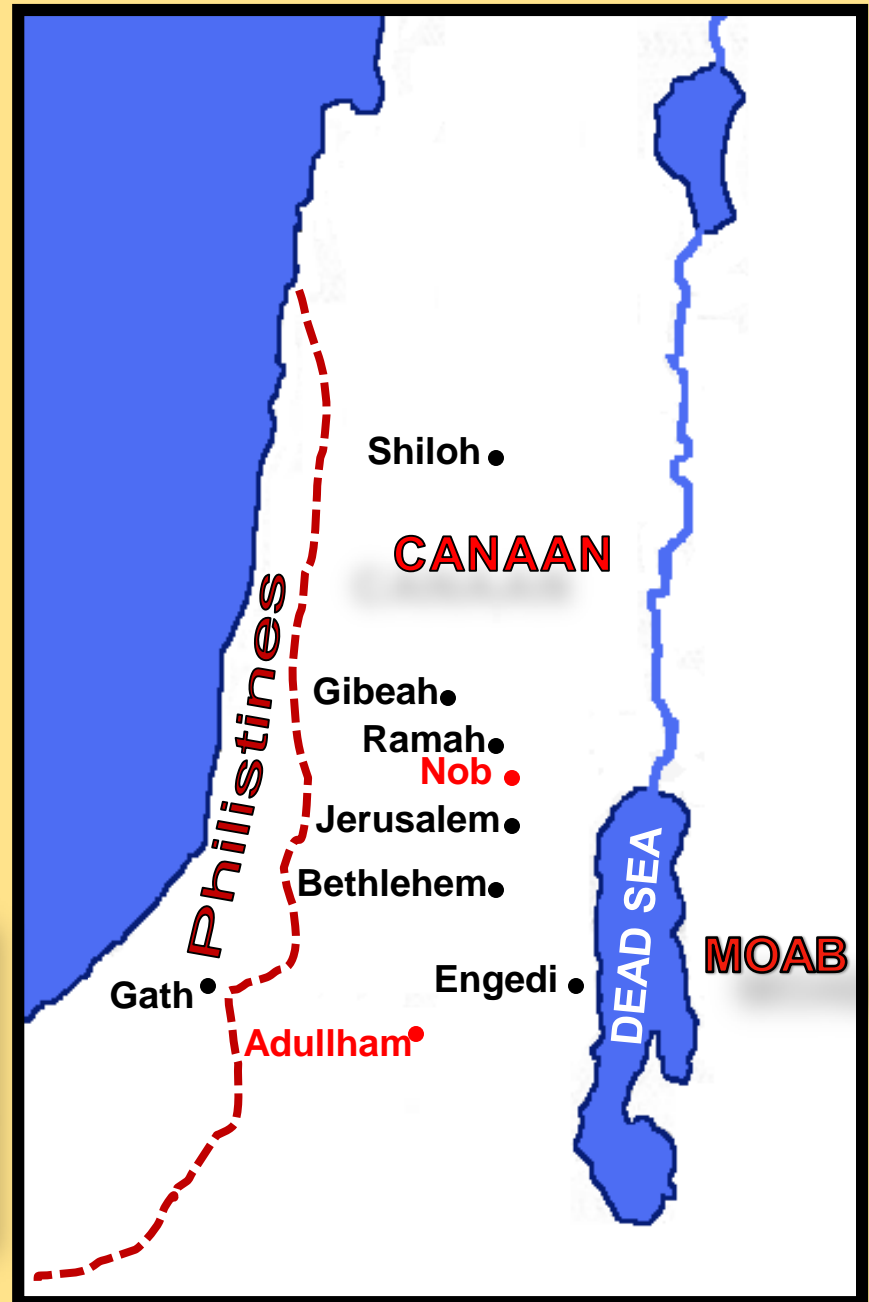
Meanwhile, Saul was determined to find someone to bring accusations against David and Jonathan.

He found Doeg who witnessed Ahimelech the priest give aid to David. Saul had Doeg murder Ahimelech, all 85 of the priests, and their families in the **city of Nob**.



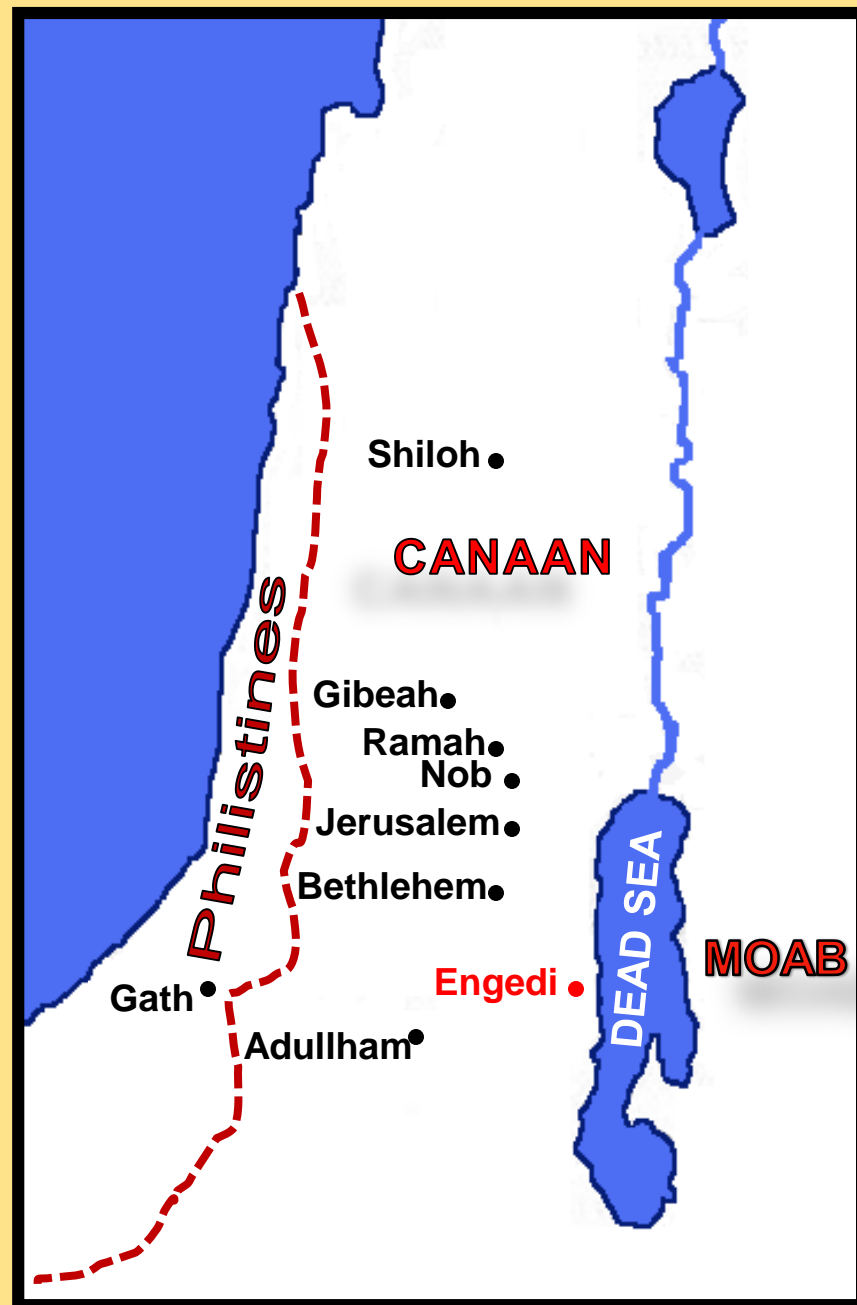


Only Abiathar, the son of the priest Ahimelech escaped the massacre at **Nob**. He joined David at the cave in **Adullam**.



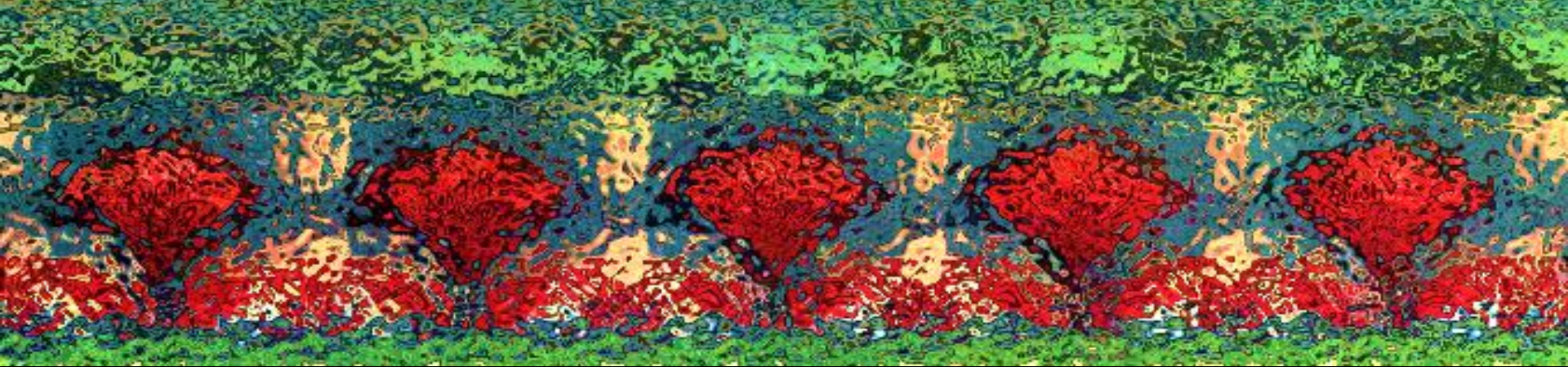


David and his men went to the wilderness of **Engedi**. It was told Saul, and he took 3,000 men with him to find David. Saul stopped to relieve himself at a cave. David and his men were in the cave, but David spared Saul's life.



David, king elect, once had to beg for bread and was forced to leave his country. Thus do God's providences sometimes seem to run counter to his promises, for the trial of his people's faith, and the glorifying of his name in the accomplishment of his counsels.





THE END

