

Handout: 1 Samuel Lesson 8

David's travels in chapters 22-24 (with the exception of Moab, all sites are within Judah's lands).

1. Takes refuge in the Cave of Adullam (22:1)
2. Takes his parents to Moab (22:3-4)
3. Saves the town of Keilah (23:1-13)
4. Stays at Horesh in the desert of Ziph (23:14-18)
5. Escapes to the desert of Maon
6. Camps in the strongholds of En-Gedi (24:1)

Compare what Doeg the Edomite reported to Saul with the information from David's visit to the Sanctuary at Nob recorded in 21:2-10:

1 Samuel 21:1-10/6-9	1 Samuel 22:9-10 (Doeg's account)
David to Ahimelech: <i>The king has given me an order...Do not let anyone know anything about the mission on which I am sending you ...</i>	
	<i>The man consulted Yahweh on his [David's] behalf</i>
<i>The priest then gave him [David] what had been consecrated ... which is taken out of Yahweh's presence ...</i>	<i>gave him [David] provisions</i>
<i>The sword of Goliath the Philistine ... if you care to take it, do so ...</i>	<i>gave the sword of Goliath</i>
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The laws Saul broke when he massacred the chief priests and then their families at Nob (see Ex 21:12; Lev 24:20; Dt 17:6; 19:15; 20:10-18):

1. Despite Ahimelech's defense, Saul announced that he and his whole family must die. This unjust verdict violates the law of reciprocal punishment ("an eye for an eye") in that the punishment must not exceed the crime and a man's family cannot pay the price for his sin.
2. Saul's verdict also violates the law in which a person can only be found guilty of a crime on the testimony of two or three witnesses and certainly cannot be put to death unless two or three witnesses testify to witnessing the crime. Doeg was the only witness.
3. Saul subjected Nob to *herem*, the curse of destruction that is only to be inflicted on Israel's worst enemies at God's command and never on Israelites.

David is warned concerning Saul's plans to capture him in 23:9, 15 and 25.

1. David is warned that Saul knew he was at Keilah and planned to trap him there.
2. David is told that Saul is planning to trap him at Horesh.
3. David is warned that Saul is coming after him when he is in the desert of Maon.

Jonathan encouraged David three ways in their last visit together in 23:16-18:

1. He tells David not to be afraid; Saul will not capture him.
2. He tells David he is destined to be Israel's king and he will support David in his kingship.
3. He renews his covenant with David as a sign of his loyalty.

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