A scenic landscape featuring a calm lake in the foreground, reflecting the sky and surrounding greenery. The background is filled with dense, lush green trees under a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

1st Samuel
Lesson 8
David Builds An Army
1 Samuel Chapters 22-24

Two Themes For This Study

1. Follow God's Commands

2. Repent

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

13 The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person.

9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

A scenic landscape featuring a calm lake in the foreground that perfectly reflects the surrounding environment. The lake's surface is a deep, vibrant blue, mirroring the sky and the mountains. In the middle ground, a dense forest of tall, green evergreen trees lines the shore. The background is dominated by majestic, rugged mountains with sharp peaks. The lower slopes of these mountains are a mix of dark grey and brown rock, while the upper sections are covered in patches of white snow. The sky above is a brilliant, clear blue, with a few wispy white clouds scattered across it. The overall scene is peaceful and awe-inspiring, capturing the beauty of a mountain wilderness.

God's protection and
direction to those who seek
His counsel.

Chapter 22-David and His Men

Vs. 1-5-The Cave of Adullam

- David left Gath and went to the cave of Adullam. []
- David's brothers and all his father's household joined him. The Lord established David's reputation among his household. (Psalm 90:14-17) []



Forest of Hereth

Mizpah

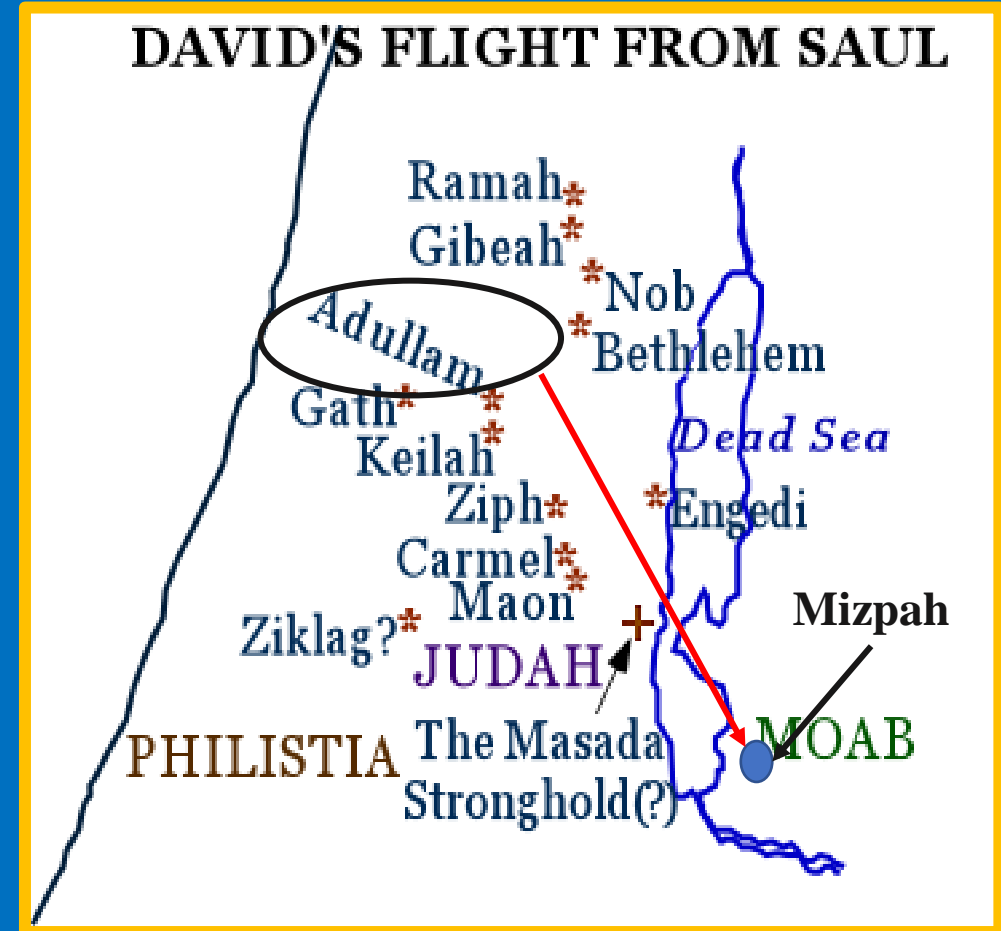
<https://allacin.blogspot.com/2014/10/1-samuel-illustrated-summary-of-life.html>

<https://www.bibleplaces.com/1samuel23/>

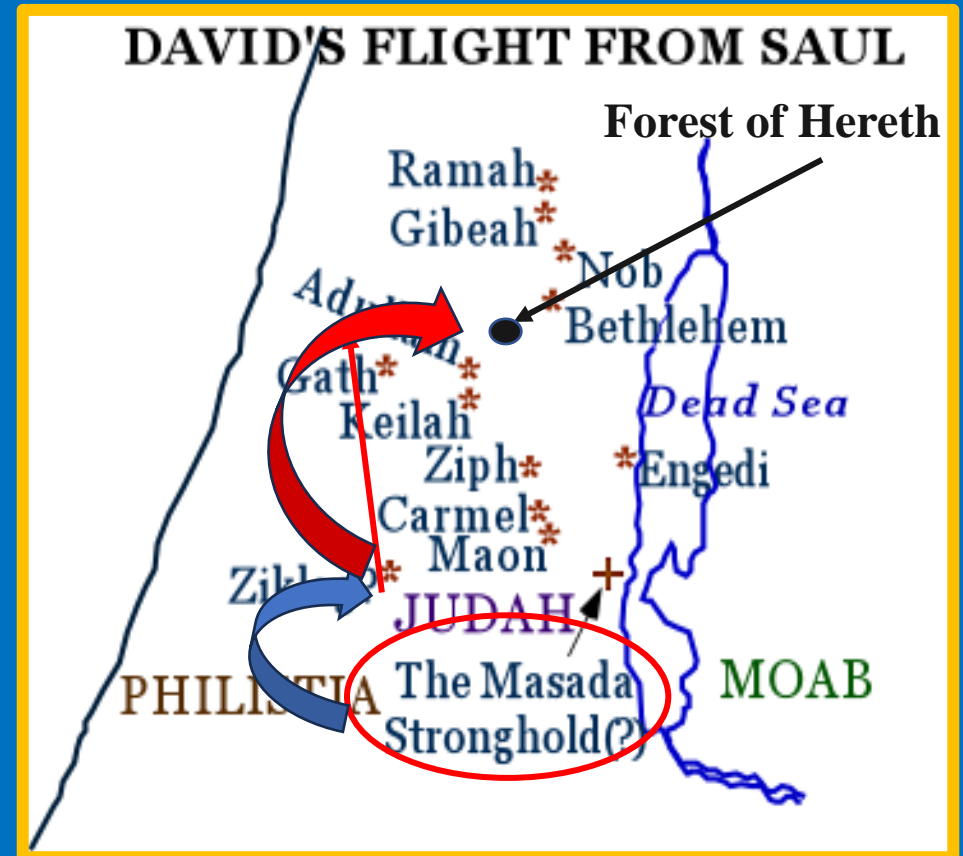
- The Lord gave David favor among everyone in distress, in debt, and discontented. (Psalm 126:5-6) []
- David became the captain over a band of about 400 outcasts (1st Samuel 22:1-2) []



- David left the cave at Adullam and came into the Moabite region of Mizpah. The Moabites descended from the family of Lot [*Ammonites also descended from Lot*]. []
- David's lineage included Tamar-a Canaanite, Ruth-a Moabites and great-grandmother to David (Ruth 4:21-22). []



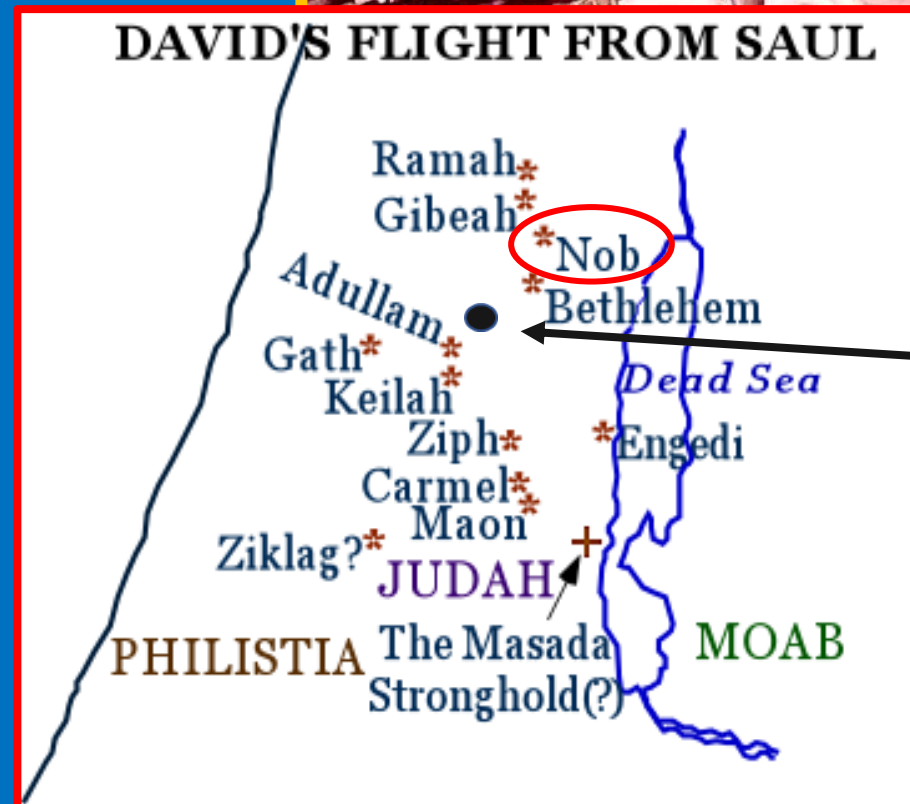
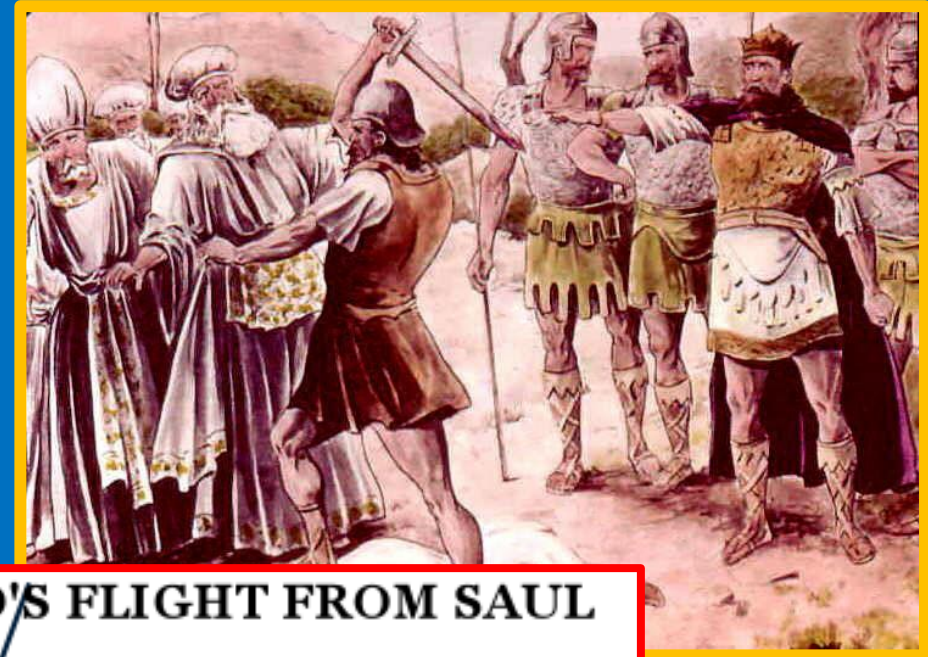
- David asked the king of **Moab** to watch over his father and mother until he knew God's direction. (Daniel 11:41; Revelation 12:13-14) []
- David sought God's direction and entrusted his life into God's hands.
- The Prophet, Gad, told David not to stay in the stronghold (*probably Masada*) but to depart and go into the land of **Judah**. David then went into the forest of Hereth. [*]



<https://allacin.blogspot.com/2014/10/1-samuel-illustrated-summary-of-life.html>

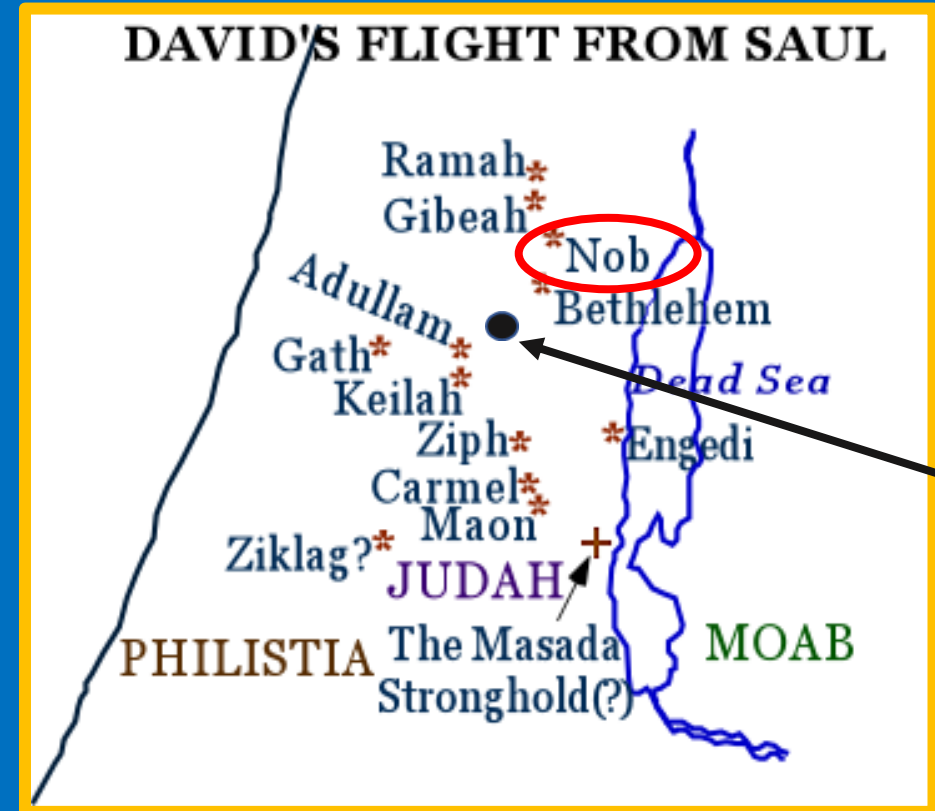
Vs. 6-23-Saul Slays the Priests

- Saul continued to throw a major **pity-party**.
- Saul gathered all his servants and accused them of conspiring against him and not feeling “sorry” for him.



Forest of Hereth

- Doeg told Saul that Ahimelech had given David provisions
Remember, Doeg saw David at Nob when Ahimelech gave David bread and Goliath's sword.



Forest
of
Hearth

- Saul summoned Ahimelech, all his household, and all the priests in Nob.
- Saul accused Ahimelech of conspiring against him. Saul believed that David had plotted an ambush against him.



<http://foundationsofmyfaith.blogspot.com/2012/09/saul-kills-priests-at-nob.html>

- Ahimelech told Saul that knew nothing of this conspiracy.
- Saul commanded the guards to kill the priests, but the guards would not attack the priests.



<http://foundationsofmyfaith.blogspot.com/2012/09/saul-kills-priests-at-nob.html>

- Saul told Doeg to kill the priests.
- Doeg killed **85** priests, every living person, and all the animals in Nob. [*This fulfilled the prophecy concerning Eli's lineage 1st Samuel 2:31-32*] []
- **Abiathar**, one of Ahimelech's sons, escaped, fled to David, and told him what had happened.



<http://foundationsofmyfaith.blogspot.com/2012/09/saul-kills-priests-at-nob.html>

- David felt responsible for these deaths and assured Abiathar of his safety.
- **David's trust in God strengthened as he realized the Lord had watched over him and protected him.**

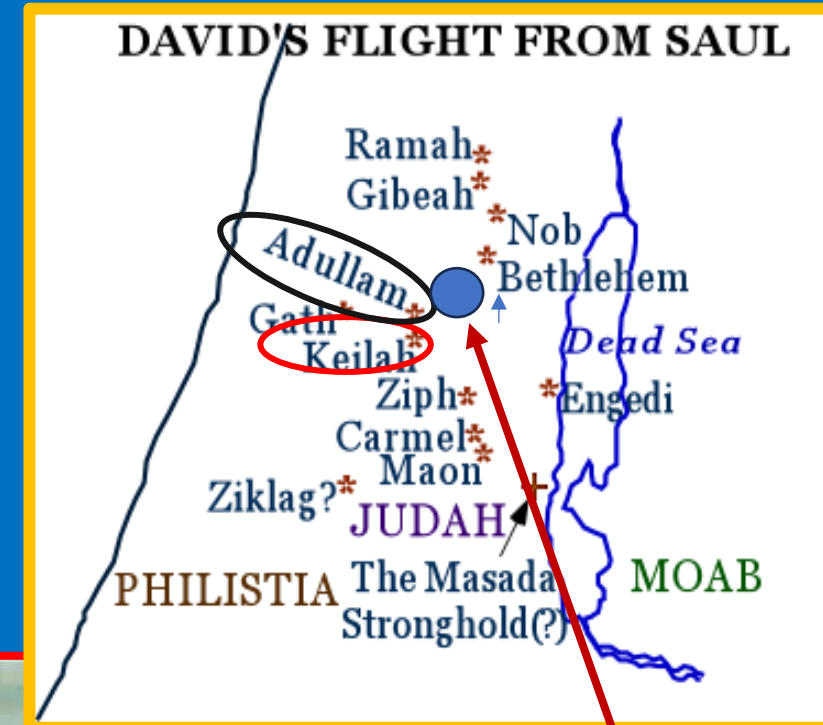


<http://foundationsofmyfaith.blogspot.com/2012/09/saul-kills-priests-at-nob.html>

Chapter 23-David's Battles

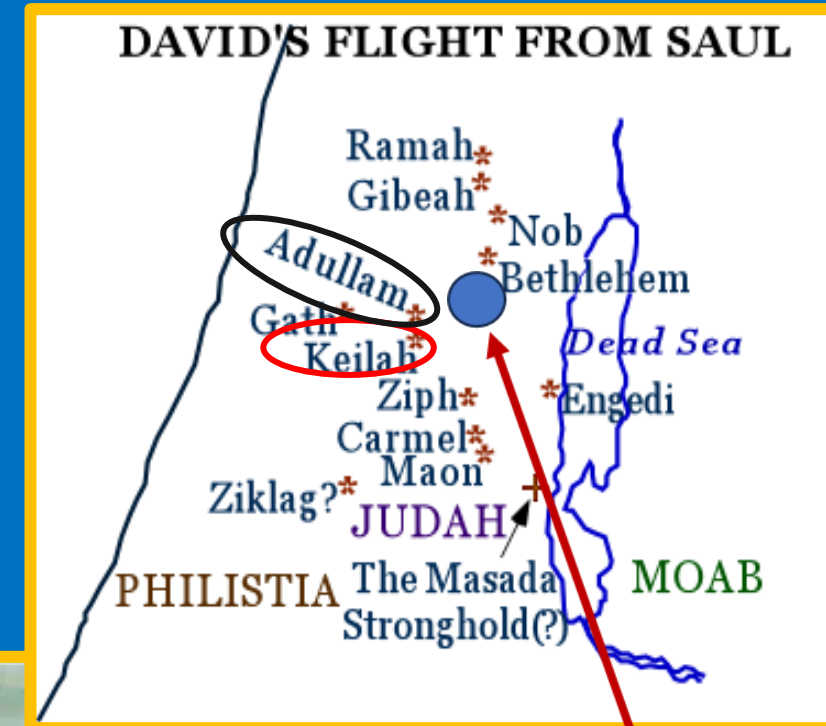
Vs. 1-12-David Delivers the City of Keilah

- The Philistines attacked the city of **Keilah** (Key-lah). []
- David asked God if he should attack the Philistines.



Forest of Hereth

- Keilah laid in the heart of Saul's territory and David's men did not want to go there.
- David inquired of the Lord again and the Lord told him to **attack** (1 Samuel 23:1-4) []



Forest of Hereth

- David grew more confident in the Lord's guidance.
- David and his men went to Keilah and attacked the Philistines, took their livestock, and delivered the people.
- David found Abiathar and took the ephod with him after fleeing Nob.



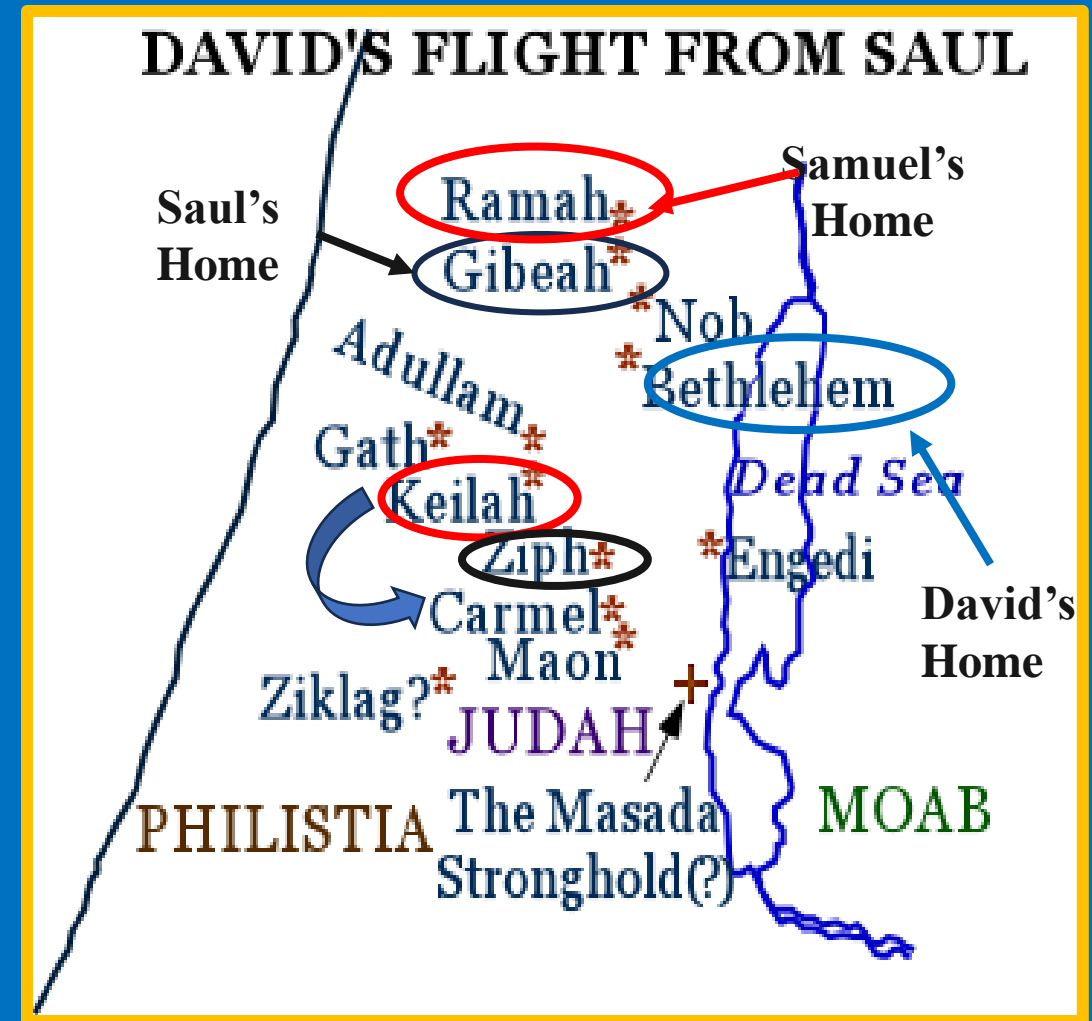
<https://kumi07.wordpress.com/tag/ritual-vest-the-ephod/>

- The priests wore a linen ephod garment when ministering at the altar.
- The priests also wore a pouch over the ephod. It contained two stones called the Urim and Thummim. The priests, possibly, would cast these stones to decipher the word of the Lord (Exodus 28:30) []

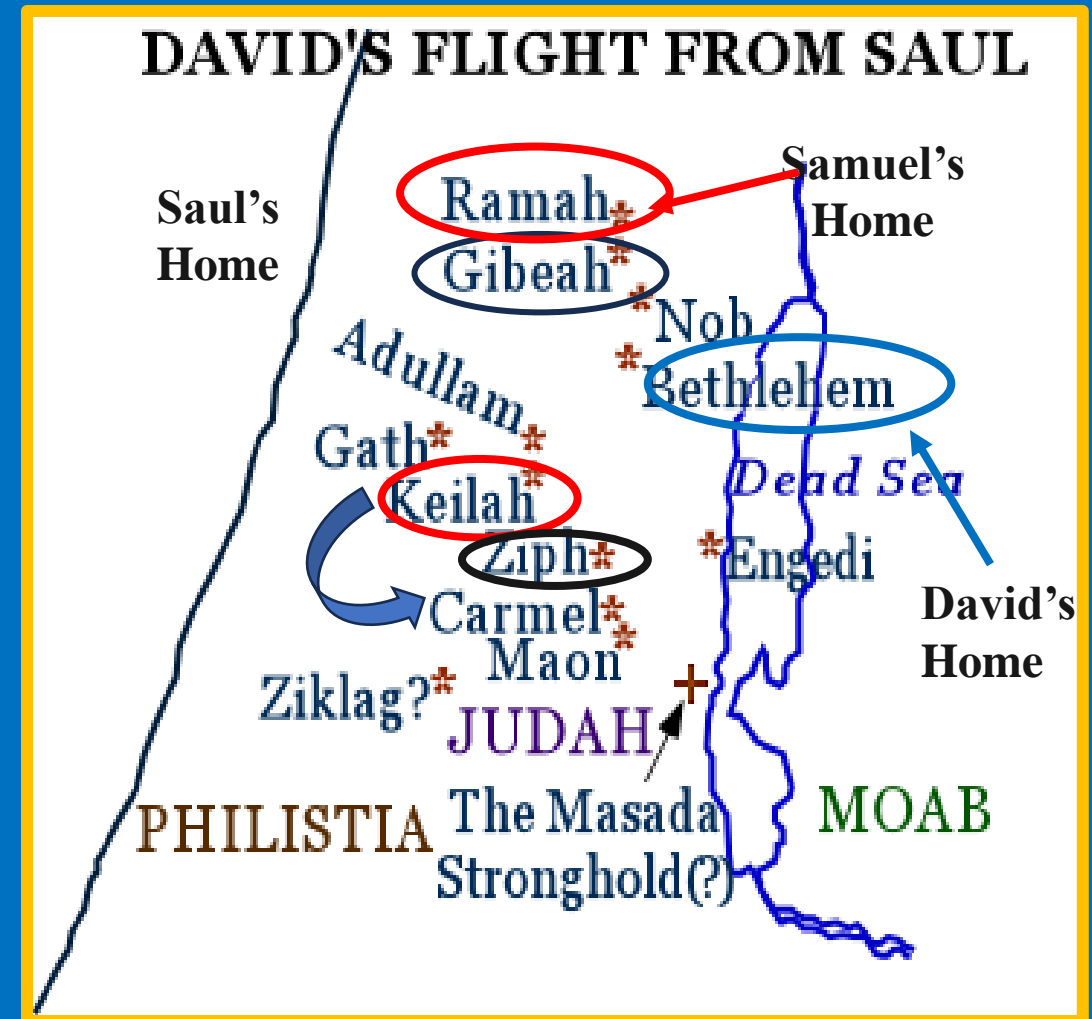


<https://kumi07.wordpress.com/tag/ritual-vest-the-ephod/>

- When Saul heard that David fled to Keilah, Saul ordered his men to capture David.
- Saul felt he had trapped David within the city.
- Apparently, the city had only one entrance and exit. It probably had two wooden doors hinged at the sides and secured by a heavy bar spanning across the entrance.

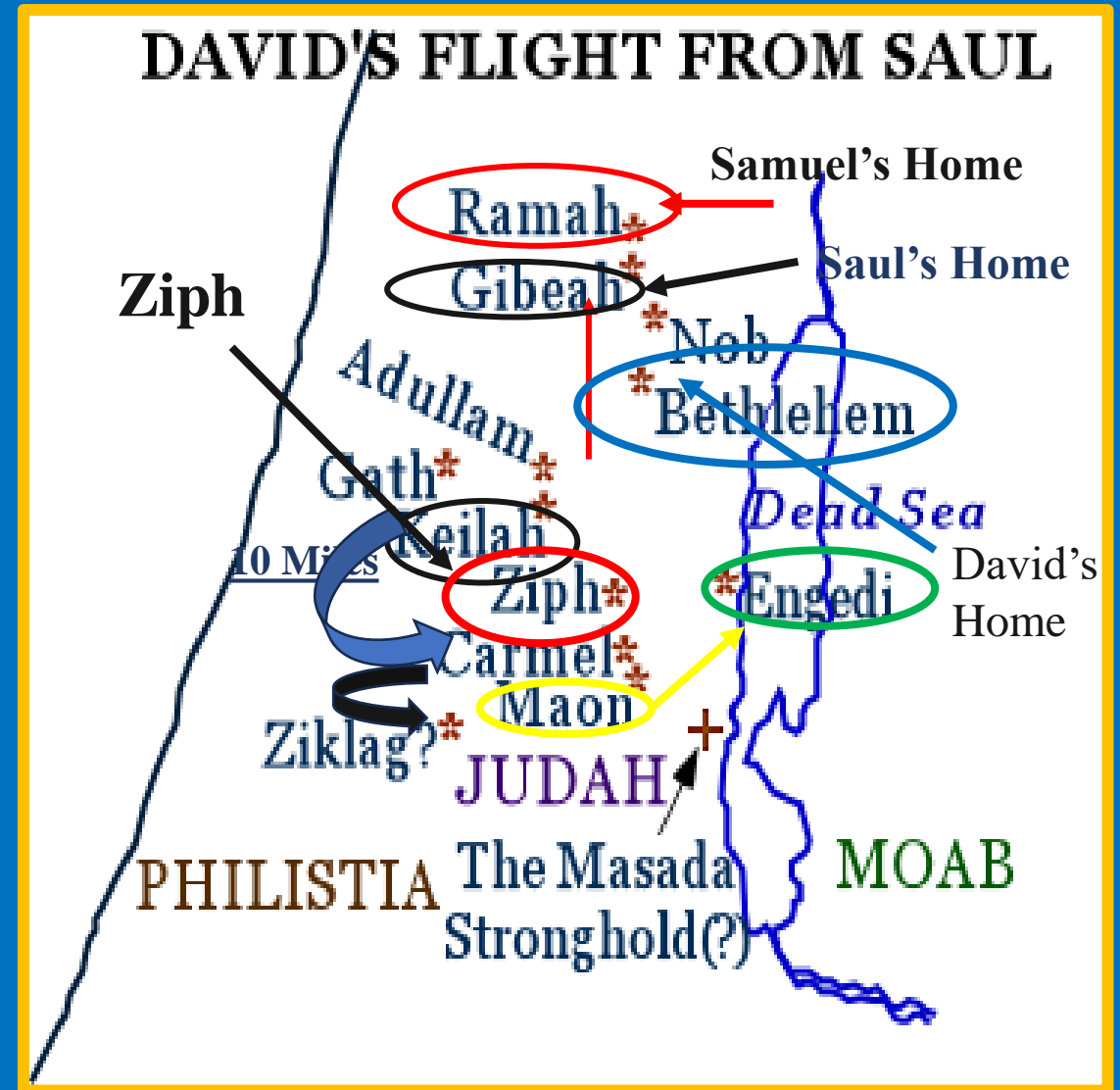


- David **inquired** of the Lord as to whether the people of Keilah would deliver him over to Saul.
- The Lord told David the people would turn him over.

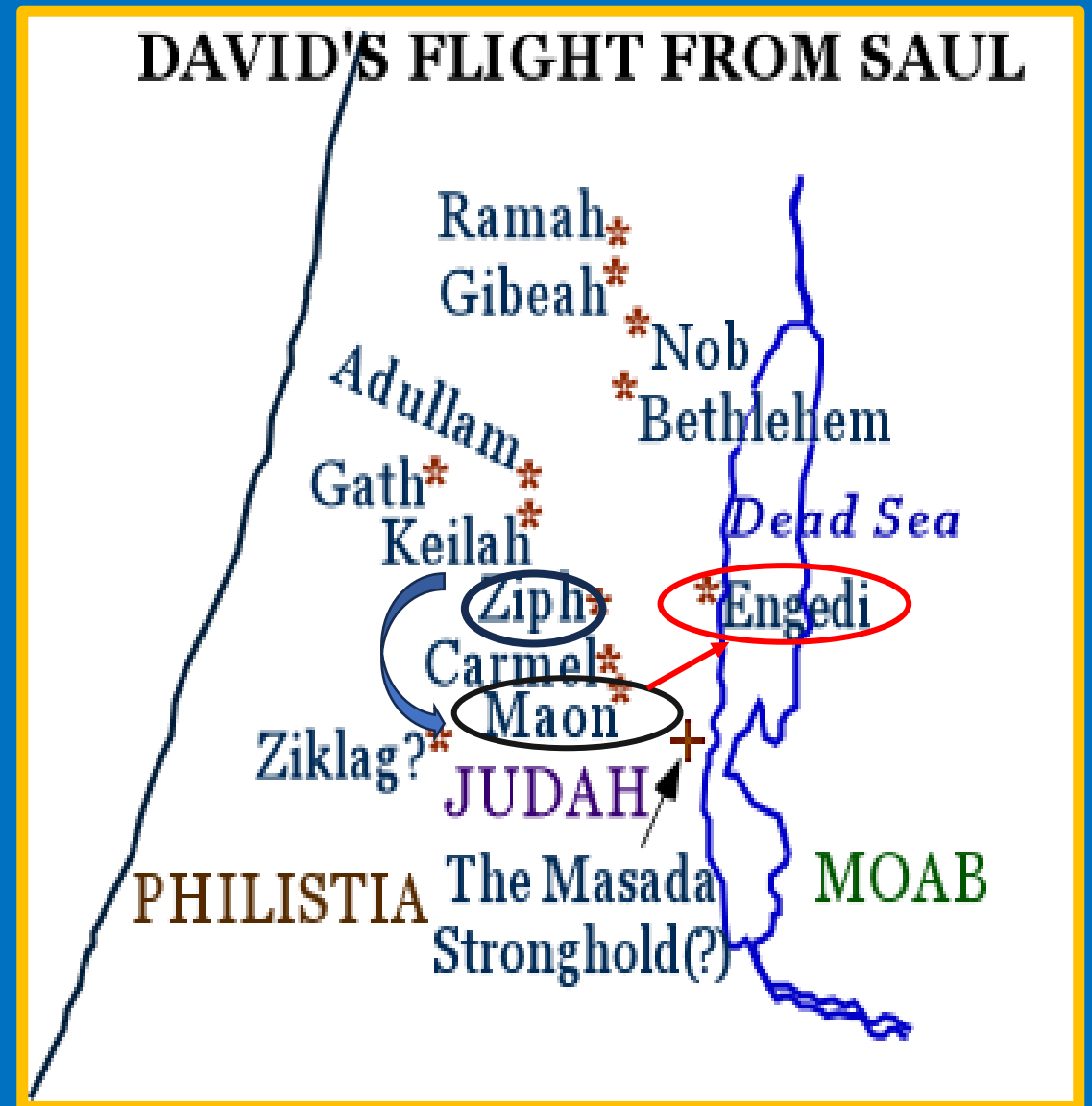


Vs. 13-29-David Goes to the Wilderness of Ziph

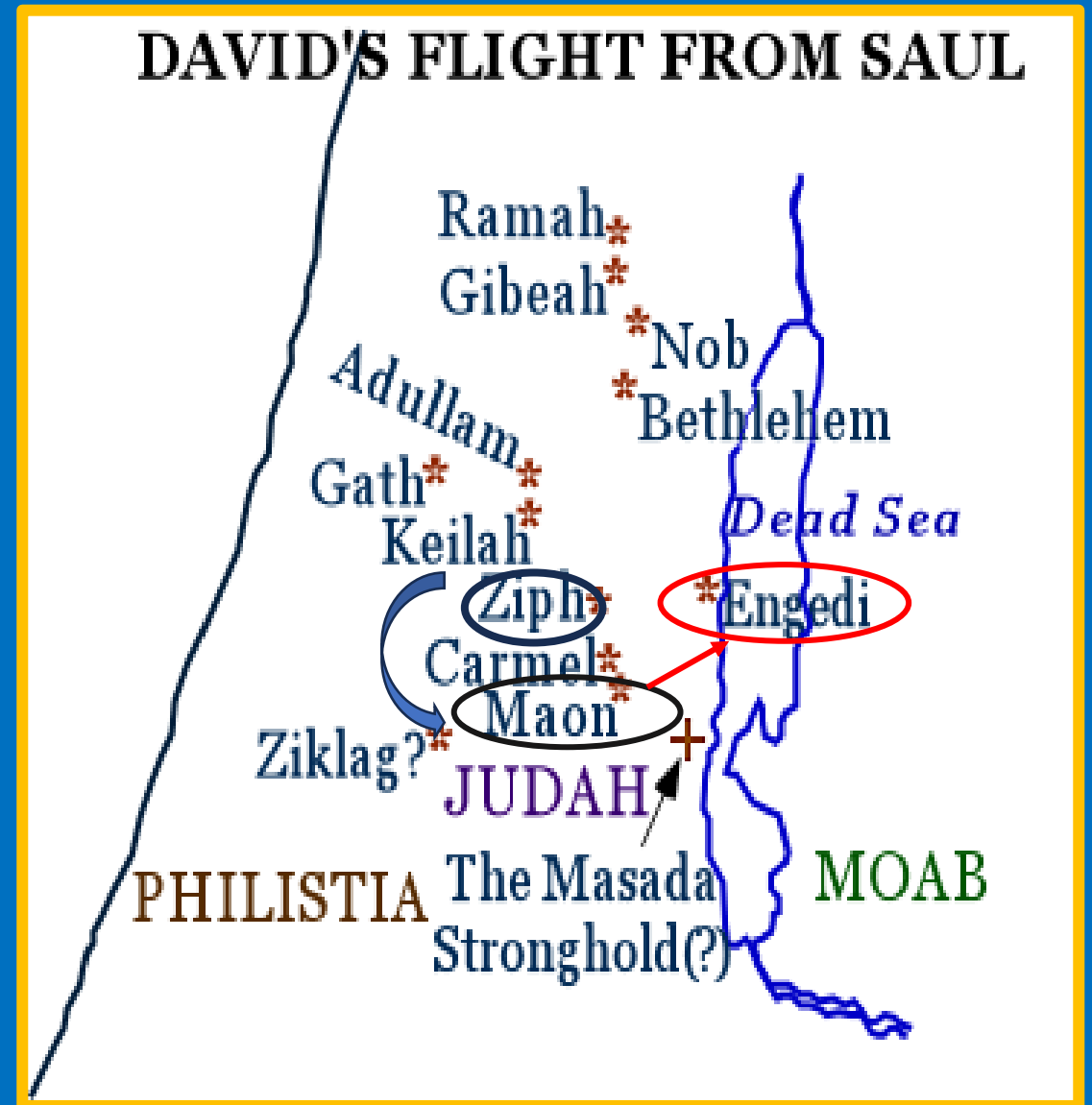
- David left the city with about **600** men (his army had grown).
- When Saul heard David had left the city, he gave up the pursuit.
- David and his men went and hid in the wilderness of Ziph. Saul pursued David every day, but God kept him safe. []



- Jonathan, Saul's son, found David, encouraged him, and confirmed him as the next king. Jonathan believed he would sit alongside David.
- Saul heard David had retreated to the wilderness of Maon [mon]. While pursuing David, Saul received a message the Philistines had attacked Israel. []



- Saul returned from pursuing David.
- David named the mountain the “Rock of Escape” for the Lord delivered him and his men.
- From Maon, David went into the strongholds of Engedi.



Chapter 24-David Spares Saul at Engedi

<https://www.israel-in-photos.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Ein-Gedi-National-Park-at-Southern-Israel-during-winter-14.jpg>

Vs. 1-22-The Cave of Engedi

- Saul learned David had entered the wilderness of Engedi.
- Saul took 3,000 of his choicest men and pursued David.
- Saul came to a certain cave and went in to “use the bathroom.”



<https://deadsea.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/national-park-Ein-Gedi.jpg>

- As it happened, David and his men—who hid in the cave—encouraged David to kill Saul (talking about privacy).
- David knew the Lord had anointed Saul; therefore, David would not permit his men to kill Saul.

<https://www.israel-in-photos.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Ein-Gedi-National-Park-at-Southern-Israel-during-winter-14.jpg>



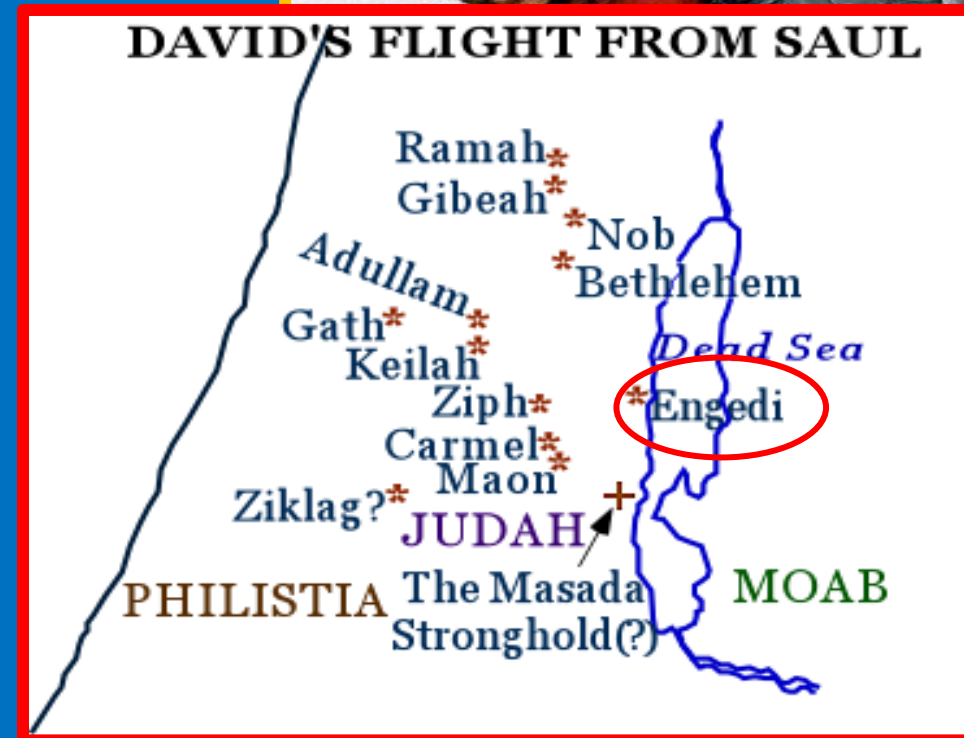
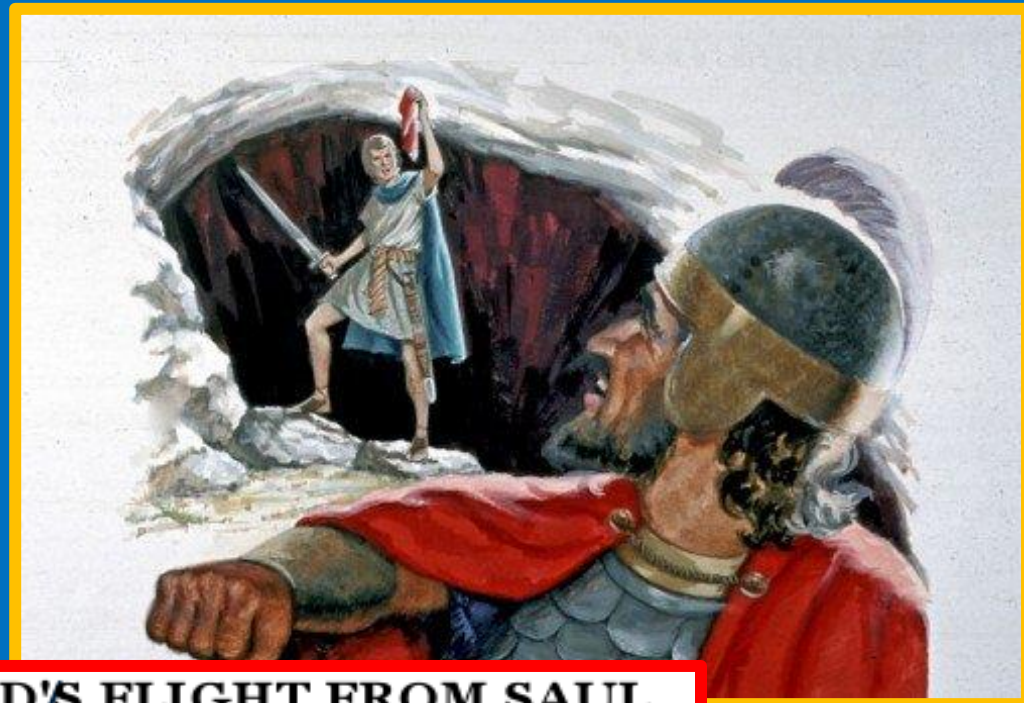
<https://deadsea.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/national-park-Ein-Gedi.jpg>

- David, however, cut off a part of Saul's robe.
- After Saul left the cave, David came out, revealed himself and let Saul know he had spared Saul's life.

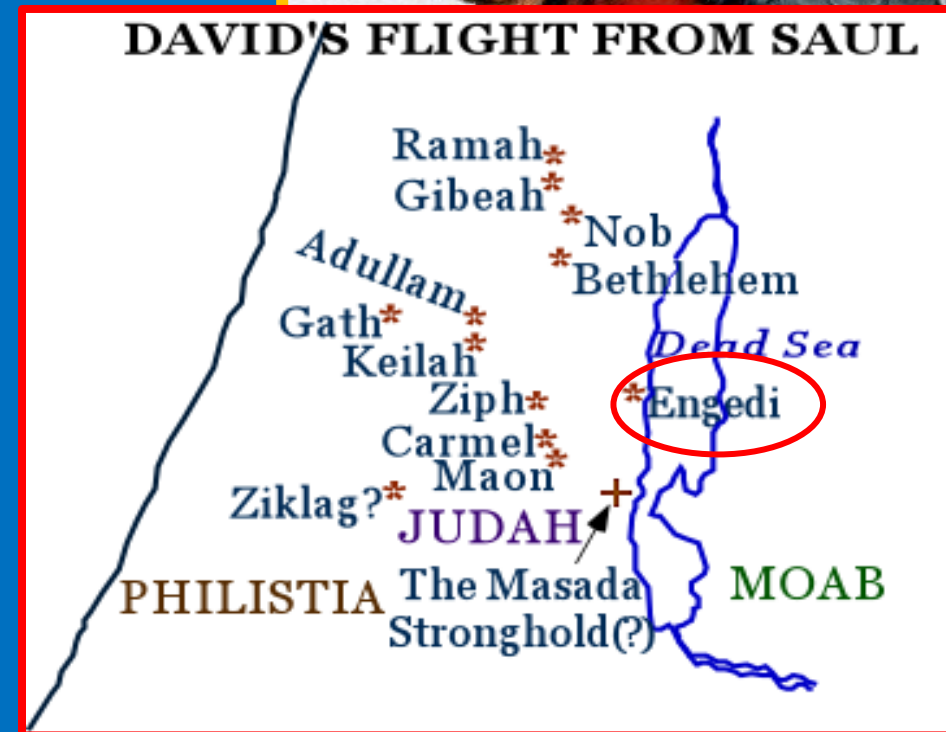
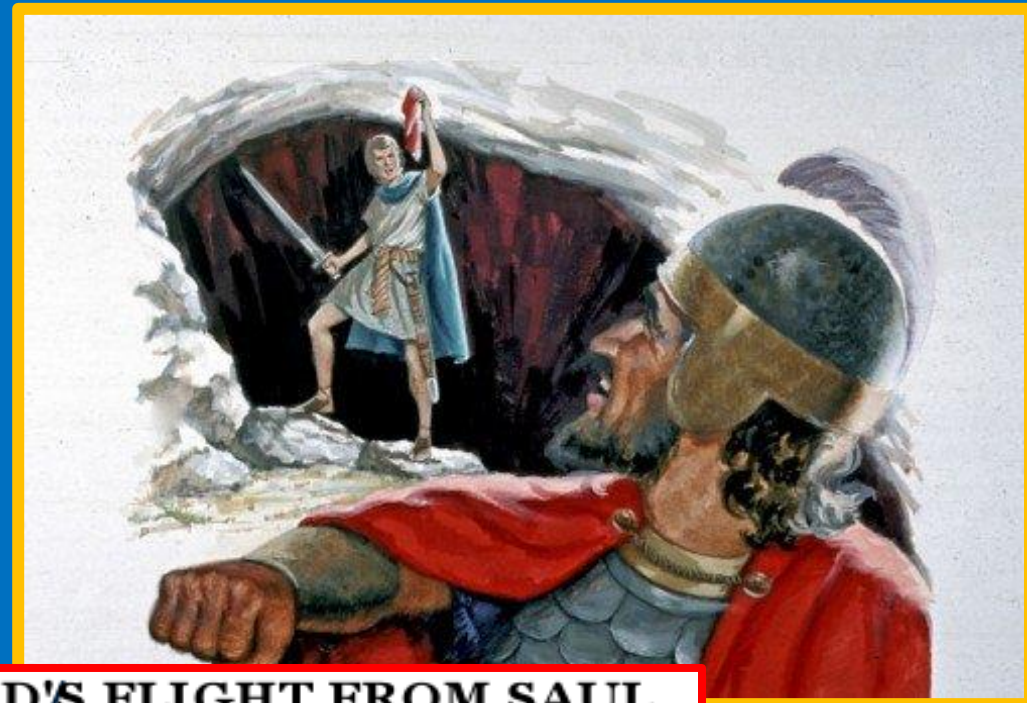


<http://blog.lundys.com/2011/02/tour-of-israel-feb-14th.html>

- Saul wept after realizing David's innocence and loyalty.
- Saul admitted David would reign as the next king.
- Saul made David swear he would not kill his **descendants**.



- As it happened, most of Saul's family would die without David inflicting punishment.
- David did not return with Saul but took his men up to the stronghold **of Engedi**.



Summary

- Learning to trust God may result in a long and painful process. We cannot look at our faults, failures, and shortcomings as God's way of punishing us but as His way of allowing our faith to grow. David had to realize that lying and scheming did not work. He eventually learned to seek the Lord and to rely upon His word for guidance.

Over---

- As humans, we sometimes fail miserably. God sees these failures as opportunities to draw us closer to him. Paul says in Philippians 3:13-14, “...But I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us” (NLT).
- When we fall short of God’s best, we repent, ask God for strength, forget the past, and move forward.

End---

Exodus 28:30

30 You shall put in the breastpiece of judgment the Urim and the Thummim, and they shall be over Aaron's heart when he goes in before the LORD; and Aaron shall carry the judgment of the sons of Israel over his heart before the LORD continually.

Compare this to the Role of the Holy Spirit

Romans 8:26-27

26 In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words; and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. [∗]

Proverbs 21:13

13 He who shuts his ear to the cry of the poor Will also cry himself and not be answered.

Isaiah 58:6-7

6 "Is this not the fast which I choose, To loosen the bonds of wickedness, To undo the bands of the yoke, And to let the oppressed go free And break every yoke? 7 "Is it not to divide your bread with the hungry And bring the homeless poor into the house; When you see the naked, to cover him; And not to hide yourself from your own flesh?

Over---

Proverbs 31:8-9

8 Open your mouth for the mute, For the rights of all the unfortunate. 9 Open your mouth, judge righteously, And defend the rights of the afflicted and needy. []

1st Samuel 22:1-2

1 So David departed from there and escaped to the cave of Adullam; and when his brothers and all his father's household heard of it, they went down there to him. 2 Everyone who was in distress, and everyone who was in debt, and everyone who was discontented gathered to him; and he became captain over them. Now there were about four hundred men with him. []

Ruth 4:21-22

8 Now these are the generations of Perez: to Perez (*son of Tamar-a Canaanite*) was born Hezron, 19 and to Hezron was born Ram, and to Ram, Amminadab, 20 and to Amminadab was born Nahshon, and to Nahshon, Salmon [Sa-mun], 21 and to Salmon was born Boaz, and to Boaz (***Ruth**-a Moabites*), Obed, 22 and to Obed was born Jesse, and to Jesse, David. []

Daniel 11:41

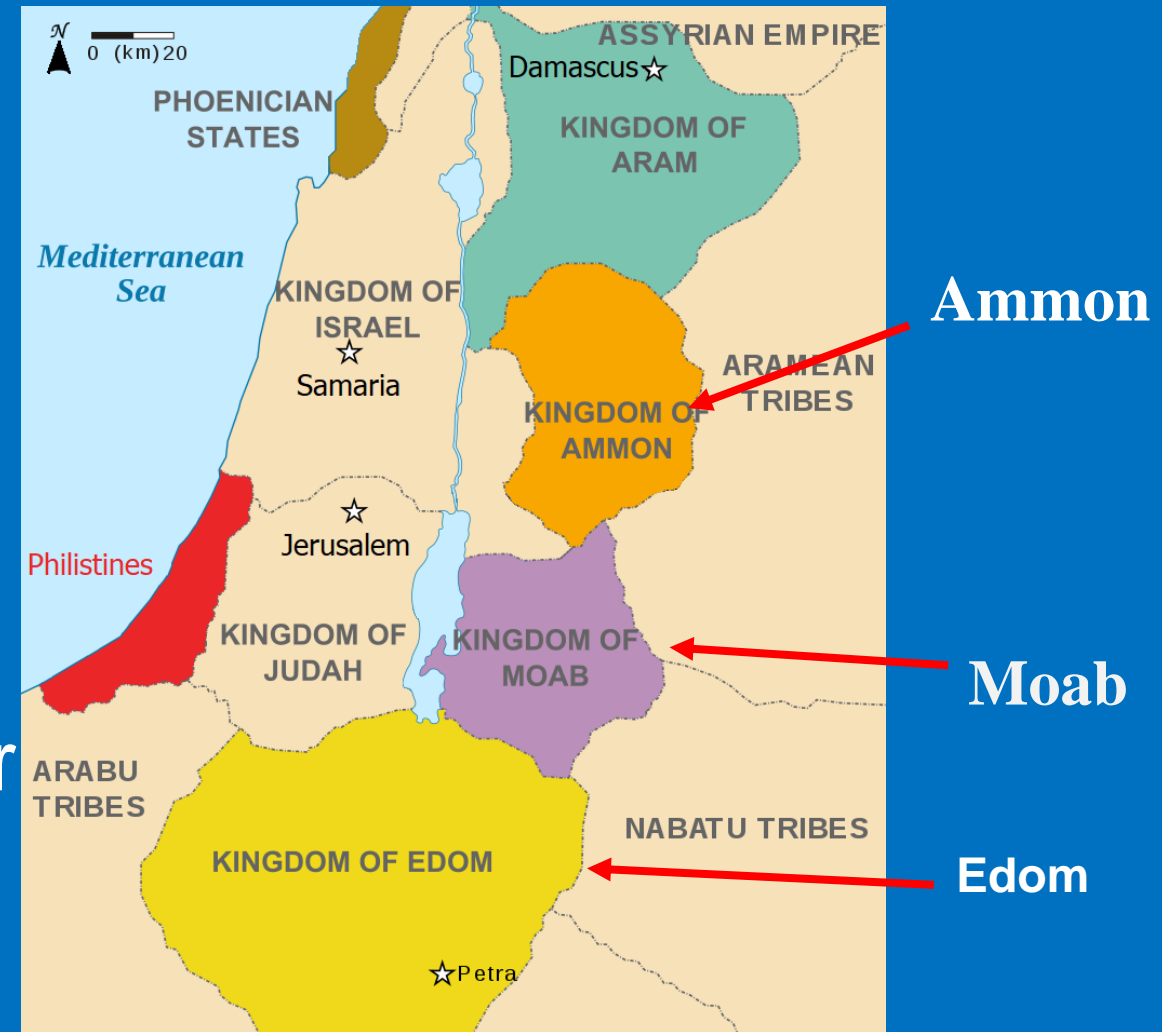
41 He will also enter the Beautiful Land, and many countries will fall; but these will be rescued out of his hand: Edom, Moab and the foremost of the sons of Ammon.

Over---



Revelation 12:13-14

13 And when the dragon [Satan] saw that he was thrown down to the earth, he persecuted the woman [Israel] who gave birth to the male child. 14 But the two wings of the great eagle were given to the woman, so that she could fly into the wilderness to her place, where she was nourished for a time and times and half a time [3 ½ years], from the presence of the serpent. []



1st Samuel 23:1-4

1 Then they told David, saying, “Behold, the Philistines are fighting against Keilah and are plundering the threshing floors.” 2 So David inquired of the Lord, saying, “Shall I go and attack these Philistines?” And the Lord said to David, “Go and attack the Philistines and deliver Keilah.” 3 But David’s men said to him, “Behold, we are afraid here in Judah. How much more then if we go to Keilah against the ranks of the Philistines?” 4 Then David inquired of the Lord once more. And the Lord answered him and said, “Arise, go down to Keilah, for I will give the Philistines into your hand.” []

Masada



1st Samuel 2:31-32

31 The time is coming when I will cut short your strength and the strength of your priestly house, so that no one in it will reach old age, 32 and you will see distress in my dwelling. Although good will be done to Israel, no one in your family line will ever reach old age. []

Psalm 90:14-17

14 Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.

15 Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, for as many years as we have seen trouble.

16 May your deeds be shown to your servants, your splendor to their children.

17 May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us—
yes, establish the work of our hands (NIV). []

Psalm 126:5-6

5 Those who sow in tears shall reap with joyful shouting.

6 He who goes to and fro weeping, carrying his bag of seed,
Shall indeed come again with a shout of joy, bringing his
sheaves with him. []



Wilderness of Ziph

<https://walkwithgod.org/ever-ziph/>

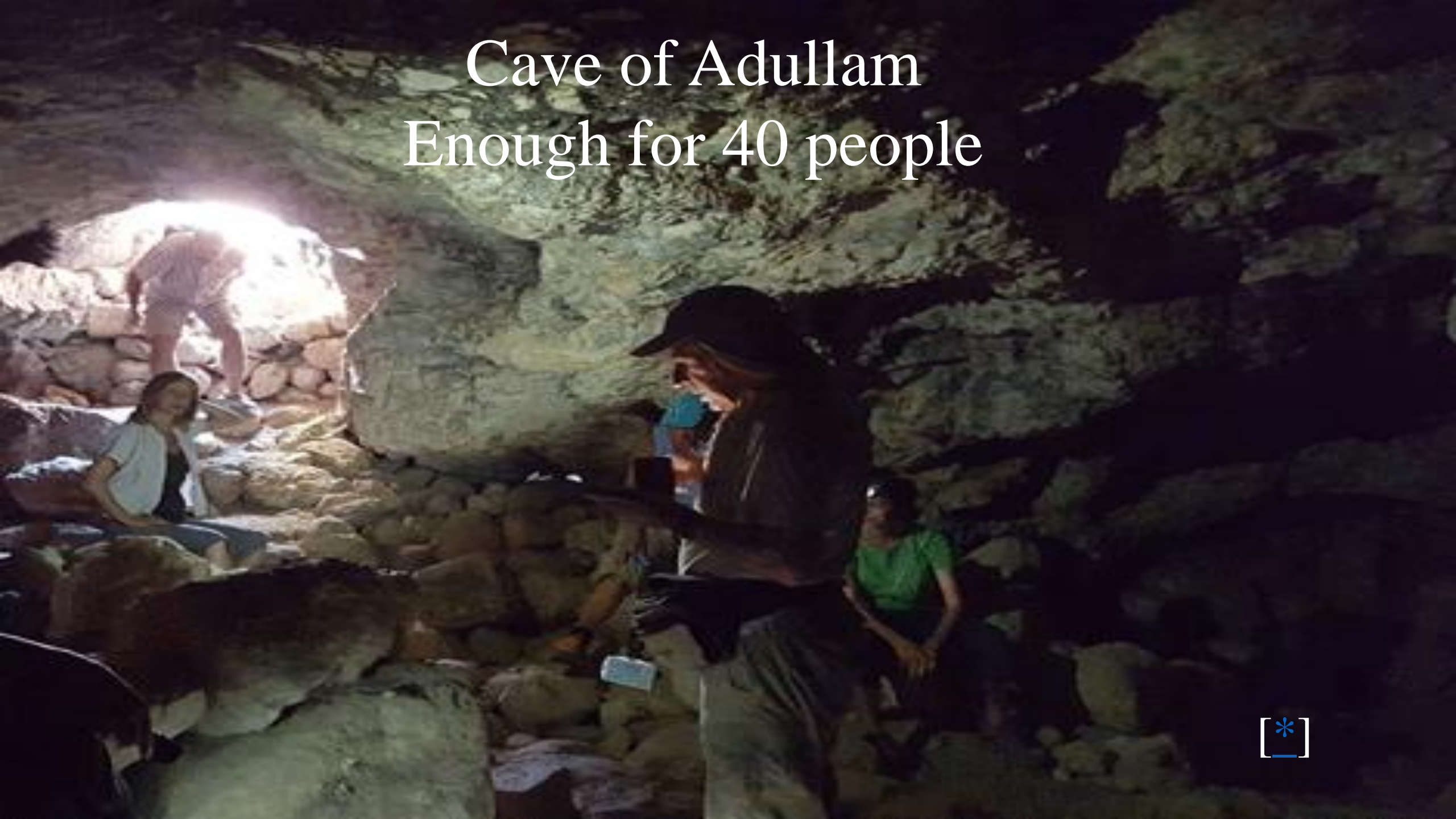


Wilderness of Moan



Cave of Adullam

Enough for 40 people



Mizpah-Moab



Keilah

