

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." 5 So David and his men went to Keilah and fought with the Philistines; and he led away their livestock and struck them with a great slaughter. Thus David delivered the inhabitants of Keilah.

Bullies, robbers picking on little guy, weak & vulnerable stealing their grain. David stirred w/ righteous indignation. Hates what God hates *Ps 41:1 How blessed is he who considers the **helpless**; The LORD will deliver him in a day of trouble. 2 The LORD will protect him, and keep him alive, And he shall be called blessed upon the earth; And do not give him over to the desire of his enemies.*

David doesn't let his emotions control him *Pr 15:18 NLT A hot-tempered person starts fights; a cool-tempered person stops them.* He instead asks counsel of Lord. God what do you want me to do? *'keeping away from strife is an honor for a man, any fool will quarrel'* *Pr 20:3*

Those w/ David, not having faith like David, they were already stretched & in survival mode & on the run from murderous Saul who just slaughtered 85 priests of God Nob now his men protest saying we're barely hanging on here in Judah & you want us to go deliver Keilah from the army of the Philistines?

David not too proud to listen & seek the Lord again. Praying over & over to make sure it's the Lord & not you is not a lack of faith but a guard against presumption. Jesus prayed 3x's 'let this cup pass' Paul 3x's 'take thorn'

Leaders w/ vision don't threaten or coerce their followers but draw them, lead them by prayer and faith. *Our board Komo Mai 'how much is that?'*

David goes back to prayer to confirm. **Some have delusions of grandeur-them and not Lord.** Prayed again to confirm it is of the Lord and he gave more details *'I will give Philistines into your hands'*. They went and were successful and faith was built in David's men. **Empress Matt/Don**

God rewards faith when doing His will 1. Victory over enemy, 2. Spoils of victory 3. Blessing to others. And vs 6--4th reward, HP joins w/ Ephod—a symbol of HS or God's presence directing our ways. **6 Now it came about, when Abiathar the son of Ahimelech fled to David at Keilah, that he came down with an ephod in his hand.**

7 When it was told Saul that David had come to Keilah, Saul said, "God has delivered him into my hand, for he shut himself in by entering a city with double gates and bars." 8 So Saul summoned all the people for war, to go down to Keilah to besiege David and his men. 9 Now David knew that Saul was plotting evil against him; so he said to Abiathar the priest, "Bring the ephod here." 10 Then David said, "O LORD God of Israel, Thy servant has heard for certain that Saul is seeking to come to Keilah to destroy the city on my account. 11 "Will the men of Keilah surrender me into his hand? Will Saul come down just as Thy servant has heard? O LORD God of Israel, I pray, tell Thy servant." And the LORD said, "He will come down." 12 Then David said, "Will the men of Keilah surrender me and my men into the hand of Saul?" And the LORD said, "They will surrender you." 13 Then David and his men, about six hundred, arose and departed from Keilah, and they went wherever they could go. When it was told Saul that David had escaped from Keilah, he gave up the pursuit.

Using Gods name in vain 3rd commandment Ex 20:7 making God a partner in things that are not Him. Circumstances do not always point to God's will but the devil can use. Often it's a test to reveal the heart. **Jack lane**

Saul willing to go to war against people of Keilah to kill David. He already killed priest of Nob. Note contrast; David, for sake of people of Keilah leaves city, exposes himself & makes it known so Saul not attack the city. Saul finally gives up pursuing for a time—Here is evidence that God delivers those who fear Him & are willing to do His will

Ps 18:47,48 NLT 47 He is the God who pays back those who harm me; he subdues the nations under me 48 and rescues me from my enemies. You hold me safe beyond the reach of my enemies; you save me from violent opponents. 34:17-19 The LORD hears his people when they call to him for help. He rescues them from all their troubles. 18 The LORD is close to the brokenhearted; he rescues those whose spirits are crushed. 19 The righteous person faces many troubles, but the LORD comes to the rescue each time.

14 And David stayed in the wilderness in the strongholds, and remained in the hill country in the wilderness of Ziph. And Saul sought him every day, but God did not deliver him into his hand. 15 Now David became aware that Saul had come out to seek his life while David was in the wilderness of Ziph at Horesh. 16 And Jonathan, Saul's son, arose and went to David at Horesh, and encouraged him in God. 17 Thus he said to him, "Do not be afraid, because the hand of Saul my father shall not find you, and you will be king over Israel and I will be next to you; and Saul my father knows that also." 18 So the two of them made a covenant before the LORD; and David stayed at Horesh while Jonathan went to his house.

Saul sought him every day & God delivered him every day...as God will do the same for those who trust Him. Jonathan brings relief...there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother, brings a word of comfort & encouragement to David. We need those like Jon bringing Gods comfort & strength. **Aaron & Hur w/ Moses.**

Jon speaks words of faith yet they not all come to pass, it not God's will. My father not find you & you will be king, I know it & my father knows it. But Jon will not sit next to David. Father/son so different yet Jon honored & followed his father even to death in battle all the while being loyal to David.

19 Then Ziphites came up to Saul at Gibeah, saying, "Is David not hiding with us in the strongholds at Horesh, on the hill of Hachilah, which is on the south of Jeshimon? 20 "Now then, O king, come down according to all the desire of your soul to do so; and our part shall be to surrender him into the king's hand." These were David's kin, brothers of tribe of Judah giving him up to a mad king Ps 54. Fear motivate them, knowing Saul's murderous ways or hatred for David or favor of Saul as Judas or just don't care, whatever!

21 And Saul said, "May you be blessed of the LORD; for you have had compassion on me. Spiritual jargon to appease, take advantage 22 "Go now, make more sure, and investigate and see his place where his haunt is, and who has seen him there; for I am told that he is very cunning. 23 "So look, & learn about all the hiding places where he hides himself, and return to me w/ certainty,

and I will go with you; and it shall come about if he is in the land that I will search him out among all the thousands of Judah.” **Paranoia & control takes measures to surveil know where he goes and who he’s w/--**

24 Then they arose and went to Ziph before Saul. Now David and his men were in the wilderness of Maon, in the Arabah to the south of Jeshimon. 25 When Saul and his men went to seek him, they told David, and he came down to the rock and stayed in the wilderness of Maon. And when Saul heard it, he pursued David in the wilderness of Maon. 26 And Saul went on one side of the mountain, and David and his men on the other side of the mountain; and David was hurrying to get away from Saul, for Saul and his men were surrounding David and his men to seize them. 27 But a messenger came to Saul, saying, “Hurry and come, for the Philistines have made a raid on the land.” 28 So Saul returned from pursuing David, and went to meet the Philistines; therefore they called that place the Rock of Escape. 29 And David went up from there and stayed in the strongholds of Engedi

Circumstances in life are ever changing from encouragement of Jon to betrayal of Ziphites. I’ve said ‘it can’t get much better than this’ to ‘it can’t get any worse than this’. David doesn’t know who his friends are especially those who prefer safety w/ a mad king over support for God’s man. Ziphites know Saul is obsessed w/ David wanting to kill him chose compromise over character, so unlike Jon.

Saul uses spiritual jargon to cover his wickedness & to deceive **Pr 26:23 NLT**
Smooth words may hide a wicked heart, just as a pretty glaze covers a clay pot.

Saul recruits those like himself **Pr 1:10-19** is a warning to us. David calls his fellows strangers Ps 54:3 Saul ‘he’s cunning’ ‘crafty’ character assassination to turn people away. Ja 3:6 the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity set on fire by hell...bless God and curse men’

David doesn’t want to fight his fellow brethren so he flees although they betray him and seek his life. The battle belong to the Lord. Yet close encounter forcing a fight but God intervenes thru threat of Philistines. Providence of God prevails.

