

THE LIFE OF DAVID

AFTER
GOD'S
HEART

“God in the Mess”
1 Samuel 27-30



PRISONERS

EVERY MOMENT MATTERS





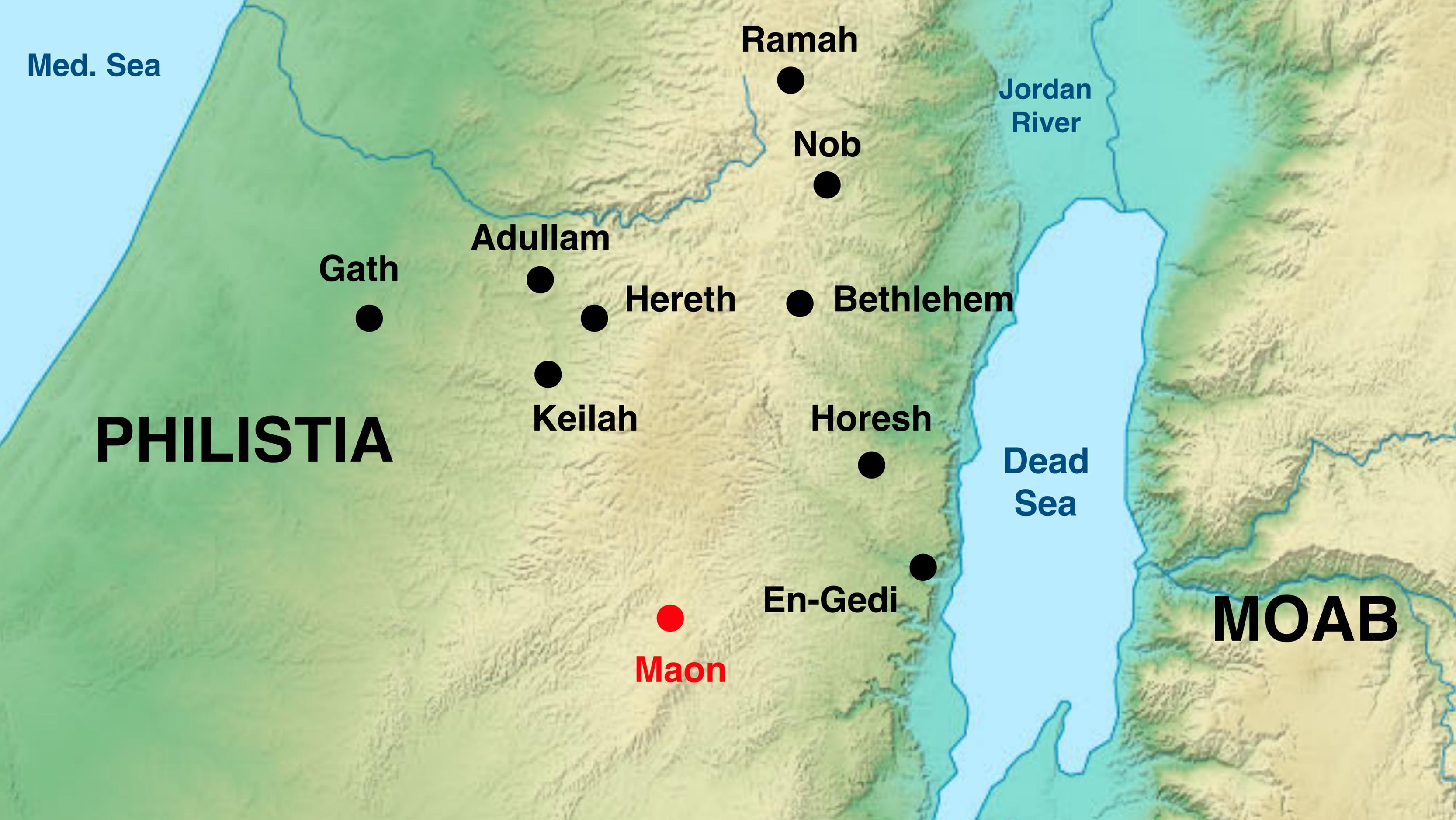












Med. Sea

Ramah

Jordan River

Nob

Adullam

Gath

Hereth

Bethlehem

PHILISTIA

Keilah

Horesh

Dead Sea

En-Gedi

Maon

MOAB



... the life of my
lord shall be
bound in the
bundle of the
living in the care
of the LORD
your God.

(1 Sam 25:29)



1 Samuel 25:37-38

In the morning, when the wine had gone out of Nabal, his wife told him these things, and his heart died within him, and he became as a stone. And about ten days later the LORD struck Nabal, and he died.



1 Samuel 25:43-44

David also took Ahinoam of Jezreel, and both of them became his wives. Saul had given Michal his daughter, David's wife, to Palti the son of Laish, who was of Gallim.





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1 Samuel 27:1

Then David said in his heart, "Now I shall perish one day by the hand of Saul. There is nothing better for me than that I should escape to the land of the Philistines. Then Saul will despair of seeking me any longer within the borders of Israel, and I shall escape out of his hand."



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1 Samuel 27:6-12

So that day Achish gave him Ziklag.
Therefore Ziklag has belonged to the kings
of Judah to this day. And the number of the
days that David lived in the country of the
Philistines was a year and four months.

Now David and his men went up and made
raids against the Geshurites, the Girzites,
and the Amalekites, for these were the



1 Samuel 27:6-12

inhabitants of the land from of old, as far as Shur, to the land of Egypt. And David would strike the land and would leave neither man nor woman alive, but would take away the sheep, the oxen, the donkeys, the camels, and the garments, and come back to Achish.

When Achish asked, "Where have you made a raid today?"



1 Samuel 27:6-12

David would say, "Against the Negeb of Judah," or, "Against the Negeb of the Jerahmeelites," or, "Against the Negeb of the Kenites."

And David would leave neither man nor woman alive to bring news to Gath, thinking, "lest they should tell about us and say, 'So David has done.'"



1 Samuel 27:6-12

Such was his custom all the while he lived in the country of the Philistines.

And Achish trusted David, thinking, "He has made himself an utter stench to his people Israel; therefore he shall always be my servant."



1 Samuel 29:1-3

Now the Philistines had gathered all their forces at Aphek. And the Israelites were encamped by the spring that is in Jezreel. As the lords of the Philistines were passing on by hundreds and by thousands, and David and his men were passing on in the rear with Achish, the commanders of the Philistines said, "What are these Hebrews doing here?"



1 Samuel 29:1-3

And Achish said to the commanders of the Philistines, "Is this not David, the servant of Saul, king of Israel, who has been with me now for days and years, and since he deserted to me I have found no fault in him to this day."



1 Samuel 29:6-7

Then Achish called David and said to him, "As the LORD lives, you have been honest, and to me it seems right that you should march out and in with me in the campaign. For I have found nothing wrong in you from the day of your coming to me to this day. Nevertheless, the lords do not approve of you. So go back now; and go peaceably, that you may not displease the lords of the Philistines."



1 Samuel 29:8

And David said to Achish, "But what have I done? What have you found in your servant from the day I entered your service until now, that I may not go and fight against the enemies of my lord the king?"



1 Samuel 30:1-6

Now when David and his men came to Ziklag on the third day, the Amalekites had made a raid against the Negeb and against Ziklag. They had overcome Ziklag and burned it with fire and taken captive the women and all who were in it, both small and great. They killed no one, but carried them off and went their way. And when David and his men came to the city, they found it burned with fire, and their wives and sons and



1 Samuel 30:1-6

daughters taken captive. Then David and the people who were with him raised their voices and wept until they had no more strength to weep. David's two wives also had been taken captive, Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail the widow of Nabal of Carmel. And David was greatly distressed, for the people spoke of stoning him, because all the people were bitter in soul, each for his sons and daughters.



1 Samuel 30:6

And David was greatly distressed, for the people spoke of stoning him, because all the people were bitter in soul, each for his sons and daughters.

But David strengthened himself in the LORD his God.



1 Samuel 30:9-10

So David set out, and the six hundred men who were with him, and they came to the brook Besor, where those who were left behind stayed. But David pursued, he and four hundred men. Two hundred stayed behind, who were too exhausted to cross the brook Besor.



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1 Samuel 30:16-20

And when he had taken him down, behold, they were spread abroad over all the land, eating and drinking and dancing, because of all the great spoil they had taken from the land of the Philistines and from the land of Judah. And David struck them down from twilight until the evening of the next day, and not a man of them escaped, except four hundred young men, who mounted camels and fled.



1 Samuel 30:16-20

David recovered all that the Amalekites had taken, and David rescued his two wives. Nothing was missing, whether small or great, sons or daughters, spoil or anything that had been taken. David brought back all. David also captured all the flocks and herds, and the people drove the livestock before him, and said, "This is David's spoil."



1 Samuel 30:21-22

Then David came to the two hundred men who had been too exhausted to follow David, and who had been left at the brook Besor. And they went out to meet David and to meet the people who were with him. And when David came near to the people he greeted them. Then all the wicked and worthless fellows among the men who had



1 Samuel 30:21-22

gone with David said, "Because they did not go with us, we will not give them any of the spoil that we have recovered, except that each man may lead away his wife and children, and depart."



1 Samuel 30:23-25

But David said, "You shall not do so, my brothers, with what the LORD has given us. He has preserved us and given into our hand the band that came against us. Who would listen to you in this matter? For as his share is who goes down into the battle, so shall his share be who stays by the baggage. They shall share alike." And he made it a statute and a rule for Israel from that day forward to this day.

In the messiness and chaos of life in a fallen world, God is still able to accomplish his will.



God is greater than the
messes we make of
our own lives.



God is greater than the
messiness of morally
confusing situations.





1 Samuel 30:6

And David was greatly distressed, for the people spoke of stoning him, because all the people were bitter in soul, each for his sons and daughters.

But David strengthened himself in the LORD his God.



Psalm 25:16-21

Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. The troubles of my heart are enlarged; bring me out of my distresses. Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins. Consider how many are my foes, and with what violent hatred they hate me.



Psalm 25:16-21

Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me! Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you. May integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for you.

God is greater than the failings of even his own faith community.





1 Samuel 22:2

And everyone who was in distress, and everyone who was in debt, and everyone who was bitter in soul, gathered to him. And he became commander over them. And there were with him about four hundred men.



“ICC: When you have no other options within a reasonable driving distance.”



"ICC: When every other church within a 15-mile radius has failed you, why not give us a try?"



Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Those who want more than what Christ has established between us do not want Christian community. They are looking for some extraordinary experiences of community that were denied them elsewhere. Such people are bringing confused and tainted desires into the Christian community. ... Christian community is not an ideal, but a divine reality ... Every human idealized image that is brought into the



Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Christian community is a hindrance to genuine community and must be broken up so that genuine community can survive. Those who love their dream of a Christian community more than the Christian community itself become destroyers of that Christian community even though their personal intentions may be ever so honest, earnest, and sacrificial.



Eugene Peterson

Every time I move to a new community, I find a church close by and join it—committing myself to worship and work with that company of God's people. I've never been anything other than disappointed ... complainers, the faithless, the inconstant, those plagued with doubt and riddled with sin ...



Eugene Peterson

Every once in a while a shaft of blazing beauty seems to break out of nowhere and illuminate these companies, and then I see what my sin-dulled eyes had missed: word of God-shaped, Holy Spirit-created lives of sacrificial humanity, incredible courage, heroic virtue, holy praise, joyful suffering, constant prayer, persevering obedience. I see Christ.

