

A MAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART
A study in I and II Samuel and the Psalms of David
AMEN Bible Study 2014-2015

Dave in the Cave: Alone with God
I Samuel 21:1-22:5; Psalms 6, 34, 56, 142, 143

December 4, 2014

21:1-9 **I. In our poverty, God feeds us.**

21 Then David came to Nob to Ahimelech the priest. And Ahimelech came to meet David trembling and said to him, "Why are you alone, and no one with you?"² And David said to Ahimelech the priest, "The king has charged me with a matter and said to me, 'Let no one know anything of the matter about which I send you, and with which I have charged you.' I have made an appointment with the young men for such and such a place.³ Now then, what do you have on hand? Give me five loaves of bread, or whatever is here."⁴ And the priest answered David, "I have no common bread on hand, but there is holy bread—if the young men have kept themselves from women."⁵ And David answered the priest, "Truly women have been kept from us as always when I go on an expedition. The vessels of the young men are holy even when it is an ordinary journey. How much more today will their vessels be holy?"⁶ So the priest gave him the holy bread, for there was no bread there but the bread of the Presence, which is removed from before the LORD, to be replaced by hot bread on the day it is taken away.

⁷ Now a certain man of the servants of Saul was there that day, detained before the LORD. His name was Doeg the Edomite, the chief of Saul's herdsmen.

⁸ Then David said to Ahimelech, "Then have you not here a spear or a sword at hand? For I have brought neither my sword nor my weapons with me, because the king's business required haste."⁹ And the priest said, "The sword of Goliath the Philistine, whom you struck down in the Valley of Elah, behold, it is here wrapped in a cloth behind the ephod. If you will take that, take it, for there is none but that here." And David said, "There is none like that; give it to me."

cf. I Samuel 14:3; 22:9; Leviticus 24:5-9; Matthew 12:3-7

Nob Theology: His mission brings His provision.

:10-15 **II. In our fears, God delivers us.**

¹⁰ And David rose and fled that day from Saul and went to Achish the king of Gath. ¹¹ And the servants of Achish said to him, "Is not this David the king of the land? Did they not sing to one another of him in dances, 'Saul has struck down his thousands, and David his ten thousands'?"

¹² And David took these words to heart and was much afraid of Achish the king of Gath. ¹³ So he changed his behavior before them and pretended to be insane in their hands and made marks on the doors of the gate and let his spittle run down his beard. ¹⁴ Then Achish said to his servants, "Behold, you see the man is mad. Why then have you brought him to me? ¹⁵ Do I lack madmen that you have brought this fellow to behave as a madman in my presence? Shall this fellow come into my house?"

cf. Psalms 34; 56

Gath Theology: Psalm 56

1. Trust His power. (vv. 1-4)
2. Trust His justice. (vv. 5-7)
3. Trust His love. (vv. 8-11)
4. Thank Him for His deliverance. (vv. 12-13)

22:1-2 **III. In our loneliness, God comforts us.**

22 David departed from there and escaped to the cave of Adullam. And when his brothers and all his father's house heard it, they went down there to him. 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.

cf. II Samuel 23:8-39; Psalms 57; 142; 143

Cave Theology: Psalm 142

1. Cry to the Lord. (vv. 1, 2)
2. Look to Him alone. (vv. 3-4)
3. Prepare your response. (vv. 5-7)

:3-4 **IV. In our helplessness, God governs us.**

³ And David went from there to Mizpeh of Moab. And he said to the king of Moab, "Please let my father and my mother stay with you, till I know what God will do for me." ⁴ And he left them with the king of Moab, and they stayed with him all the time that David was in the stronghold.

cf. Ruth 4:17-22

Moab Theology: God laughs when you tell Him your plans.

:5 **V. In our ignorance, God guides us.**

⁵ Then the prophet Gad said to David, "Do not remain in the stronghold; depart, and go into the land of Judah." So David departed and went into the forest of Hereth.

cf. I Chronicles 29:29; II Chronicles 29:25; II Peter 1:19-21; Romans 15:4
cp. I Samuel 16:14; 18:12; 28:6

Hereth Theology: Without God's Word, you're history.