

1 SAMUEL CHAPTER 27

¹ And David said in his heart, "Now shall I be one day delivered *for death* into the hands of Saul; and there is nothing better for me unless I should escape into the land of the Philistines, and Saul should cease from seeking me through every coast of Israel. So I shall escape out of his hand." ² So David arose, and the six hundred men that were with him, and he went to Achish, son of Maoch, king of Gath. ³ And David dwelt with Achish, he and his men, each with his family; and David and both his wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite. ⁴ And it was told Saul that David had fled to Gath. And he no longer sought after him.

⁵ And David said to Achish, "If now your servant has found favor in your sight, let them give me a place in one of the cities in the country, and I will dwell there; for why does your servant dwell with you in a royal city?" ⁶ And he gave him Ziklag in that day. Therefore Ziklag has belonged to the king of Judea to this day. ⁷ And the number of the days that David dwelt in the country of the Philistines was four months.

⁸ And David and his men went up, and made an attack on all the Geshurites and on the Amalekites. And behold, the land was inhabited, (even the land from Shur) by those who come from the fortified cities, even to the land of Egypt. ⁹ And he attacked the land, and saved neither man nor woman alive; and they took flocks, herds, donkeys, camels, and clothing; and they returned and came to Achish. ¹⁰ And Achish said to David, "On whom have you made an attack today?" And David said to Achish, "On the south of Judea, and on the south of Jerahmeel, and on the south of the Kenite." ¹¹ And David saved neither man nor woman alive, to bring them to Gath, saying, "Lest they carry a report to Gath, saying, 'These things David does.'" And this was his manner all the days that David dwelt in the country of the Philistines. ¹² So David had the full confidence of Achish, who said, "He is thoroughly disgraced among his people in Israel and he shall be my servant forever."