

## I SAMUEL 23

### I SAMUEL 23:1

1 ¶ Then they told David, saying, Behold, the Philistines fight against Keilah, and they rob the threshingfloors.

### I SAMUEL 23:2

2 Therefore David enquired of the LORD, saying, Shall I go and smite these Philistines? And the LORD said unto David, Go, and smite the Philistines, and save Keilah.

### I SAMUEL 23:3

3 And David's men said unto him, Behold, we be afraid here in Judah: how much more then if we come to Keilah against the armies of the Philistines?

### I SAMUEL 23:4

4 Then David enquired of the LORD yet again. And the LORD answered him and said, Arise, go down to Keilah; for I will deliver the Philistines into thine hand.

### I SAMUEL 23:5

5 So David and his men went to Keilah, and fought with the Philistines, and brought away their cattle, and smote them with a great slaughter. So David saved the inhabitants of Keilah.

### I SAMUEL 23:6

6 And it came to pass, when Abiathar the son of Ahimelech fled to David to Keilah, *that* he came down *with* an ephod in his hand.

### I SAMUEL 23:7

7 ¶ And it was told Saul that David was come to Keilah. And Saul said, God hath delivered him into mine hand; for he is shut in, by entering into a town that hath gates and bars.

### I SAMUEL 23:8

8 And Saul called all the people together to war, to go down to Keilah, to besiege David and his men.

### I SAMUEL 23:9

9 And David knew that Saul secretly practised mischief against him; and he said to Abiathar the priest, Bring hither the ephod.

### I SAMUEL 23:10

10 Then said David, O LORD God of Israel, thy servant hath certainly heard that Saul seeketh to come to Keilah, to destroy the city for my sake.

I SAMUEL 23:11

11 Will the men of Keilah deliver me up into his hand? will Saul come down, as thy servant hath heard? O LORD God of Israel, I beseech thee, tell thy servant. And the LORD said, He will come down.

I SAMUEL 23:12

12 Then said David, Will the men of Keilah deliver me and my men into the hand of Saul? And the LORD said, They will deliver *thee* up.

I SAMUEL 23:13

13 Then David and his men, *which were* about six hundred, arose and departed out of Keilah, and went whithersoever they could go. And it was told Saul that David was escaped from Keilah; and he forbare to go forth.

I SAMUEL 23:14

14 ¶ And David abode in the wilderness in strong holds, and remained in a mountain in the wilderness of Ziph. And Saul sought him every day, but God delivered him not into his hand.

I SAMUEL 23:15

15 And David saw that Saul was come out to seek his life: and David was in the wilderness of Ziph in a wood.

I SAMUEL 23:16

16 And Jonathan Saul's son arose, and went to David into the wood, and strengthened his hand in God.

I SAMUEL 23:17

17 And he said unto him, Fear not: for the hand of Saul my father shall not find thee; and thou shalt be king over Israel, and I shall be next unto thee; and that also Saul my father knoweth.

I SAMUEL 23:18

18 And they two made a covenant before the LORD: and David abode in the wood, and Jonathan went to his house.

I SAMUEL 23:19

19 ¶ Then came up the Ziphites to Saul to Gibeah, saying, Doth not David hide himself with us in strong holds in the wood, in the hill of Hachilah, which *is* on the south of Jeshimon?

## I SAMUEL 23:20

20 Now therefore, O king, come down according to all the desire of thy soul to come down; and our part *shall be* to deliver him into the king's hand.

## I SAMUEL 23:21

21 And Saul said, Blessed *be ye* of the LORD; for ye have compassion on me.

## I SAMUEL 23:22

22 Go, I pray you, prepare yet, and know and see his place where his haunt is, *and* who hath seen him there: for it is told me *that* he dealeth very subtilly.

## I SAMUEL 23:23

23 See therefore, and take knowledge of all the lurking places where he hideth himself, and come ye again to me with the certainty, and I will go with you: and it shall come to pass, if he be in the land, that I will search him out throughout all the thousands of Judah.

## I SAMUEL 23:24

24 And they arose, and went to Ziph before Saul: but David and his men *were* in the wilderness of Maon, in the plain on the south of Jeshimon.

## I SAMUEL 23:25

25 Saul also and his men went to seek *him*. And they told David: wherefore he came down into a rock, and abode in the wilderness of Maon. And when Saul heard *that*, he pursued after David in the wilderness of Maon.

## I SAMUEL 23:26

26 And Saul went on this side of the mountain, and David and his men on that side of the mountain: and David made haste to get away for fear of Saul; for Saul and his men compassed David and his men round about to take them.

## I SAMUEL 23:27

27 But there came a messenger unto Saul, saying, Haste thee, and come; for the Philistines have invaded the land.

## I SAMUEL 23:28

28 Wherefore Saul returned from pursuing after David, and went against the Philistines: therefore they called that place Selahammahlekoth.

## I SAMUEL 23:29

29 And David went up from thence, and dwelt in strong holds at Engedi.