

SAMUEL

David in Philistia part 2; Deaths of Saul & Jonathan
1 Samuel 29-31

SAMUEL

Chapters 27-31

- Chapter 27 - David flees to Philistia
- Chapter 28 - Saul consults Samuel through a seance
- Chapter 29-30 - David avoids participating in a Philistine attack on Israel; Defeats Amalekites
- Chapter 31 - Saul dies in battle

SAMUEL

Achish does not know the true nature of David's military campaigns, David will continue to gain favor with the people of Judah while endearing himself further to this Philistine master.

But this is a dangerous game. The single development David can ill afford is renewed hostilities between the Philistines and Saul's armies. In such a conflict, David will be trapped. If he joins his Israelite brothers by turning against his Philistine allies, he will forfeit the protection he has found in Gath and will once again be at the mercy of Saul. But if he fights against the Israelites, he will certainly jeopardize the God-given promise of becoming their king.

-The NIV Application Commentary
Bill Arnold, p.385

SAMUEL

Chronological Order of 27-31

1. Philistines gather at Aphek, planning to march north
2. Philistine generals object to David joining the fight
3. The events of 29-30 occur, Philistines move into the Jezreel Valley, at Shunem
4. Israel is in the south of the valley at Gilboa
5. Saul visits the medium of Endor right before the battle

Why put chapter 28 out of order?

Highlights this Contrast

- Saul is helpless and frightened and turns to the medium of Endor
- David is in his own predicament and is providentially delivered

Why put chapter 28 out of order?

Highlights this Contrast

- Saul's greatest failure was against the Amalekites
- David's rejection by the Philistine generals (ch 29) sets up his victory against Amalek (ch 30)

How they saw David

Generals

- “What are these Hebrews doing here?”
- “Send the man back...lest he become an adversary to us.”
- “Saul has struck down his thousands, and David his ten thousands”

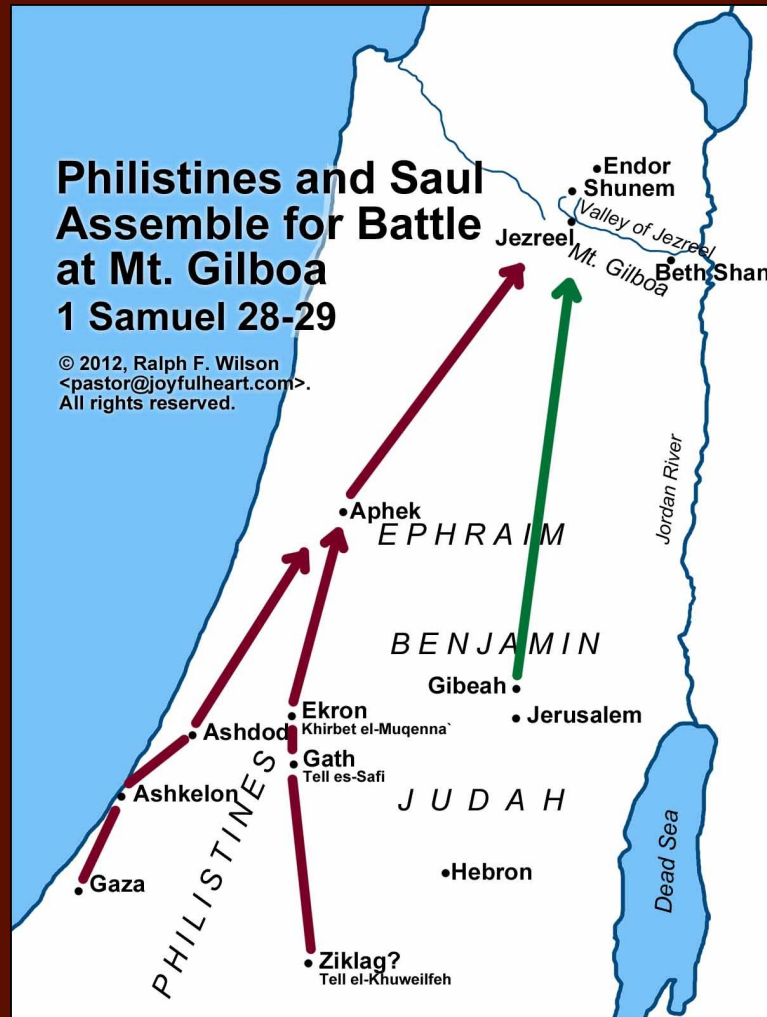
Achish

- “I have found no fault in him to this day.”
- “You have been honest”
- “blameless in my sight”
- “as an angel of God”

Meanwhile in Ziklag

1 Sam 30:1-6

- David is being severely tested
- “people spoke of stoning him”
- “But David strengthened himself in the Lord his God”

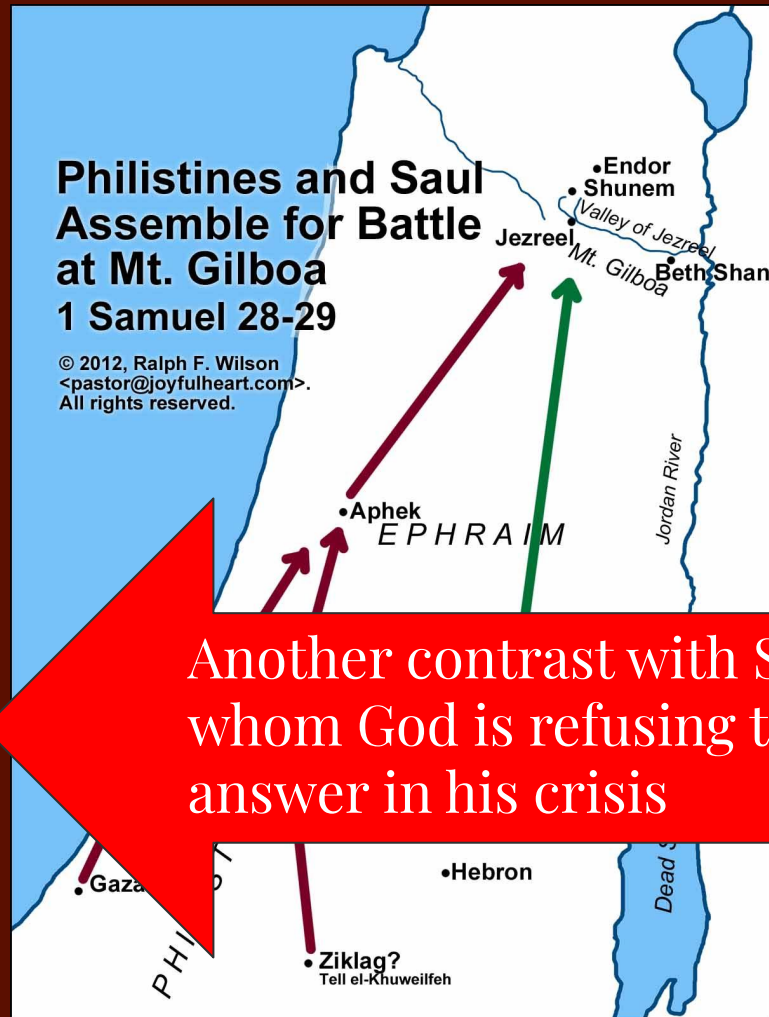


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Meanwhile in Ziklag

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Before fighting Amalek (30:7-15)

- David request Abiathar the priest to bring the ephod
 - David used the priest's lots to inquire of God
- With his answer from God, David takes his 600 men to pursue the Amalekites (200 stay at the brook of Behor)
- David shows mercy to a seemingly random Egyptian
 - The Egyptian is a former Amalekite servant
 - God's providence appears again
 - David trades mercy for guidance to the Amalekites

After defeating Amalek (30:19-31)

- “David brought back all” and then some
- READ 21-26
 - David recognizes the spoil is “what the Lord has given us”
 - He makes sharing with those who stay behind a statute
 - Sent part to the elders of Judah



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1 Samuel 31

The deaths of Saul & Jonathan

SAMUEL

Utter defeat

- Israel flees, the men are slain on Mount Gilboa
- Philistines kill Jonathan, Abinadab, and Malchi-shua, the sons of Saul
- Saul is wounded by Philistine archers
 - READ 31:4-7
 - Saul had rescued Jabesh Gilead (ch 11) and they are the ones who rescue his remains and bury them
- NOTE - this major battle is covered quickly and without detail. The bible is not a history book.