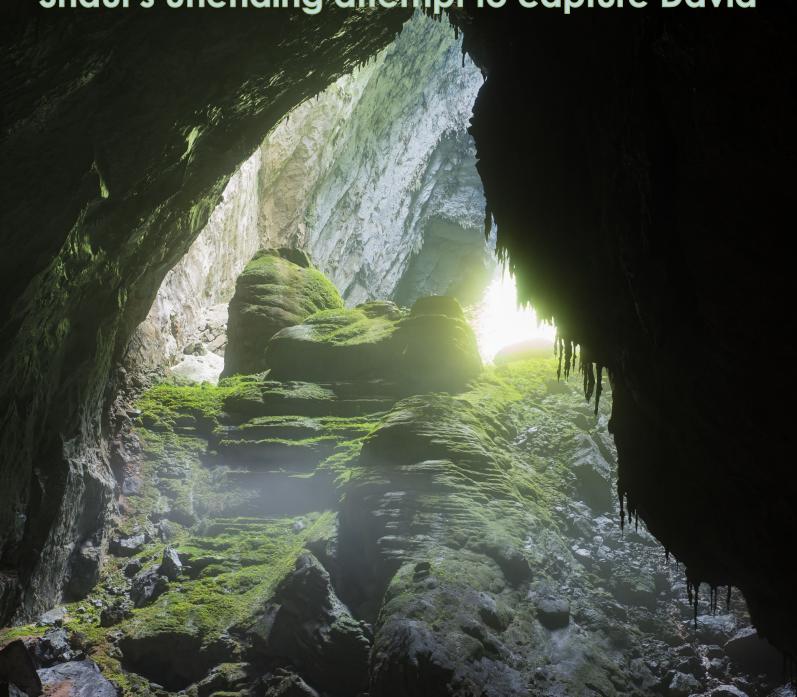
# Relentless Pursuit

Shaul's unending attempt to capture David



Texts, Mefarshim and Themes



Shmuel Alef, Perekim 21-27

## Relentless Pursuit: Shaul and David

#### Text

#### Perek 21

1And he arose and went away; and Jonathan came to the city.

2And David came to Nob, to Ahimelech the priest, and Ahimelech came trembling toward David, and said, "Why are you alone, and no one with you?"

3And David said to Ahimelech the priest, "The king charged me with a matter, and said to me, 'Let no man know anything concerning the matter upon which I am sending you, and with which I have charged you.' And I troubled the young men (to advance) to a hidden, secret place.

4And now, what is there in your possession? Five loaves of bread? Give them into my hand, or whatever is found."

בּAnd the priest answered David, and said, "There הְוַלַּעֵן הַכֹּהֶן אֵת־דָּוִד ׁ וַיִּאמֶר אֵין־לֵחֵם חל אֵל־תַחַת is no ordinary bread in my possession, but there is holy bread, if the young men have but kept themselves from women.'

"But, women are withheld from us as of yesterday and the day before yesterday when I left, and the young men's garments are hallowed, and that is in a manner common, and even if today it would be hallowed in the vessel."

7And the priest gave him hallowed (bread), for there was no bread there, except the showbread, which was removed from before the Lord, to place warm bread on the day it was taken.

8 And there was a man of Saul's servants on that day, detained before the Lord: and his name was Doeg the Edomite, the chief of Saul's shepherds.

9And David said to Ahimelech, "And if there is here in your possession a spear or a sword, for neither my sword nor my weapons have I taken in my hand, for the king's business was urgent."

10 And the priest said, "The sword of Goliath the Philistine, whom you slew in the valley of the terebinth, behold, it is wrapped in a garment

אוַיַקם וַיֵּלֶךְ וִיהוֹנָתַן בַּא הַעִיר:

בויבא דוד נבה אל אחימלד הכהן ויחרד אחימלד לקראת דוד ויאמר לו מדוע אתה לבדה ואיש

גויאמר דוד לאחימלך הכהן המלך צוני דבר ויאמר אלי איש אל־יָדע מאומה את־הדבר אשר אַנכִי שֹלֶחֶךְ וַאֲשֶר צִוֹּיתָךְ וָאֵתֹרהַנְעַרִים יוֹדַעְתִּי אל־מקום פלני אלמוני:

דוִעַתַּה מַה־יָשׁ תַּחַת־יַדְדָּ חֵמְשַׁה־לָחֵם תִּנָה בִידִי

<u>הוַיַּע</u>ן דַּוָּד אָת־הַכּהָן וַיִּאמֶר לוֹ כִּי אָם־אָשֵּה עָצֵרַה־, And David answered the priest, and said to him, ווַיַּען דַּוֹּד אָת־הַכּהָן וַיִּאמֶר לוֹ כִּי אָם־אָשֵּה עַצֵרַה לנו כתמול שלשם בצאתי ויהיו כלי הנערים

קָדָשׁ וְהוֹא דָרֶךְ חֹל וְאֵף כִּי היוֹם יִקְדְשׁ בַּכֵּלִי:

ידִי בִּירֹאַם ֹּלְחָם קָּדָשׁ יָשׁ אָם נָשׁמֵּרוּ הנַּערִים אַדְּ

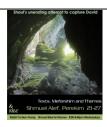
זוַיָּתֵּן־לָוֹ הַכַּהֵן לְדֵשׁ כִּיֹ לֹא־הַיָּה שָׁם לְחֵם כִּי־אָם־ ָלֶתֶם ה<u>ַ</u>ׁפָּנִים הַׁמְּוֹּסָרִים מִלְפִנֵי יִהֹנָה לָשׁוּם לֶתֵם בּ חם ביום הלקחו:

חושם איש מעבדי שאול ביום ההוא נעצר לפני יָהֹוֹה וּשָׁמוֹ דּאָג הַאַדֹמִי אַבַּיר הַרעִים אָשֵׁר

טוַיאמֶר דָּוִד לַאֲחִימֶלֶךְ וְאֵין יֵשׁ־פָּה תָחַת־יָדְדָּ 

יוַיַּאמֶר הַכּּהֵן חֶרֶב גָּלְיַּת הַפְּלִשְתִּי אֲשֵׁר־הִכִּיתַ ו בעמק האלה הנה־היא לוטה בשמלה אחרי





behind the ephod. If you wish to take that for yourself, take it, for there is none besides it here." And David said, "There is none like it; give it to me."

11 And David arose, and fled on that day from before Saul; and he came to Achish the king of Gath.

12 And the bondsmen of Achish said to him, "Is this not David, the king of the land? Was it not of this one that they would sing out with musical instruments, saying, 'Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands?' "

13And David took these words to heart, and became very much afraid of Achish the king of Gath.

14And he changed his speech before their eyes, and he feigned insanity before them. And he scribbled on the doors of the gate, and let his saliva run down upon his beard.

**15**And Achish said to his bondsmen, "Behold, you see a man who is mad. Why do you bring him to me?

<u>16</u>Do I lack lunatics, that you have brought this one to rave in my presence? Will this one come into my house?"

הָאֵפוֹד אָם־אֹתָהּ תְּקַּח־לְדּ' קֹח כִּי אַין אַתֶּרֶת זוּלְתָה בָּזֶה וַיִּאמֶר דְּנֵד אֵין כָּמוֹה תְּנָנָה לִי:

יאוַיָּקָם דָּוֹד וַיִּבְרַח בַּיּוֹם־הַהָּוֹא מִפְּנֵי שָׁאַוּל וַיָּבֿא אָל־אַכִישׁ מֵלֶדְ גַּת:

יבוַיּאמְרוּ עַבְדֵי אָכִישׁ אֵלָיו הֲלוֹא־זָה דָוָד מֵלֶךְּ הָאֶרֶץ הֲלִוֹא לָזֶה יַעְנִוּ בַמְּחֹלוֹת לֵאמֹר הִכָּה שָׁאוּל בַּאֲלָפָיו (כתיב בַּאֲלָפָּו) וְדָוֶד בְּרִבְבֹתָיו (כתיב בְּרִבְתָוּ):

יגוַיַּשֶּׁם דָּנְד אֶת־הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶה בִּלְבָבֵוֹ וַיִּרָא מְאֹד מִפְּנֵי אָכִישׁ מֶלֶדְּגָת:

ידוַיְשַׁנָּוֹ אֶת־טַעְמוֹ בְּעֵינֵיהֶם וַיִּתְהֹלֶל בְּיָדֶם וַיְתָיוֹ (כתיב וַיְתָוֹ) עַל־דַּלְתַוֹת הַשַּׁעֵר וַיִּוֹרֶד רִירָוֹ אֶל־ זְקָנְוֹ:

> טוויַּאמֶר אָכֶישׁ אָל־עֲבָדֵיו הָנָה תִּרְאוּ אַישׁ מִשְׁתַּגַּעַ לַמָה תָּבִיאוּ אֹתוֹ אֵלָי:

טזחֶסָר מְשֻׁגָּעִים אָנִי כִּי־הֲבֵאתֶם אֶת־זֶּה לְהִשְׁתַּגְּעַ עָלָי הֲזֶה יָבִוא אֶל־בֵּיתִי:

#### Perek 22

1And David went away from there, and escaped to the cave of Adullam. And his brothers and all his father's household heard, and went down to him there.

2And every man who was in distress, and every man who had a creditor, and every man of embittered spirit, gathered themselves to him, and he became a chief over them; and there were about four hundred men with him.

3And David went from there to Mizpeh Moab, and he said to the king of Moab, "Let my father and mother come out now with you, until I know what God will do for me."

4And he brought them before the king of Moab; and they stayed with him all the time that David was in the stronghold.

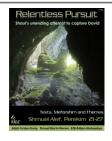
אוַיָּלֶךְ דָּוִד<sup>ׁ</sup> מִשָּׁם וַיִּפָּלֶט אֶל־מְעָרַת עֲדֻלֶּם וַיִּשְׁמְעָוּ אֶחָיו וְכָל־בֵּית אָבִיו וַיֵּרְדָוּ אֵלֶיו שָׁמָה:

בוַיְתְקַבְּצְוּ אֵּלָיו כָּל־אִּישׁ מָצֹוֹק וְכָל־אִּישׁ אֲשֶׁר־לָו נשָׁא וְכָל־אִישׁ מַר־נֶּפֶשׁ וַיְהַי עֲלֵיהֶם לְשֶׂר וַיִּהְיָוּ עִמּוֹ כְּאַרְבַּע מֵאוֹת אִישׁ:

גוַיֶּלֶךְ דָּנֶדְ מִשָּׁם מִצְפָּה מוֹאֵב וַיִּאמֶר וּ אֶל־ מֶלֶךְ מוֹאָב יָצֵא־נָא אָבִי וְאִמִּי אִתְּכֶּם ּעִד אֲשֶׁר אַדַע מַה־יָּצְשֶׂה־לָי אלקים:

דוַיַּנְחֵּם אֶת־פְּנֶי מֶלֶך מוֹאֶב וַיֵּשְׁבְוּ עִמֹּוֹ כָּל־ יְמֵי הֱיוֹת־דָּוָד בַּמְּצוּדָה:





5And Gad the prophet said to David, "You shall not stay הויאמר גד הנביא אלדוד לא תשב במצודה in the stronghold. Go and enter the land of Judah." And לך ובאת לך ארץ יהודה וילד דוד ויבא יער David went, and came to the forest of Hereth. חרת:

6And Saul heard that David and the men who were with him had become known, and Saul was sitting in Gibeah אָתוּ וְשָאוּל יוֹשֵׂב בַּגִּבְעַה תַּחַת־הַאָשֵׁל בַּרַמַה under the tamarisk tree on a hill, and his spear was in his hand, and all his servants were standing by him.

7And Saul said to his servants who were standing by him, "Hearken now, O Benjamites, will the son of Jesse also give all of you fields and vineyards? Will he appoint all of you captains of thousands and captains of hundreds?

8For all of you have rebelled against me, and no one reveals to me when my son made a covenant with the son of Jesse, and no one of you feels sorry for me, or reveals to me that my son has incited my servant to rise up against me, to lie in wait as of this day."

9Then Doeg the Edomite, who was appointed over Saul's servants, answered and said, "I saw the son of Jesse come to Nob, to Ahimelech the son of Ahitub.

10And he inquired of the Lord on his behalf, and gave him provisions, and gave him the sword of Goliath the Philistine."

11And the king sent to call Ahimelech the son of Ahitub, the priest, and all of his father's household, the priests who were in Nob; and they all came to the king.

12And Saul said, "Listen now, O son of Ahitub." And he said, "Here I am, my lord."

13And Saul said to him, "Why have you rebelled against me, you and the son of Jesse, by your giving him food and a sword, and by inquiring of God on his behalf, to rise up against me as one who lies in wait as of this day?"

14And Ahimelech answered the king, and said, "Now, who among all your servants is as faithful as David, who is the king's son-in-law, and who goes to do your service, and is honored in your house?

15Have I begun today to inquire of God on his behalf? Far be it from me. Let not the king impute anything to his servant nor to all my father's household, for your servant knew nothing of all this, less, or more."

ווַיִּשָׁמֵע שַאוּל ַכִּי נוֹדֵע דַּוֹד ואַנשִׁים אשר וחניתו בידו וכלעבדיו נצבים עליו:

זויאמר שאול לעבדיו הנצבים עליו שמעו־ נֵא בָּנֵי יִמִינִי גַּם־לְכַלְכָם יְתֵּן בֵּן־יִשִׁי שַׁדְוֹת וכרמים לכלכם ישים שרי אלפים ושרי מאות:

חכַּי קשרתַם כַּלְכָם עלי ואַין־גּלָה אַת־אזְנִי` בַּכַרת־בַּנִי עִם־בַּן־יִשׁי וְאֵין־חֹלָה מַכַּם עלי וגֹלָה אַת־אַזְנִי כִּי הָקִים בְּנִי אַת־עַבְדֵּי עַלַי לארב כיום הזה:

טוַיַּעון דאָג הַאָדמִי וְהוּא נְצַב עַל־עַבְדֵי־שַאוּל ויאמר ראיתי את־בּוְישׁי בּא נבה אל־ אחימלך בן־אחטוב:

יוַיִשְאַל־לוֹ בַּיהוָה וְצֵידָה נַתַן לוּ וְאָת חֵרֶב גלית הפלשתי נתן לו:

יאוַיִּשׁלַח הַמַּלָךְ לִקרא אָת־אַחִימַלֵּךְ בֵּן־ אַחיטוּב הכֹהָן ואָת כּל־בֵּית אביו הכֹהַנִים אֲשֶׁר בְּנָב וַיִּבְאוּ כַלֶּם אֵלֹ־הַמֶּלֵךְ:

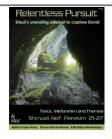
יבוַיִּאמֵר שַאוּל שָמַע־נַא בַּן־אֵחִיטוּב וַיִּאמֵר הַנְנִי אֲדֹנִי:

יגויאמר אליו (כתיב אלו) שאול כמה קשרתם עלי אתה ובן ישי בתתך לו לחם וֹחַרָב וושאול לוֹ בַאלֹהִים ֹלקום אַלִי לְאֹרָב כַיום הַזָה:

ידוַיַעַן אַחִימֵלֶךְ אֵת־הַמֵּלֶךְ וַיֹּאמֵר וּמִי בְּכָל־ עַבְדֵיּךְ כִּדְוִד וֹאֱמֶלוֹ וַחַתַוֹ הַמֶּלֵךְ וֹסֶר אֵל־ מַשְּמַעָתֵּךְ וָנָכְבַּד בְּבֵיתֵךְ:

טוהיום החלתי לשאל (כתיב לשאול־) לו באלהים חַלִּילַה לִי אַל־יַשֶּׁם הַמֵּלֶךְ בְּעַבְדָּוֹ דבר קטן או גדול:





16And the king said, "You shall surely die, Ahimelech, you and all your father's household.'

17And the king said to the footmen who were standing beside him, "Turn and put the priests of the Lord to death, for their hand is also with David, and because they knew that he was fleeing, and they did not inform me." And the king's servants would not put forth their hand to fall upon the priests of the Lord.

18And the king said to Doeg, "You turn, and fall upon the priests." And Doeg turned, and he fell upon the the priests. And Doeg turned, and list in priests, and slew on that day eighty-five men, wearers of דוֹיָג) הָאֲדֹמִי וַיִּפְגַּע־הוּא בַּכְּהַנִּים וַיָּמֵת וֹ בִּיּוֹם

19And Nob, the city of the priests, he smote with the sharp edge of the sword, both man and woman, infant and suckling, and ox and ass, and lamb, with the sharp edge of the sword.

20And one son of Ahimelech, whose name was Abiathar, escaped and fled after David.

21And Abiathar told David that Saul had slain the priests of the Lord.

22And David said to Abiathar, "I knew on that day that כבויאמר דוד לאביתר ידעתי ביום ההוא כי Doeg the Edomite was there, (and) that he would tell Saul. I brought about the death of every person of your father's household!

23Stay with me; fear not, for he who seeks my soul seeks your soul, for you shall be in safeguard with me." טזוַיָּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ מִוֹת תָּמִוּת אֲחִימֶלֶךְ אַתָּה

יזוַיָּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לַרַצִים הַנְצַבְים עַלַיו סִבּוּ וְהָמַיִתוּ וֹ כֹּהֲנֵי יְהֹוָה כֵּי גַם־יַדָם עִּם־דַּוֹד וְכֵי יִדְעוֹ כִּיבַרָח הוֹא וְלֹא גְלוּ אֶת־אֹזְנִי (כתיב אָזָנו)וִלְא־אַבוּ עַבְדֵי הַמֶּלֶדְ לְשָׁלְחַ אֶת־יַדְם לפגע בכהני ה':

יחויאמר המלך לדואג (כתיב לדויג) סב אתה ופגע בכהנים וישב דואג (כתיב ההוא שמנים וחמשה איש נשא אפוד בד:

יטואֹת נב עיר־הכּהנים ֹהכּה לפי־חֹרב מאישׁ ועד־אָשַּה מעולל ועד־יונק ושור וחמור ושה

כוַיִּמַלֶט בָּן־אָחָד לַאַחִימַלֶּךְ בַּן־אַחִטוּב וּשְמוּ אביתר ויברח אחרי דוד:

כאוַיַּגָּד אֶבְיָתָר לְדָוֶד ַּכִּי הָרַג שָׁאוּל אֵת

שָׁם רוֹאָג (כתיב דוֹיֵג) הַאֲדֹמִי כִּי־הַגַּד יַגִּיד לשאול אנכי סבתי בכל נפש בית אביד:

כגשָבָה אָתִּי אַל־תִּירָא כֵּי אֲשֶׁר־יִבַקּשׁ אָת־ נפשי יבקש את־נפשר כי־משמרת אתה

#### Perek 23

1And they told David, saying, "Behold, the Philistines are waging war against Keilah, and they are pillaging the threshing-floors."

2And David inquired of the Lord, saying, "Shall I go and smite these Philistines?" And the Lord said to David, "Go, and you shall smite the Philistines, and save Keilah."

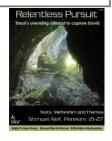
3And David's men said to him, "Behold, we are afraid here in Judah; how much more if we go to Keilah, to the battle array of the Philistines?"

אוַיַּגָּדוּ לְדַוֶד לֵאמִר הָנָה פַּלְשָׁתִּים נְלְחַמֵים בּקעילה והמה שסים את־הגרנות:

בוַיִּשָאַל דַּוָד בָּה' לָאמֹר הַאֶּלֶדְ וָהָכֵּיתִי בפַּלשתים האַלָה ס ויאמר יהוה אַל־דוֹד ַלְדְּ וַהַּכִּית בַפַּלְשָׁתִּים וְהוֹשׁעַת אַת־קְעִילָה:

גוַיּאמְרוּ אַנְשָׁי דָוִד´אֵלִיו הָנֵּה אֲנַחְנוּ פְּה בִּיהוּדָה יָרָאֵים וְאַף כִּי־נֵלֶךּ קְעָלָה אֶל־ מערכות פלשתים:





4And David continued further to inquire of the Lord, and the Lord answered him and said, "Arise, go down to Keilah, for I am giving the Philistines into your hand."

5And David and his men went to Keilah, and battled the Philistines, and he led away their cattle, and struck them a great blow, and David saved the inhabitants of Keilah.

6And it was that when Abiathar the son of Ahimelech fled to David, to Keilah, the ephod came down in his hand.

7And it was related to Saul that David had come to Keilah, and Saul said, "God has delivered him into my hand, for he has been shut in by coming into a city with doors and bars."

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

9And David knew that upon him, Saul was plotting the evil; and he said to Abiathar the priest, "Bring near the ephod."

10And David said, "O Lord God of Israel, Your bondsman has heard that Saul seeks to come to Keilah to destroy the city because of me.

11Will the citizens of Keilah deliver me into his hand? Will Saul come down, as Your bondsman has heard? O Lord God of Israel, tell now Your bondsman!" And the Lord said, "He will come down."

12And David said, "Will the citizens of Keilah deliver me and my men into Saul's hands?" And the Lord said, "They will deliver."

13And David and his men, about six hundred men, arose and left Keilah, and they went wherever they would go, and it was told to Saul that David had escaped from Keilah, and he refrained from going forth.

14And David dwelt in the desert, in the strongholds, and he dwelt in the mountain in the Desert of Ziph, and Saul sought him all the days, but God did not deliver him into his hand.

15And David saw that Saul had gone forth to seek his soul, and David was in the Desert of Ziph, in the forest.

דוַיּוֹסֶףְ עָוֹד דָּוִד ֹלְשְׁאַוֹל בָּיהֹוָה ס וַיַּעֲנֶהוּ יְהֹוֶה וַיֹּאמֶר ִקוּם בֵד קְעִילָה כִּי־אֲנָי נֹתֵן אֶת־פִּלְשָׁתִּים בְּיֵדָר:

הוַיֶּלֶךְ דָּוִד וַאֲנָשָׁיו (כתיב וַאֲנָשָׁו) קְעִילָה וַיִּלְּחֶם בַּפְּלִשְׁתִּים וַיִּנְהַג אֶת־מִקנִיהֶם וַיַּדְ בָּהֶם מַכָּה גְדוֹלֶה וַיִּשַׁע דָּוֹד אֶת ישְׁבִי קִעִילַה:

ווַיְהִי בִּבְרֹחַ אֶבְיָתָר בֶּן־אֲחִימֵלֶךּ אֶל־דָּוָד קעִילָה אֵפִוֹד יָרֵד בִּיָדְוֹ:

זוַיַּגַּד לְשָׁאוֹּל פִּי־בָא דָוָד קְעִילָה וַיַּאמֶר שָׁאוּל נִכַּר אֹתָו אלקים בְּיָדִי ִכְּי נִסְגַּר לְבוֹא בְּעֵיר דְלָתַיִם וּבְרִיחַ:

חוַיְשַׁמַּע שָׁאְוּל אֶת־כָּל־הָעֶם לַמִּלְחֵמָה לָנֵדֶת קְעִילָה לָצְוּר אֶל־דָּוָד וְאֶל־אֲנָשִׁיו:

טוַיַּדע דָּוֹד כִּי עָלָיו שָאוּל מַחֲרֵישׁ הָרֶעֶה וַיֹּאמֵר אֱל־אֵבְיָתֵר הַכֹּהֵן הַגֵּישָׁה הָאֵפְוֹד:

יוַיֹּאמֶרٌ דָּוִדֹ ה' אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל שָׁמְעַ שָּׁמַע עַבְדְּךְּ כִּי־מְבַקֵּשׁ שָאוּל לָבָוֹא אֶל־קְעִילֵה לְשַׁתַת לָעָיר בַּעֲבוּרִי:

יאהֲיַסְגָּרֵנִי בַּעְלֵי ְקְעִילָה בְּיָדוֹ הְוֵרֵדְ שָׁאוּל כָּאֲשֶׁר שָׁמַע עַבְדֶּדְּ ה' אֱלֹהֵי יִשְּׁרָאֵל הַגֶּד־נֶא לְעַבְדֶּדְּ ס וַיָּאמֶר יְהֹוָה יֵרֵד:

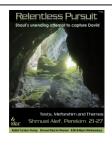
יבוַיַּאמֶר דָּוִּד הְיַסְגִּרוּ בַּעֲלֵי קְעִילֵה אֹתִי וְאֶת־ אֲנָשֵׁי בְּיַד־שָׁאַוּל וַיָּאמֶר יְהֹוֶה יַסְגִּירוּ:

יגוַיָּקָם בְּוֹד וַאֲנָשִׁיו כְּשֵׁשׁ־מֵאוֹת אִישׁ וַיֵּצְאוּ מִקְעִלָּה וַיִּתְהַלְכַוּ בַּאֲשֶׁר יִתְהַלֶּכוּ וּלְשָׁאוּל הָגַּד כִּי־נִמְלָט דָּוִד מִקְעִילָה וַיֶּחְדַּל לָצֵאת:

ידוַוּשֶׁב דָּוָד בַּמִּדְבָּר בַּמְצִדׂוֹת וַיְּשֶׁב בָּהָר בְּמִדְבַּר־זְיִף וַיְבַקְשָׁהוּ שָׁאוּל כָּל־הַיָּמִים וְלְא־ נְתָנִוֹ אֱלֹהֵים בְּיָדוֹ:

טווַיַּרְא דָּוֹד כִּי־יָצָא שָאוּל לְבַקֵּשׁ אֶת־נַפְשׁוֹ וְדָנִד בְּמִדְבַּר־זִיף בַּחְרְשָׁה:





17And he said to him, "Fear not, for the hand of my father Saul will not find you, and you shall reign over Israel, and may I be to you as a viceroy, and my father Saul too, knows (that this is) so."

18And the two of them made a covenant before the Lord; and David stayed in the forest, and Jonathan went to his home.

19And the Ziphites went up to Saul, to Gibeah, saying, "Is David not hiding with us in the strongholds, in the forest, in the hill of Hachilah, which is from the south of the Desolate Wasteland?

20And now, according to all the desires of your heart to בוְעַהָּה לְכָל־אַוַּת נַפְשָׁךָ הַמֶּלֶךְ לָרֶדֶת בֵד וְלָנוּ come down, come down, and it is incumbent upon us to deliver him into the king's hand."

21And Saul said, "Blessed shall you be to the Lord, for you have taken pity upon me.

22Go now, prepare yet, and know and see his place where his foot will be. Who saw him there? for (one) told me that he deals cunningly.

23And see and know of all the hiding places where he hides, and you shall return to me with the certainty, and I shall go with you, and it shall be that if he is in the land, I shall search him out among the thousands of Judah."

24And they arose and went to Ziph before Saul, and David and his men were in the Desert of Maon, in the plain which is to the south of the Desolate Wasteland.

25And Saul and his men went to search, and they told David, and he went down to the rock, and stayed in the Desert of Maon, and Saul heard and pursued David in the Desert of Maon.

26And Saul went from this side of the mountain, and David and his men were on that side of the mountain: and David was hastening to get away from before Saul, but Saul and his men were encircling to David and his men, to seize them.

27And a messenger came to Saul, saying, "Make haste and go, for the Philistines have spread out over the land!"

טזוַיָּקָם ׁ יְהוֹנָתָן בֶּן־שָׁאוֹּל וַיֶּלֶךְ אֶל־דָּוֶד תִוְרְשָׁה 16And Jonathan, Saul's son, arose and went to David to טזוַיָּקָם ֹ יְהוֹנָתָן בֶּן־שָׁאוֹּל וַיֶּלֶךְ אֶל־דָּוֶד תִוְרְשָׁה the forest, and he strengthened his hand through God.

יזויאמר אליו אל־תּירא כי לא תמצאק ֹיד שאול אבי ואתה תמלד על ישראל ואנכי אַהיה־לך למשנה וגם־שאול אבי ידע כון:

יחוַיִּכְרְתְוּ שִׁנִיהֶם בִּּרְית לִפְנֵי יִהֹוָה וַיָּשֵׁב דְּוִד` בחרשה ויהונתו הלד לביתו:

יטוַיַעלוּ זְפִים אֵל־שַאוּל הַגָּבְעַתַה לָאמִר הַלוֹא דוד מְסִתְּתַר עִמנוּ במִצֹדות בחרשה בּגַבעת החכילה אשר מימין הישימון:

ַהַסְגִּירוּ בִּיֵד הַמֵּלֵךְ:

כאוַיָּאמֶר שָאוּל בְּרוּכִים אַתֵּם לִיהֹוַה כִּי חַמלתם עלי:

כבלכו־נֵא הַכִינוּ עוד וּדָעוּ וּרָאוּ אֵת־מִקומוֹ אֲשֶׂר תְּהְיָה בַּגְלוֹ מִי רָאָהוּ שָׁם ֹכִּי אָמַר אַלי ערום יערם הוא:

כגוראו ודעו מכל המחבאים אשר יתחבא שם ושבתם אלי אל נכון והלכתי אתכם וָהַיָה אָם־יֵשְנוֹ בַאַרץ וְחָפַּשְׁתִּי אֹתוֹ בִּכֹל אַלְפֵּי יִהוּדַה:

> כדוַיַּקוּמוּ וַיֵּלְכוּ זֵיפַה לְפְנֵי שַאוּל וְדַוֹּד וַאֲנָשָׁיוֹ בְּמִדְבָּרׁ מָעוֹן בָּעֲרְבָּהׁ אֶּל יְמֵיו

כהוילך שאול ואנשיו לבקש ויגדו לדוד וַיַּרָד הַסֶּלֶע וַיִּשֶׁב בְּמִדְבֵּר מַעוֹן וַיִּשְׁמַע שַאוּל וַיִּרְדָּף אַחַרִי־דַנִד מְדְבַּר מַעוֹן:

כווילך שאול מצד ההר'מזה ודוד ואנשיו מְצַד הָהָר מְזֶה וַיִּהִי דַּוְד נֵחְפָּז לְלֶכֶת מִפְּנֵי ָשָׁאוּל וְשָׁאַוּל וַאֲנָשָּׁיוֹ עְטְרָים אֶל דְּנִד וְאֶל־ אנשיו לתפשם:

כזוּמַלְאַדְּ בַּא אָל־שַאוּל לאמר מַהַרָה וְלֶכַה בי־פשטו פלשתים על־הארץ:





28And Saul returned from pursuing David, and he went כחוַיִּשָׁב שָׁאוּל מִרְדוּ אֲחֲרֵי דָוֹּד וַיֶּלֶךְ לִקְרָאת toward the Philistines. Therefore, they called that place פְּלִשְׁתִּים עַל־בֵּן קָרְאוּ לַמָּקוֹם הַהוּא סֶלַע the Rock of the Divisions.

#### Perek 24

1And David went up from there, and he stayed in the strongholds of En-gedi.

2And it was, when Saul had returned from following the Philistines, that they told him, saying, "David is in the Desert of En-gedi."

3And Saul took three thousand picked men from all Israel, and went to seek David and his men on the Rocks of the Wild Goats.

4And he came to the sheepcotes on the way, and there was a cave, and Saul went in to cover his feet, while David and his men were staying at the end of the cave.

5And David's men said to him, "Behold the day concerning which the Lord said to you, 'Behold, I shall deliver your enemy into your hand; and you shall do to him as it will seem good in your eyes.' "And David arose, and secretly severed the skirt of Saul's coat.

6And it was afterwards, that David's heart smote him, for he had severed Saul's skirt.

7And he said to his men, "The Lord forbid it for me, that I should do this thing to my lord, to the Lord's anointed, to stretch forth my hand upon him, for he is the Lord's anointed."

8And David stayed his men with these words, and did not allow them to rise up against Saul, and Saul arose from the cave and went on the way.

9And David arose afterwards and emerged from the cave after Saul, saying, "My lord the King!" And Saul looked behind him, and David bowed with his face to the ground, and prostrated himself.

10And David said to Saul, "Why should you listen to the words of a man, saying, 'Behold, David seeks your harm'? אוַיַעל דְּוֶד מִשָּׁם וַיֶּשֶׁב בִּמְצָדְוֹת עֵין־גָּדִי:

בוַיְהִי כָּאֲשֶׁר ְשָׁב שָׁאוּלְ מֵאַחֲרֵי פְּלִשְׁתֵּים וַיַּגָּדוּ לוֹ לֵאמר הִנָּה דָוִד בְּמִדְבַּר עִין גָּדִי:

גוַיִּקַח שָׁאֹוּל שְׁלְשֶׁת אֲלָפֶים אַישׁ בָּחֻוּר מִכָּל־ יִשְׂרָאֵל וַוִּלֶּךְ לְבַקְּשׁ אֶת־דָּוִד וְאֲנָשִׁיו עַל־פְּנֵי צוֹרֵי הַיְּעֵלִים:

דוַיָּבֹא אֶל־גִּדְרוֹת הַצְּאן עַל־הַדֶּרֶדְ וְשָׁם מְעָרָה וַיָּבָא שָׁאַוּל לְהָסֵךְ אֶת־רַגְלֵיו וְדָוִד וַאֲנָשִׁיו בִּיַרְכָּתֵי הַמְּעָרָה יִשְׁבִים:

הוַיֹּאמְרוּ אַנְשֵּׁי דָוִד אֵלָיו הָנֵּה הַיּוֹם אֲשֶׁר־ אָמֵרְ יְהֹוָה אֵלֶיךּ הָנֵּה אָנִכִי נֹתֶן אֶת־ אִיִּבְדְּ (כתיב אִיִבְיךּ) בְּיָדֶדְ וְעָשִׁיתָ לּוֹ כַּאֲשֶׁר יִטֵב בְּעֵינֵיךְ וַיָּקָם דָּוִד וַיִּכְרֶת אֶת־כְּנָף־הַמְּעֵיל אֲשֶׁר־לְשָׁאָוּל בַּלָּט:

ווָיְהִי אָחֲרֵיכֹן וַיִּךְּ לֵב־דָּוָד אֹתְוֹ ְעַל אֲשֶׁר כַּרַת אָת־כָּנַף אֲשֵׁר לִשַאוּל:

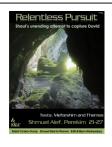
זוַיּאמֶר לַאֲנָשִּׁיו חָלֶילָה לִּי מֵיהֹוָה אִם־אֶעֲשֶׁה אֶת־הַדָּבָּר הַזֶּה לָאדֹנִי לִמְשִׁיִח יְהֹוָה לִשְׁלְחַ יָדָי בֵּוֹ כִּי־מְשִׁיחַ יְהֹוֶה הְוּא:

חוַיְשַׁפַּע דָּוָד אֶת־אֲנָשִׁיוֹ בַּדְּבָרִים וְלָא נְתָנֶם לָקוּם אֶל־שָׁאִוּל וְשָׁאְוּל קָם מֵהַמְּעָרָה וַיַּלֶּךְ בַּדָרֵך:

טוַיָּקָם דָּוִד אַחֲבִי־בֹּן וַיֵּצֵא מֶן־מֶהַמְּעָרָה (כתיב הַמְּעָרָה) וַיִּקְרָא אָחֲבִי־שְׁאוּל לֵאמֹר אֲדֹנִי הַמֶּלֶךְ וַיַּבָּט שָׁאוּל אָחֲרָיו וַיִּקֹד דְּוָד אַפַּיִם אַרְצַה וַיִּשְׁתַּחוּ:

יוַיִּאמֶר דָּוִד ֹלְשָׁאוּלְ לֶמָּה תִשְׁמֵע אֶת־דִּבְרֵי אָדָם לֵאמֵר הִנָּה דָוֹד מְבַקֵּשׁ רָעָתָדְּ:





11Behold, this day your eyes have seen how the Lord delivered you today into my hand in the cave, and (one) said to kill you, but (my soul) had pity on you, and I said, 'I shall not stretch forth my hand against my lord, for he is the Lord's anointed.'

יאהנה היום הזה ראו עיניד את אשר נתנד יְהֹוָה ו הַיִּיוֹם ו בְּיָדִי בַּמְעָרָה וְאָמֵר לַהְּרָגְּךְּ וַתְּחָס עָלֵיךְ וָאמֵר לֹא־אֶשְׁלָח יִדִי בָּאדֹנִי כִּי־ משיח יהוה הוא:

12And Father, see! Also, see the skirt of your coat in my יבואבי ראָה גָּם ראָה אֶת־כָּנַף מִעִילְךּ בִּיַדִי כִּי hand, for in that I severed the skirt of your coat and I did not kill you, know and see that there is neither evil nor transgression in my hand, and I have not sinned against you, but you are stalking my soul to take it.

בַּכַרְתַיֹּ אֵת־כַּנַף מִעִילַךּ וְלַא הַרֵגְתִּידְ דַּע וּרְאַה ּכָּי אָין בִּיַדִי רַעָה וְפָשָּׁע וְלֹא־חֵטֵאתִי לַךְּ וְאַתֶּה צֹדֶה אֵתֹ־נַפְשִׁי לְקַחְתַּהֹּ:

13May the Lord judge between me and you, and may the Lord avenge me of you, but my hand shall not be upon you.

יגיִשָּפָט ה' בֵּינִי וּבֵינֵדְ וּנִקַמַנִי יִהֹוָה מְמֵּךְ וְיַדִי לא תהיה־בַּדְ:

14As says the proverb of the ancient one; 'From the wicked comes forth wickedness,' and my hand shall not be upon you.

ידכַּאֲשֵר יאמַר מְשַל הַקַּדְמֹנִי מֵרְשָׁעִים יָצֵא רשע וידי לא תהיהבר:

15After whom has the king of Israel come forth? Whom are you pursuing? A dead dog? A single flea?

טואַחֲבִּי מִי יָצָא ֹמֲלֶדְ יִשְׂרָאֵל אַחֲבִי מִי אַתָּה רֹדֵף אָחֵבִי כָּלֵב מִת אַחַבִי פַּרִעְשׁ אַחָד:

16And the Lord shall become a judge, and He shall judge between me and you, and He shall see and plead my cause, and exact justice for me from your hand."

טזוְהָיֶה ה' לְדַיָּן וְשָׁפַט בֵּינִי וּבֵינֶדּ וְיֵּרֶא ׁוְיָרֵב את־ריבי וישפטני מידד:

17And it was, when David finished speaking these words, that Saul said, "Is this your voice, my son David?" And Saul raised his voice and wept.

יזוַיָהֵי ו כָּכַלִּוֹת דַּוָּד לְדַבֵּּר אֵת־הַדְּבַרִים הַאֶּלֶה` אָל־שַאוּל וַיִּאמֶר שַאוּל הַקּלְךְּ זָה בְּנִי דַוָד וישא שאוּל קלו ויבר:

18And he said to David, "You are more righteous than I, for you have repaid me with goodness, while I have repaid you with evil.

יחוַיֹּאמֶר אֶל־דְּוֹד צַדִּיק אַתָּה מִמֶנִּי כָּי אַתָּה` גִּמַלִתַּנִי הַטוֹבָה וַאֲנֵי גִּמַלִתִּיךְּ הָרָּעָה:

19And you have shown today how you have dealt well with me, how the Lord delivered me into your hand, and you did not kill me.

יטואתה (כתיב ואת) הגדת היום את אשר־ עָשִׂיתָה אִתָּי טוֹבֶה אֵת אֲשֶׁר סִגְּרַנִי יִהֹוָה בִידַרְּ וַלֹא הַרגַתַּנִי:

20For when a man finds his enemy, does he send him away safely? And may the Lord repay you with goodness for what you have done to me on this day.

כוְכִייִמְצֵא אִישׁ אֶת־אִיבוֹ וְשָׁלְחוֹ בְּדֶרֶךְ טוֹבֵה וָהֹ' יִשַּׁלֵמְׁךְ טוֹבָה ֹתַתַת הַיִּוֹם הַזֶּה אֲשֵׁר

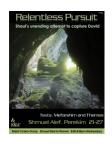
21And now, behold, I know that you will reign, and the kingdom of Israel will be established in your hand.

כאוְעַתָּה ֹהָנָּה יָדֵלְעְתִּי כִּי מָלֹדְּ תִּמְלֵוֹדְ וְקָמָה ׁ בִּיַדְדְּ מַמְלֵכֵת יִשְׂרָאֵל:

22And now, swear to me by the Lord, that you will not cut off my seed, and you will not destroy my name from זַרְעָי אָחֲרָי וְאָם־תַּשְׁמִיד אָת־שָׁמִי מִבַּית אָבִי: my father's house."

כבועתה השבעה לִי בַּיהוֹה אִם־תַּכְרֵית אֵת־





23And David swore to Saul; and Saul went to his home, and David and his men went up to the stronghold.

ַכגוַיִּשָּׁבַע דָּוָד לְשָאְוּל וַיֻּלֶּךְ שָׁאוּל אֶל־בֵּיתוֹ וְדָוִד וָאֲנָשִׁיו עָלוִּ עַל־הַמְּצוּדַה:

#### Perek 25

1And Samuel died, and all Israel gathered, and lamented him, and they buried him in his house in Ramah. And David arose, and went down to the Desert of Paran.

2And there was a man in Maon, whose possessions were in Carmel. And the man was very great, and he had three thousand sheep and one thousand goats; and he was, while shearing his sheep, in Carmel.

3And the man's name was Nabal, and his wife's name was Abigail. And the woman was of good sense and of beautiful form, but the man was hard, and of evil deeds; and he was a Calebite.

4And David heard in the desert, that Nabal was shearing his sheep.

5And David sent ten youths, and David said to the youths, "Go up to Carmel, and you shall come to Nabal, and greet him in my name.

6And you shall say, 'So shall you be living next year, and may peace be to you, and peace to your household, and peace to all that is yours.

7And now, I have heard that they are shearing for you. Now, your shepherds were with us. We did not disgrace them, neither was anything missing to them all the time they were in Carmel.

8Ask your youths and they will tell you, and may the youths find favor in your eyes, for we have come on a festive day. Give now, what your hand will find, for your servants and for your son David.' "

9And David's youths came, and spoke to Nabal according to all these words, in David's name, and they rested.

10And Nabal answered David's servants, and said, "Who is David, and who is the son of Jesse? Nowadays, there are many slaves, who break away, each one from his master.

אוַיַּמַת שִמוּאֵל וַיִּקְבָצוּ כַל־יִשְׁרָאֵל וַיִּסְפִּדוּ לוֹ וַיִּקבָּרָהוּ בָּבֵיתוֹ בַּרְמַה וַיַּקִם דַּוֹד וַיֵּרֶד אַל־מַדָּבַּר פַּארָן:

בוְאִישׁ בִּמַעוֹן וּמַעֲשֵהוּ בַכַּרְמֵל וְהַאִישׁ גַּדְוֹל מְאֹד וְלֶוֹ צָאוֹ שְׁלְשֶׁתֹ־אֲלָפֵים וְאֵלֶוֹף עִזְים ויהי בגוז את־צאנו בכרמל:

גושם האיש נבל ושם אשתו אבגיל וְהַאָּשָה טִובַת שֶׁכֶּל וְיפַת תֹאַר וְהַאֵּיש קשֵה ָּוֹרְעַ מַעַלְלִים וְהֹוֹא כֹלְבֵּי (כתיב כּלְבַּוֹ) :

דוַיִּשָׁמַע דַּוָד בַּמִּדְבַּר כִּי־גֹוַז נַבַל אֵת־צֹאנְוֹ:

הוַיִּשְׁלָח דָּוֶד עֲשָׂרָה נְעָרִים וַיּאמֶר דָּוִד 

ווַאֲמַרְתֶּם כַּה לֶחֵי וְאַתָּה שָׁלוֹם וּבִיתְךְּ שַׁלוֹם וָכָל אֲשֵׁר־לָךְּ שַׁלוֹם:

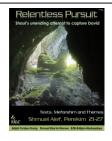
זוְעַתָּה שָׁמַלְעְתִּי כִּי גֹזְזָים לַךְּ עַתָּה הָרֹעִים אַשַרֹּלִדְּרֹתִיוֹ עַמַנוֹ לִאֹ הַכְלַמְנוֹם וַלְא־נָפְקָד לָהֶם מְאוֹמָה כָּל־יִמֵי הֵיוֹתֵם בַּכַּרְמֵל:

חשָאַל אַת־נָעַרָיךּ וְיַגִּידוּ לַךְּ וְיִמְצָאוּ הַנְּעַרֵים חוֹ בָּעֵינֵיך כִּי־עַל־יוֹם טוֹב בַּאנוֹ (כתיב בַּנוּ)תִּנָה־נַּא אֶת אֲשֶׂר תִּמְצֵּא יַדְדְּ לַעֲבַדֵּיִּדְ וּלְבָנָהְ לְדוד:

טוַיָּבֹאוּ נַעְרֵי דָּוֹד וַיְדַבְּרְוּ אֶל־נָבֶל כְּכָל־ הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶה בִּשֵׁם דָּנִד וַיַּנִוּחוּ:

יוַיַּעַן נָבָל אֶת־עַבְדָי דָוִד'וַיּאמֶר מִי דָוָד וּמִי בַּן־יִשֵׁי הַיּוֹם רַבִּוֹ עַבַדִּים הַמִּתְפַּרִצִים אָישׁ מפני אדניו:





11Now, shall I take my bread and my water, and my meal which I have cooked for my shearers, and shall I give them to people of whom I know not whence they are?"

12And David's youths turned around to their way, and returned, and came and told him according to all these words.

13And David said to his men, "Gird each man his sword," and they girded each man his sword, and David too, girded his sword, and they went up after David, about four hundred men, and two hundred stayed with the luggage.

14And one youth of the youths, told Abigail, the wife of Nabal, saying, "Behold, David sent messengers from the desert to greet our master, and he drove them away.

15And the men are very good to us; and we were not disgraced, nor was anything missing to us all the time we went with them, when we were in the field.

16They were a wall over us both night and day, all the time we were with them, pasturing the sheep.

has been decided upon against our master and against all of his household; and he is such a base person that one cannot speak to him."

18And Abigail hastened and she took two hundred loaves, and two earthenware jugs of wine, and five prepared sheep, and five seah of flour of roasted ears of grain, and one hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs; and she placed them on the donkeys.

19And she said to her youths, "Go on ahead of me. Behold, I am coming after you." And she did not tell her husband Nabal.

20And it was, that she was riding on the donkey, and coming down, under cover of the mountain, and behold, David and his men were coming down toward her, and she met them.

21And David said, "Surely in vain have I watched all this fellow has in the desert, so that nothing was missing of all that is his, and he has returned me evil for good.

יאולקחתי את־לחמי ואת־מימי ואת ָטְבָחָתִי אָשֵר טָבַחִתִּי לְגִזְזִי וְנַתַתִּי לָאֵנַשִּים אשר לא ידעתי אי מזה המה:

יבוַיַּהַפְּכָוּ נַעֲרֶי־דָוָד לְדַרְכֶּם וַיָּשֻׂבוּ וַיָּבֹאוּ וַיַּגְּדוּ לוֹ כָּכִל הַדְּבַרִים הַאֵּלֵה:

יגויאמַל דוָד לאַנשיו חגרו ו איש אַת־חרבוּו ויחגרו איש את חרבו ויחגר גם דוד את־ תַרְבָּוֹ וַיַּעַלְוּ וֹ אַחֵרֵי דָוִֹד כְּאַרְבָּע מֵאוֹתֹ אִישׁ ַּוֹם אֹתִים ישבוּ על־הכּלים: וּמאֹתים ישבוּ על־הכּלים:

ידולאביגיל אשת נבל הגיד נעראחד מהנערים לאמר הנה שלח דוד מלאכים ו מהמדבר לברך את־אדנינו ויעט בהם:

טווָהָאַנָשִׂים טבִים לַנוּ מִאָד וְלָא הַכְלַמְנוּ וְלְאֹ־בָּקַקְדְנוּ מִאוֹמְׁה בָּלִייִמֵי הְתְּהַלְּכְנוּ אְתַּם בהיותנו בשדה:

טזחוֹמָה ֹהָיָוּ עָלֵינוּ גַּם־לַיְלָה גַּם־יוֹמֶם כָּל־ יְמֵי הֵיוֹתֵנוּ עָמָם רעִים הַצְּאן:

17And now, know and see what you will do, for the evil יזועַתָּה דָּעִי וּרְאִי מָה־תַּעֲשִי כִּי־כָלְתָּה הָרָעֲה ָאֶל־אֲדֹנֶינוּ וְעַל כָּל־בֵּיתִוֹ וְהוּא ׁבֶּן־בְּלִּיעַל מדבר אליו:

> יחוַתִּמַהֶר אֲבִיגַֿיִל (כתיב אֵבְוגַֿיַל) וַתִּקַחֹ מַאתַנִים לֶחֶם ושְנַיִם נִבְלֵי־נַיָן וְחַמֵּשׁ צָאן עשוּיוֹת (כתיב עשׁוּוֹת) וְחָמֶשׁ סְאִים ׁקָלִי וֹמֵאָה צִמָּקִים וּמָאתַיִם דְבַלִים וַתָּשֶׁם עַל־

יטוַתְּאמֶר לִנְעָרֶיֹהָ עִבְרַוּ לְפָנֵי הִנְנֶי אַחֲרִיכֶם בָּאֵה וּלְאִישֵהּ נָבָל לִא הִגִּידַה:

כוה״ה היא ו רכבת על־החמור וירדת בסתר ָהָהָרֹ וְהָגֲׁה דָוִד ֿוַאֲנָשָּׁיו יֹּרְדָים לִקְּרָאתִהּ ותפגש אתם:

כאודוד אמר אד לשקר שמרתי את־כל־ אַשֶּׁר לַזָה בַּמִּדְבַּר וְלֹא־נִפְקַד מְכָּל־אֲשֶׁר לוֹ מאומה וישב לי רעה תחת טובה:





22So shall God do to David's enemies, and so shall He continue, if I leave over of all that he has, by the morning light, even one dog."

23And Abigail saw David, and she hastened and leaned off the donkey; and she fell on her face before David, and prostrated herself on the ground.

24And she fell at his feet, and said, "In me alone, my lord, is the iniquity. Now, let your handmaid speak into your ears, and hearken to the words of your handmaid.

25Let not my lord take heed of this base fellow, of Nabal, for like his name, so is he. Nabal is his name, and ungratefulness is with him: and I, your handmaid, did not see my lord's youths whom you sent.

26And now, my lord, as the Lord lives and by your life, כוועתה אדני חייהוה וחי־נפשר אשר מנעך (I swear) that the Lord has withheld you from coming to bloodshed, and from saving yourself with your hand. And now, may your enemies and those who seek evil to my lord, be as Nabal.

27And now, this gift which your handmaid has brought to my lord, shall be given to the youths who walk at my lord's feet.

28Forgive now your handmaid's transgression, for the Lord shall make for my lord a sure house, for my lord fights the wars of the Lord. And let no evil be found in you all your days.

29And a man has arisen to pursue you and to seek your soul. But my lord's soul shall be bound in the bundle of life with the Lord your God, while the soul of your enemies, the Lord will sling it with the hollow of the sling.

30And it will be, when the Lord will do to my lord according to all the good which He spoke concerning you, and He will appoint you as ruler over Israel.

31Let this not be to you as a stumblingblock and a remorse of heart to my lord, that you have shed blood without cause, or that my lord has avenged himself. And when the Lord will do good to my lord, you shall remember your maidservant."

32And David said to Abigail, "Blessed is the Lord God of Israel, Who has sent you towards me on this day.

כבכּה־יַעשָה אֱלֹהֵים לְאֹיִבֵי דָוָד וְכְה יֹסֵיף אם־אשאיר מכל־אשר־לו עד־הבקר משתין בקיר:

כגותרא אביגיל את־דוד ותמהר ותרד מעל הַחַמוֹר וַתַּפֿל לָאֲפֵּי דַוִד עַל־פַּנֵיהַ וַתִּשְתַחוּ

כדוַתִּפּל עַל־רָגְלַיו וַתּאמֶר בִּי־אֵנִי אֲדֹנֵי הַעַוֹן וְתַדַבֶּר נַא אֱמַתִּך בָּאַזְנֵיך וּשְׁמַע אֵת דְּבָרֵי

כהאל־נא ישִים אַדנִי ו אַת־לַבֿו אַל־אַישׁ הַבִּלִּעַל הַזֵּה עַל־נָבָל כָּי כִשְמוּ כֶּן־הוּא נָבֵל שמו ונבלה עמו ואני אמתר לא ראיתי את־ נערי אַדני אַשר שלחת:

ה' מִבְּוֹא בִדָמִים וְהוֹשֵעַ יַדְךְּ לַךְ וְעַתַּה יְהִיוּ ָּרָנָבָל אֹיְבֶּיֹךּ וְהָמְבַקְשִׁים אֵלֹאֵדֹנִי רָעָה:

כזועתה הַבָּרַכָה הַזֹּאת אֲשֵׁר־הֶבָיא שִׁפְחַתְּךְּ לאדני ונתנה לנערים המתהלכים ברגלי

כחשא נא לפשע אַמַתֶּךּ כִּי עַשָּה־יַעֲשֵה יָהֹוָהֹ לָאדֹנִי בַּיִת נָאֱמַוֹ כִּי־מִלְחֵמות ה' אַדנִי נִלְחָם וְרָעֲה לֹא־תִמְצְא בִּךְ מִיַּמֵיך:

כטוַיַּקָם אַדַם לִרְדַפָּךְ וּלְבַקֵּשׁ אֵת־נַפְשֵׁךְ וָהיִתה נַפש אַדנִי צַרוּרה ו בַּצַרוֹר החיִים ַאַת יְהֹוָה אֱלֹהֵיךְ וְאֵת נָפֵשׁ אִיבֵיֹךְ יִקְלְעְנַה בִּתוֹךְ כַּף הַקּלַע:

לוְהָיָה כִּי־יַעֲשֵה ה' לָאדֹנִי כִּכֶּל אֲשֵר־דְּבֵּר אָת־הַטוֹבַה עַלֵיךּ וְצִוּךְ לְנַגֵיד עַל־יִשְׁרָאֵלֹ:

לאולא תהיה זאת ו לך לפוקה ולמכשול לב לאדני ולשפר דם חנם ולהושיע אדני לו והיטב ה' לאדני וזכרת את־אמתק:

לבוַיָּאמֶר דָּוָד לַאֲבִיגַל בָּרָוּךְ ה' אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרַאֵל אֲשֵׁר שַׁלַּחַך ֹהַיִּוֹם הָזָה לְּקְרַאתִי:





33Blessed is your advice, and blessed be you, who have restrained me this day from coming into bloodshed, and from avenging myself with my own hand.

34And indeed, as the Lord God of Israel lives, Who has restrained me from harming you, (I swear) that had you not hastened and come toward me, there would not have been left to Nabal until daybreak, even one dog."

35And David took from her hand that which she had brought him, and he said to her, "Go up in peace to your house. See that I have hearkened to your voice and have shown you favor."

36And Abigail came to Nabal, and behold, he had a feast in his house like the feast of the king; and Nabal's heart was merry within him, and he was very drunk. And she did not tell him anything, less or more until davbreak.

37And it was in the morning, when the wine had left Nabal, that his wife told him these things, and his heart died within him, and he became like stone.

38And it was just ten days after, that the Lord inflicted a stroke on Nabal, and he died.

39And David heard that Nabal had died, and he said, "Blessed is the Lord, Who has judged the cause of my reproach from the hand of Nabal, and restrained His bondsman from evil, and returned Nabal's evil upon his own head." And David sent, and spoke concerning Abigail to take her to him for a wife.

40And David's servants came to Abigail, to Carmel, and spoke to her, saying, "David has sent us to you to take you to him for a wife."

41And she arose, and prostrated herself upon her face to the ground, and said, "Behold, your bondswoman is a הָּנָה אֲמָתְדֶּ לְשִׁפְּׁחָה לִרְחֹץ רַגְלֵי עַבִדִי אֲדֹנִי: slave to wash the feet of my lord's servants."

מבותמהר ותקם אביגיל ותרכב על־החמור '42And she hastened, and mounted the donkey with her five maidens who went with her. And she went after David's messengers, and became his wife.

43And David took Ahinoam from Jezreel, and they both מגוָאָת־אַחִינְעַם לָקַח דָּוָד מִיּזִרְעֵאל וַתִּהְיֵין became his wives. גם־שׁתֵּיהֵן לוֹ לְנשִׁים:

לגוּבָרְוּךְ טַעָמֶךְ וּבְרוּכָה אַתִּ אֲשֵׁר כִּלְתַּנִי היום הזה מבוא בדמים והשע ידי לי:

לדואולם חיה' אלהי ישראל אשר מנעני מֶהַרַע אתָךְ כִּי ו לוּלֵי מְהַרְתִּ וַתָּבֹאת (כתיב וַתַּבֹאתיֹ) לְקָרַאתִי כִּי אִם־נוֹתַר לְנָבֶל עַד־ אור הבקר משתין בקיר:

להוַיִּקָּח דַּוִד מִיָּדָה אָת אַשר־הֵבִיאַה לוֹ וְלָהּ אַמַר עָלֵי לִשַלוֹם לְבֵיתֵךְ רָאִי שַׁמַעִתִּי בקולר ואשא פניר:

לוותבא אביגיל ו אלינבל והנה לו משתה בְּבִיתוֹ כִּמִשְׁתֵּה הַמֵּלֶךְ וְלֶב נָבַל טוב עַלַיו וְהָוּא שִׁכַּר עַד־מִאָד וְלְאֹ־הְגִּידָה לוֹ דַבַר קטן וגדול עד אור הבקר:

לזוַיָהֵי בַבּּקָר בָּצָאת הַיַּיֹן מְנַבַּל וַתַּגַּד לְוֹ אָשָׁתוֹ אֶת־הַדְבַרִים הַאֶלֶה וַיַּמַת לְבּוֹ בְּקַרְבּוֹ והוא היה לאבן:

לחוַיִהְי כַּעשׁרֵת הַיָּמִים וַיִּגֹּף יִהֹוָה אֵת־נָבַל

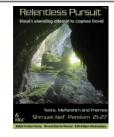
לטוישמע דוד כי מת נבל ויאמר ברוך יהוה אַשֶר רָבֿ אֵת־רִיב חֵרְפַּתִיׁ מִיַד נַבַּל וֹאֵת־ עבדו חשר מרעה ואת רעת נבל השיב יְהֹוֶה בְּרֹאֹשֵׁוֹ וַיִּשְׁלֶח דְּוִדֹ וַיְדַבְּר בַּאֲבִינֹיִל לקחתה לו לאשה:

מוַיָּבֿאוּ עַבְּדֵי דָנֶד אֶל־אֲבִיגַיִל הַכַּּרְמֶלָה וַיְדַבְּרָוּ אֵלֶיהָ לֵאמר דָּוִד שְׁלְחֵנוּ אֵלַיִּדְ לְקַחְתֵּךְ לָוֹ לְאִשָּׁה:

מאוַתִּלְם וַתִּשְׁתַּחוּ אַפַּיִם אֱרְצָה וַתּאמֵר

ְוָחָמֵשׁ נַעֲרֹתֶּיֹהָ הַהֹּלְכוֹת לְרַגְּלֶהּ וַתֵּּלֶךְ אָחֲבִי מַלְאֵכֵי דָּוָד וַתִּהִי־לִוֹ לְאִשָּה:





44And Saul had given his daughter, Michal, wife of David, to Palti the son of Laish, who was from Gallim. מדוְשָׁאוּל נָתַן אֶת־מִיכָל בִּתַּוֹ אֲשֶׁת דְּוֶד לְפַלְטִי בֵּן־לַיִשׁ אֲשֵׁר מְגַּלִּים:

### Perek 26

1And the Ziphites came to Saul, to Gibeah, saying, "Is not David hiding in the Hill of Hachilah, before the Desolate Wasteland?"

אוַיְבָאוּ הַזִּפִּים אֶל־שָׁאוּל הַגִּבְעֶתָה לֵאמִר הַלוֹא דָוָד מִסְתַּהֵר בְּגִבְעֵת הַחֵכִילָה עַל פְּנֵי :הישימן

בוַיַקם שַאוּל וַיַּרֶד אַל־מִדְבַּר־זִיף וָאָתוּ שַלְשֵׁת־ And Saul arose and descended to the Desert of Ziph, בוַיַקם שאוּל וַיַּרֶד אַל־מִדְבַּר־זִיף וָאָתוּ שַלְשֵׁת and with him were three thousand picked men, to seek David in the Desert of Ziph.

אַלַבְּים אִישׁ בִּחוֹרֵי יִשְׁרָאֵל לְבַקְשׁ אֵתֹ־דַּוָד

3And Saul encamped in the Hill of Hachilah, which is before the Desolate Wasteland, by the road, And David was staying in the desert; and it appeared to him that Saul had come after him to the desert.

גוַיָּתוֹ שָאוּל בִּגְבָעַת הַחֶכִילָה אֲשֵׁר עַל־פְּנֵי ָהַיְשִׁימָן עַל־הַדֶּרֶהְ וְדָוִד<sup>ְ</sup> ישֵׁב בַּמִּדְבָּר וַיַּרְא כְּי בא שאול אחריו המדברה:

4And David sent spies, and he learned that Saul had surely come.

דוישלח דוד מרגלים וידע כייבא שאול אלי נכון:

5And David arose and came to the place where Saul had encamped. And David saw the place where Saul lay, and Abner the son of Ner, the commander of his army. And Saul was lying within the barricade, and the people were encamped around him.

הויקם דוד ויבא אל־המקום אשר חנה־שם שאול וירא דוד את־הַמַקום אָשֶר שַכַב־שַם שאול ואבנר בן נר שרצבאו ושאול שכב במעגל והעם חנים סביבתיו (כתיב : (סביבתו

6And David spoke up and said to Ahimelech the Hittite and to Abishai the son of Zeruiah, the brother of Joab, saying, "Who will go down with me to Saul to the camp?" And Abishai said, "I shall go down with vou."

וויען דוד ויאמר | אל־אחימלד החתי ואל־ אבישי ברצרויה אחי יואב לאמר מיירד אתי אַל־שאול אַל־הַמּחַנָה ויאמר אַבִּישי אַנִי אַרָד

7And David and Abishai came to the people by night, and behold, Saul was lying asleep within the barricade with his spear thrust into the ground at his head, and Abner and the people were lying around him.

זויבא דוד ואבישי ו אל־העם לילה והנה שאול שכב ישן במעגל וחניתו מעוכה בארץ מראשתיו (כתיב מראשתו) ואבנר והעם שׁכַבִּים סָבִיבֹתִיו (כתיב סָבִיבֹתוּ):

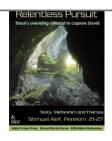
8And Abishai said to David, "Today, God has delivered your enemy into your hand; and now, let me strike him now, with the spear to the ground with one stroke; and I shall not repeat this to him."

חוַיאמר אַבִישַי אַל־דַּוֹד סְגַּר אֱלֹהֵים הַיַּוֹם ָאֶת־אֹיִבְךָּ בְּיָדֶדְ וְעַתָּהْ אַכֶּנוּ נָאׁ בַּחֲנֻית וֹבָאָרֶץ` פעם אחת ולא אשנה לו:

9And David said to Abishai, "Do not destroy him, for who can stretch forth his hand against the Lord's anointed and be accounted guiltless?"

טוַיָּאמֶר דַּוָד אֵל־אַבִישֵׁי אַל־תַּשְׁחִיתֵהוּ כִּי מִי שלח ידו במשיח יהוה ונקה:





10And David said, "As the Lord lives, but the Lord will smite him, or his day will come and he will die, or he will go down to war and perish.

11Far be it for me from the Lord to stretch forth my hand against the Lord's anointed. And now, take now the spear which is at his head and the jug of water, and let us go away."

12And David took the spear and the jug of water from near Saul's head, and they went away. And no one saw and no one knew and no one awakened, for they were all asleep, because a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen upon them.

13And David crossed to the other side, and stood on the mountain peak from afar; the space between them was great.

14And David called to the people and to Abner the son of Ner, saying, "Will you not answer, Abner?" And Abner answered and said, "Who are you who have called to the king?"

15And David said to Abner, "Are you not a valiant man? and who is like you in Israel? and why did you not guard your lord the king? for one of the people came to destroy the king, your lord.

יטזלא־טוב הַדַבר הַזָּה אָשֵר עָשִיתָ חַי־יִהוֹה כִּי 16This thing which you have done, is not good; as the טזלא־טוב הַדַבר הַזָּה אָשֵר עָשִיתָ חַי־יִהוֹה כִּי Lord lives, you are worthy of death, for you did not keep watch over your lord, over the Lord's anointed. And now, see where the king's spear is, and the jug of water which was at his head."

17And Saul recognized David's voice, and said, "Is this your voice, my son David," And David said, "(It is) my voice, my lord, O king."

18And he said, "Why does my lord pursue his servant? for what have I done? and what evil is in my hand?

19And now, let now my lord the king hear his servant's words. If the Lord has incited you against me, He will accept an offering; but if the sons of men, cursed be they before the Lord, for they have driven me today from cleaving to the Lord's heritage, saying, 'Go, worship other gods.'

יוַיִּאמֶר דָּוִד ֹחֲי־יְהֹוָה כִּי אִם־יְהֹוֶה יִנְּפֵנוּ אְוֹ־ יוֹמִוֹ יָבוֹא וַמֵּת אוֹ בַמִּלְחַמֵה יֵרֵד וְנִסְפַּה:

יאחַלִילַה לִּי מִיהוֹה מִשָּׁלְחַ יַדִי בִּמְשִׁיחַ יִהוַה וְעַתַּה קַח־נָא אַת־הַחַנִּית אַשִּׁר מָרָאֵשׁתֵיו(כתיב מְרָאֵשׁתֵו) וְאֶת־צַפַּחַת הַמֵּים

יבויקח דוד את־החנית ואת־צפחת המים` מראשתי שאול וילכו להם ואין ראה ואין יוֹדֵעַ וְאֵין מֵקִיץ כָּי כַּלָּם וֹשִׁנִים ֹכִּי תַּרְדֵּמַת יהוה נפלה עליהם:

> יגוַיַּעֲבָר דַּוִד הַעֶּבֶר וַיַּעֲמִד עַל־ראש־הַהַר מרחק רב המקום ביניהם:

ידוַיִּקְרָא דַּוִּד אֱל־הָעָם וְאֱל־אֲבְנֵר בֵּן־נֵר ֹלֵאמֹר ָהְלָוֹא ֹתַעֲנֶה אַבְנֶר וַיָּעַן אַבְנֵר וַיִּאמֶר מִי אַתָּה הַלָּוֹא ֹתַעֲנֶה אַבְנֶר וַיָּעַן אַבְנֵר וַיִּא קראת אַל המַלְרְיּ

טוויאמַל דוָד אַל־אבַנַר הַלוא־אַיש אתה וּמִי כַמוֹדְ בִּישָׁרָאֵל וְלַמֵּה ֹלָא שַמַרְתַּ אֵל־אָדנִיךְ המלד כייבא אחד העם להשחית את המלד

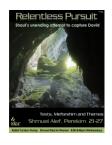
בני־מות אתם אשר לא־שמרתם על־אדניכם עַל־מִשֶׁיחַ יִהֹוָה וְעַתַּה וֹ רְאֵה אֵי־חַנִּית הַמֵּלֶךְ ָוְאֶת־צַפַּחַת הַמַּיִם אֲשֵׁר מְרַאֲשׁתַיו (כתיב : (מראשתו

יזוַיַּכֵּר שַאוּל אַת־קוֹל דַּוֹד וַיֹּאמֶר הַקוֹלְדָּ זָה בני דוד ויאמר דוד קולי אדני המלך:

יחוַיאֶמֶר לְמָּה זְּה אֲדֹנִי רֹדֶף אַחֲבֵי עַבְדֵּוֹ ְכִּי מֵה עָשִׂיתִי וּמַה־בִּיָדִי רָעָה:

יטועתה ישמע נא אדני המלך את דברי עבדו אָם־יִהֹוֹה הַסִיתְרָּ בִיֹּירַת מְנָתַה וֹאָם וֹ בְּנֵי הַאַדַם אַרוֹרִים הָם לפִנֵי יְהֹוָה כִּי־גַּרְשוּנִי הֹיוֹם מַהַּסִתֹּפֵּח בַּנחַלת ה' לַאמֹר לַךְּ עבד אלהים אחרים:





20And now, let not my blood fall to the ground away from the face of the Lord, for the king of Israel has gone out to seek a flea as the partridge hunts in the mountains."

21And Saul said, "I have sinned. Return, my son David, for I shall harm you no more, because my life was precious in your eyes this day. Behold, I have acted foolishly and have erred exceedingly."

22And David answered and said, "Behold the king's spear. Now let one of the youths come over and take

23And the Lord will repay every man for his righteousness and his faithfulness, for the Lord delivered you today into my hand, and I would not stretch forth my hand against the Lord's anointed.

24And behold, as your life was precious this day in my eyes, so shall my life be precious in the eyes of the Lord, and He shall save me from every distress."

25And Saul said to David, "Blessed be you, my son David. You shall both do (great things) and you shall prevail." And David went on his way, and Saul returned to his place.

כועתה אַל־יִפָּל דַמִי אַרְצָה מְנַגֵּד פְּנֵי יִהוַה כִּי־ יצֿא מַלַךְ יִשַּׂרְאָל לִבקַשׁ אַת־פּּרָעשׁ אַחֹד כאשר ירדף הקרא בהרים:

כאויאמל שאול חטאתי שוב בני־דוד כי לא־ ארע לד עוד תחת אשר יקרה נפשי בעיניד הַיִּוֹם הַזָּה הָנָה הָסְכַּלְתִּי וַאֲשׁנֵה הַרְבָּה מְאִד:

כבויען דוד ויאמר הנה חנית (כתיב החַנִּית)הַמֶּלֶךְ וִיעָבַר אָחֶד מַהַנְּעַרִים וִיְקְּחָהַ:

כגוָה' יָשִׁיב לָאִׂישׁ אֶת־צִּדְקְתֻוֹ וְאֶת־אֶּמֵנָתְוֹ אֲשֶׁר נְתָנְךּ יְהֹוָה וּ הַיּוֹם בְּיָד וְלָא אָבִיתִי לִשְׁלָחַ יָדָי בִּמְשִׁיחַ ה':

כדוְהִנֵּה כַּאֲשָּׁר נִּדְלֶה נַפְשְׁךְּ הַיִּוֹם הַזֶּה בְּעֵינֵי כֵּן תִּגָדָּל נַפְשִׁי בְּעִינֵי יְהֹוָה וְיַצְּלֵנִי מִכָּל־צָרָה:

כהוַיּאמֶר שַאוּל אֶל־דַּוִֹד בַּרוּדְ אַתַּה בָּנִי דַוֹד ְגַם עָשֵׁה תַעֲשֶּׂה וְגַם יָכַל תוּכַל וַיָּלֶּךְ דְּוְדֹּ לְדַרְכּוֹ וְשָׁאוּל שֶׁב לְמִקוֹמִו:

#### Perek 27

1And David said to himself, "Now, I shall perish one day in the hand of Saul; there is nothing better for me than that I shall escape to the land of the Philistines, and Saul will despair of me, to seek me any more in all the border of Israel, and I shall escape from his hand. "

2And David arose. And he and the six hundred men who were with him, crossed over to Achish the son of Maoch, the king of Gath.

3And David dwelt with Achish in Gath, he and his men, each man and his household, David and his two wives; Ahinoam the Jezreelitess and Abigail the wife of Nabal, the Carmelitess.

4And it was told to Saul that David had fled to Gath, and he did not continue to search for him.

5And David said to Achish, "If now I have found favor in your eyes, let them give me a place in one of the country

אויאמר דוד אל לבו עתה אספה יום־ אחד ביד שאול אין לי טוב כי המלט אֶמֶּלְטֶ וֹ אֶלֹ־אָּרֶץ בְּלִשְׁתִּים וְנוֹאַשׁ מִׁמֶנִי שָאוּל לְבַקשֵנִי עוד בְּכָל־גִּבְוּל יִשְׁרָאֵל

בויקם דוד ויעבר הוא וששימאות איש אַשַר עמו אַל־אכִישׁ בַּן־מעוֹדְ מַלַדְּ גִּת:

גוישב דוד עם־אכיש בגת הוא ואנשיו איש וביתו דוד ושתי נשיו אחינעם הכרמלית:

דוַיַּגָּד לְשָׁאוּל כִּי־בָּרַח דָּוֶד גַּת וְלְא־יִּסֵף (כתיב יָוֹסַף) עוֹד לְבַקּשְׁוֹ:

הויאמר דוד אל־אליש אם־נא מצאתי חן בַּעִינֵיֹדְ יִתִּנוּ־לִי מַלְּוֹם בַּאַחֵת עָרֵי הַשְּׁדֵה





towns, and I shall dwell there, for why should your servant dwell in the royal city with you?"

וְאַשְׁבָה שָׁם וְלָּמָה יֵשִׁב עַבְדְּךָּ בְּעֵיר הַמַּמְלַכֵה עִמַּך:

6And Achish gave him Ziklag on that day; therefore, Ziklag ווַיִּתֵּן־לְוֹ אַכִישׁ בַּיִּוֹם הַהוּא אָת־צִקְלַג לָכֵּן has belonged to the kings of Judah until this day.

היתה צַקלגֹ לְמלְכֵי יְהוּדֹה עד היום הזָה:

7And the number of days which David dwelt in the field of זוָיִהִי מִּסְפַּר הַיִּמִים אֲשֶריִשָב דְוָד בִּשְׁדֵה the Philistines was (some) days and four months.

פלשתים ימים וארבעה חדשים:

8And David and his men would go up and raid the Geshurites and the Gizrites and the Amalekites, for those (tribes) were the inhabitants of the land, who were of old, as you go to Shur, even to the land of Egypt.

חויעל דוד ואַנשיו ויפשטו אַל־הגשורי וְהַגְּזְרִי (כתיב וְהַגְּרְזִי) וְהַעַּמְלֵקִי כִּי הַנַּה יִשְׁבְּוֹת הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר מֶעוֹלְבֶּׁם בּוֹאֲךְּ שוֹּרָה וְעַד־אֵרֵץ מִצְרַיִם:

9And David would smite (the inhabitants of) the land, and leave neither man nor woman alive; and he would take sheep and cattle, and donkeys and camels and clothing, and return and come to Achish.

טוִהַכָּה דָוִד אֱת־הָאָבץ וִלְא יִחַיֵּה אֵישׁ וְאִשֶּה וְלָקַח צֹאן וּבָקַר וַחֵמֹרִים וּגִמַלִּים` וֹבְגַּדְים וַיַּשֶב וַיַּבָא אֵל־אַכִּישׂ:

10And Achish would say, "Where did you raid today?" And David would say, "Against the south of Judah, and against the south of the Jerahmeelites and against the south of the Kenites."

יוַיאמר אַכִיש אַל־פַּשַטְתֵם הַיִּוֹם וַיִּאמֵר ואל־נגב הקיני:

11And David would leave alive neither man nor woman to bring to Gath, saying, "Lest they tell about us, saying, 'So has David done, and so is his manner all the days which he has dwelt in the field of the Philistines.' "

יאואַיש ואִשַּה לְא־יִחַיֵּה דַוְּד לְהָבִיא גַת` ֹלֶאמר פֶּן־יַגְּדוּ עַלֶּינוּ לֶאמר כָּה־עַשָּה דַוִד וֹכֹה מַשְׂפַּטֹּוֹ כַּלִּ־הֹּיִמִים אַשַּׁר ישב בַּשַּׁדָה פלשתים:

12And Achish believed David, saying, "He has greatly abhorred his people Israel, and he will be to me a bondsman forever."

יבוַיַּאֵמֶן אָכִישׁ בִּדָוִד לֵאמַר הַבְאָשׁ הַבָּאִישׁ בְּעַמַּוּ בִיִּשְּׂרָאֵל וְהָיָה לִי לְעֵבֶד



