

BOOK OF 1 SAMUEL
DAVID IS REJECTED AND DEJECTED
1 SAMUEL 29:1-11; 30:1-18

Introduction

We saw in Ch. 27 how David made an unholy alliance with the pagan king, Achish, of the Philistines who were the sworn enemies of God's people Israel!

In fact, David and his men are the personal bodyguards for King Achish.
(29:1-2)

Here we see that David's association with Achish came to the very brink of his being sucked into warring against his own people! Only the intervention of the Sovereign God prevented that from happening, as revealed here.
(29:3-11)

We could say that the temptation that came to David in this trial brought with it the promised "*way of escape*," as the Lord promises to us in 1 Corinthians 10:13. Even though from what we read here, we see that David wasn't looking for a "*way of escape*"! He should have been, but he wasn't!

David wrote in *Psalms 26:4-5* 4 "*I have not sat with vain persons, ...5 I have hated the congregation of evil doers; and will not sit with the wicked.*"

But that was not true at this juncture in his life. Here he had been closely associated with the wicked for 16 months.

Later in his life, as David looked back at what almost transpired here, no doubt he came to the realization that God alone spared him from the disastrous results which might have ensued had the LORD not gotten him out of this situation. (Do you have any of those moments in your life?)

II. THE PHILISTINE COMMANDERS REJECTED DAVID.
So, why did the Philistine Commanders Reject David?

Well, I see at least four reasons why the commanders of the Philistines vetoed the intention of Achish to take David and his men into the battle against Israel. These were:

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- (1) The long enmity between the Philistines and the Hebrews had resulted in deep mistrust on both sides.**
- (2) In the battle of Geba (1 Samuel 14:21), the Hebrews who had deserted to the Philistines defected to their fellow-Israelites and aided Saul in destroying the Philistines.** (That is one of those unanswerable objections! A no-brainer!)
- (3) If David and his men decided to go back to Saul, they would easily do so by slaughtering the Philistines (any great number of them) and taking their heads to Saul.** These lords of the Philistines were determined not to put that kind of opportunity into the hands of David.
- (4) David had a reputation of having slain "tens of thousands"...many of which were Philistines!** So, the lords of the Philistines were not about to forgive and forget that!

David had completely deceived Achish; but fortunately for the Philistines, the other lords of the Philistines were not so gullible.

Regardless of the wishes of Achish, the Philistine lords outvoted Achish and successfully removed David and his men from their forces.

So, David was saved from making war on his own people and returned to Ziklag.

How marvelous are the ways of God in the protection that He casts like a cloak around his saints!

One cannot help wondering if all that undeserved praise which Achish heaped upon David did not hurt his conscience somewhat. What did David really intend to do during that approaching battle with Israel had he not been sent packing? Was he planning to betray Achish, attack the Philistines and to aid Israel? Who knows?

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Some say David's words in **verse 8** do not necessarily imply he would fight for Achish as opposed to betraying him in battle.

This could have been just another of those ambiguous remarks which David so skillfully employed in his deceit of Achish. David's fighting against the enemies of "*my lord the king,*" applies to Saul as well as to Achish.

Was David just pretending that he really wanted to go to battle with Achish? We're not told. Nevertheless, God got him out of this situation!

It is difficult to realize that the David who appears in these chapters is the same David who wrote:

Psalm 15:1-2 "LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? 2 He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart."

II. AFTER BEING REJECTED AND RETURNING TO ZIKLAG, DAVID BECOMES DEJECTED! (30:1-18)

In chapter 30 we see it takes David and his men three days to return to Ziklag.

We also see that God had another reason to deliver David and his men from the battle against Israel. **(30:1-5)**

What if God had not worked it out for David to have been sent back to Ziklag?

God made it possible here for David and his men to recover all!

Note how David sought the LORD in this and encouraged himself in the LORD when his troops were about ready to stone him!