

HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

BIBLE CLASS: MARCH 23, 2023

HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

- “I SOUGHT THE LORD, AND HE ANSWERED ME AND DELIVERED ME FROM ALL MY FEARS. **THOSE WHO LOOK TO HIM ARE RADIANT, AND THEIR FACES SHALL NEVER BE ASHAMED.** THIS POOR MAN CRIED, AND THE LORD HEARD HIM AND SAVED HIM OUT OF ALL HIS TROUBLES. **THE ANGEL OF THE LORD ENCAMPS AROUND THOSE WHO FEAR HIM, AND DELIVERS THEM.**” PSALMS 34:4-7 (A CAVE PSALM WHEN HE FLED FROM GATH)
- “BE MERCIFUL TO ME, O GOD, BE MERCIFUL TO ME, **FOR IN YOU MY SOUL TAKES REFUGE; IN THE SHADOW OF YOUR WINGS I WILL TAKE REFUGE, TILL THE STORMS OF DESTRUCTION PASS BY.** I CRY OUT TO GOD MOST HIGH, TO GOD WHO FULFILLS HIS PURPOSE FOR ME. HE WILL SEND FROM HEAVEN AND SAVE ME; HE WILL PUT TO SHAME HIM WHO TRAMPLES ON ME. GOD WILL SEND OUT HIS STEADFAST LOVE AND HIS FAITHFULNESS!” PSALMS 57:1-3 (A CAVE PSALM WHEN HE FLED FROM SAUL)

HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

- “WITH MY VOICE I CRY OUT TO THE LORD; WITH MY VOICE I PLEAD FOR MERCY TO THE LORD. I POUR OUT MY COMPLAINT BEFORE HIM; I TELL MY TROUBLE BEFORE HIM. WHEN MY SPIRIT FAINTS WITHIN ME, YOU KNOW MY WAY! IN THE PATH WHERE I WALK THEY HAVE HIDDEN A TRAP FOR ME. LOOK TO THE RIGHT AND SEE: THERE IS NONE WHO TAKES NOTICE OF ME; **NO REFUGE REMAINS TO ME; NO ONE CARES FOR MY SOUL. I CRY TO YOU, O LORD; I SAY, “YOU ARE MY REFUGE, MY PORTION IN THE LAND OF THE LIVING.”** ATTEND TO MY CRY, FOR I AM BROUGHT VERY LOW! DELIVER ME FROM MY PERSECUTORS, FOR THEY ARE TOO STRONG FOR ME! BRING ME OUT OF PRISON, THAT I MAY GIVE THANKS TO YOUR NAME! THE RIGHTEOUS WILL SURROUND ME, FOR YOU WILL DEAL BOUNTIFULLY WITH ME.
- (A CAVE PSALM) PSALMS 142

HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

- **HIS FAMILY CAME DOWN TO HIM.** THE AGING FATHER WHO WAS A BIT UNCLEAR ABOUT WHO IS YOUNGEST SON WAS. THE OLDER , ELIAB, WHO RIDICULED HIM...NOW COMING TO SERVE WITH DAVID. OF COURSE, SAUL WOULD BE LOOKING FOR DAVID AMONG HIS FAMILY. SO THEY WERE ALL IN GREAT DANGER. THEY ALSO NEEDED A REFUGE. IMAGINE, COMING TO DAVID FOR PROTECTION. DAVID MAY NOT HAVE WANTED THEM THERE. HOWEVER, GOD SENT THEM ANYWAY....
- **“EVERYONE WHO WAS IN DISTRESS (ANGUISH) - RUNNING FROM A KING WHO WAS A MADMAN.**
- **“EVERYONE WHO WAS BITTER (HEAVY) IN SOUL - THERE WERE PERHAPS THOUSANDS OF ISRAELITES WHO WERE SUFFERING FROM THE REIGN OF SAUL. A SENSE OF HELPLESSNESS....**
- **“EVERYONE WHO WAS IN DEBT - THAT COULDN'T PAY THEIR BILLS**
- **“ABOUT 400 MEN.... DAVID BECAME COMMANDER OVER THEM. 1 SAM 22:2**
- **“COME TO ME, ALL WHO LABOR AND ARE HEAVY LADEN, AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST. TAKE MY YOKE UPON YOU, AND LEARN FROM ME, FOR I AM GENTLE HEART, AND YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS.” MATTHEW 11:28-29**

Heart of God passage

HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

- “AND DAVID WENT FROM THERE TO MIZPEH OF MOAB. AND HE SAID TO THE KING OF MOAB, “PLEASE LET MY FATHER AND MY MOTHER STAY WITH YOU, TILL I KNOW WHAT GOD WILL DO FOR ME.” AND HE LEFT THEM WITH THE KING OF MOAB, AND THEY STAYED WITH HIM ALL THE TIME THAT DAVID WAS IN THE STRONGHOLD. **THEN THE PROPHET GAD SAID TO DAVID, “DO NOT REMAIN IN THE STRONGHOLD; DEPART, AND GO INTO THE LAND OF JUDAH.”** SO DAVID DEPARTED AND WENT INTO THE FOREST OF HERETH. 1 SAMUEL 22:3-5

HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

- **THE LORD UPHOLDS MY LIFE**

TO THE CHOIRMASTER: WITH STRINGED INSTRUMENTS. A MASKIL OF DAVID, WHEN THE ZIPHITES WENT AND TOLD SAUL, "IS NOT DAVID HIDING AMONG US?"

"O GOD, SAVE ME BY YOUR NAME,
AND VINDICATE ME BY YOUR MIGHT.

O GOD, HEAR MY PRAYER;
GIVE EAR TO THE WORDS OF MY MOUTH.

FOR STRANGERS HAVE RISEN AGAINST ME

RUTHLESS MEN SEEK MY LIFE;

THEY DO NOT SET GOD BEFORE THEMSELVES.

BEHOLD, GOD IS MY HELPER;

THE LORD IS THE UPHOLDER OF MY LIFE.

HE WILL RETURN THE EVIL TO MY ENEMIES;

IN YOUR FAITHFULNESS PUT AN END TO THEM.

WITH A FREEWILL OFFERING I WILL SACRIFICE TO YOU;

I WILL GIVE THANKS TO YOUR NAME, O LORD, FOR IT IS GOOD.

FOR HE HAS DELIVERED ME FROM EVERY TROUBLE,

AND MY EYE HAS LOOKED IN TRIUMPH ON MY ENEMIES."

- PSALMS 54 | 1 SAMUEL 23:19

A town in the Negeb (q.v.) area of Judah (Josh 15:24; 1 Chron 2:42; 4:16) where Ziph is a clan or family affiliated with Caleb. No doubt the family gave its name to the town. Probably modern Khirbet ez-Zeifeh SW of Kurnub near the old Edomite border.
ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE BIBLE



HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

- WHEN SAUL RETURNED FROM FOLLOWING THE PHILISTINES, HE WAS TOLD, “BEHOLD, DAVID IS IN THE WILDERNESS OF ENGEDI.” THEN SAUL TOOK THREE THOUSAND CHOSEN MEN OUT OF ALL ISRAEL AND WENT TO SEEK DAVID AND HIS MEN IN FRONT OF THE WILDGOATS' ROCKS. AND HE CAME TO THE SHEEPFOLDS BY THE WAY, WHERE THERE WAS A CAVE, AND SAUL WENT IN TO RELIEVE HIMSELF. NOW DAVID AND HIS MEN WERE SITTING IN THE INNERMOST PARTS OF THE CAVE. AND THE MEN OF DAVID SAID TO HIM, “**HERE IS THE DAY OF WHICH THE LORD SAID TO YOU, ‘BEHOLD, I WILL GIVE YOUR ENEMY INTO YOUR HAND, AND YOU SHALL DO TO HIM AS IT SHALL SEEM GOOD TO YOU.’**” THEN DAVID AROSE AND STEALTHILY CUT OFF A CORNER OF SAUL'S ROBE. 1 SAM. 24:1
- AND AFTERWARD DAVID'S HEART STRUCK HIM, BECAUSE HE HAD CUT OFF A CORNER OF SAUL'S ROBE. HE SAID TO HIS MEN, “THE LORD FORBID THAT I SHOULD DO THIS THING TO MY LORD, THE LORD'S ANOINTED, TO PUT OUT MY HAND AGAINST HIM, SEEING HE IS THE LORD'S ANOINTED.” **SO DAVID PERSUADED HIS MEN WITH THESE WORDS AND DID NOT PERMIT THEM TO ATTACK SAUL.** AND SAUL ROSE UP AND LEFT THE CAVE AND WENT ON HIS WAY. 1 SAMUEL 24:1-7

Heart of God passage

HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

- AFTERWARD DAVID ALSO AROSE AND WENT OUT OF THE CAVE, AND CALLED AFTER SAUL, “MY LORD THE KING!” AND WHEN SAUL LOOKED BEHIND HIM, DAVID BOWED WITH HIS FACE TO THE EARTH AND PAID HOMAGE. AND DAVID SAID TO SAUL, “WHY DO YOU LISTEN TO THE WORDS OF MEN WHO SAY, ‘BEHOLD, DAVID SEEKS YOUR HARM’? BEHOLD, THIS DAY YOUR EYES HAVE SEEN HOW THE LORD GAVE YOU TODAY INTO MY HAND IN THE CAVE. **AND SOME TOLD ME TO KILL YOU, BUT I SPARED YOU. I SAID, ‘I WILL NOT PUT OUT MY HAND AGAINST MY LORD, FOR HE IS THE LORD’S ANOINTED.’** SEE, MY FATHER, SEE THE CORNER OF YOUR ROBE IN MY HAND. FOR BY THE FACT THAT I CUT OFF THE CORNER OF YOUR ROBE AND DID NOT KILL YOU, YOU MAY KNOW AND SEE THAT THERE IS NO WRONG OR TREASON IN MY HANDS. I HAVE NOT SINNED AGAINST YOU, THOUGH YOU HUNT MY LIFE TO TAKE IT. **MAY THE LORD JUDGE BETWEEN ME AND YOU, MAY THE LORD AVENGE ME AGAINST YOU, BUT MY HAND SHALL NOT BE AGAINST YOU.** AS THE PROVERB OF THE ANCIENTS SAYS, ‘OUT OF THE WICKED COMES WICKEDNESS.’ BUT MY HAND SHALL NOT BE AGAINST YOU. AFTER WHOM HAS THE KING OF ISRAEL COME OUT? AFTER WHOM DO YOU PURSUE? AFTER A DEAD DOG! AFTER A FLEA! MAY THE LORD THEREFORE BE JUDGE AND GIVE SENTENCE BETWEEN ME AND YOU, AND SEE TO IT AND PLEAD MY CAUSE AND DELIVER ME FROM YOUR HAND.” ¹

SAMUEL 24:8

Heart of God passage

HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

- DAVID WAS LOYAL TO HIS COMMITMENT TO “THE LORD’S ANOINTED.” IT WAS NOT HIS JOB TO DEFEAT SAUL – THE KING THAT GOD HAD ANOINTED.
- DAVID HAD TO QUELL THE THOUGHTS OF HIS MEN – WHO SAW THIS ONLY AS AN OPPORTUNITY. THIS IS AN INDICATION OF DAVID’S LEADERSHIP. THE MEN FINALLY LEFT IT UP TO THEIR COMMANDER....
- HOW OFTEN HAVE WE IMAGINED THAT ANY OPPORTUNITY IS THE WILL OF GOD IN OUR LIVES? WHAT ARE THE PRINCIPLES THAT PREVAIL? OUR INSTINCTS? THE PURPOSE AND PLAN OF GOD?
- IF WE ARE IN A PATH OF COMMUNICATION WITH GOD, WE ARE ALWAYS AWARE OF THE SMALLEST EVENTS IN OUR LIVES THAT ARE IN CONFLICT. WE ARE CONSTANTLY AWARE, AND CONSTANTLY AWARE OF WHAT NEEDS TO BE CORRECTED AS WE PROCEED IN LIFE.
- DAVID DID NOT SEEK REVENGE BECAUSE HE RESPECTED HIS AUTHORITY OVER HIM
- DAVID DID NOT SEEK REVENGE BECAUSE HE WAS WILLING TO WAIT FOR GOD TO VINDICATE HIM
- DAVID DID NOT SEEK REVENGE BECAUSE HE WAS NOT WILLING TO DESCEND TO SAUL’S LEVEL.
- DAVID WON A GREAT VICTORY THAT DAY, NOT OVER SAUL. OVER HIMSELF...

Whoever is slow to anger is better than the mighty,
and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.

Proverbs 16:32

Heart of God moment

HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

“AS SOON AS DAVID HAD FINISHED SPEAKING THESE WORDS TO SAUL, SAUL SAID, “IS THIS YOUR VOICE, MY SON DAVID?” AND SAUL LIFTED UP HIS VOICE AND WEPT. HE SAID TO DAVID, “YOU ARE MORE RIGHTEOUS THAN I, FOR YOU HAVE REPAID ME GOOD, WHEREAS I HAVE REPAID YOU EVIL. AND YOU HAVE DECLARED THIS DAY HOW YOU HAVE DEALT WELL WITH ME, IN THAT YOU DID NOT KILL ME WHEN THE LORD PUT ME INTO YOUR HANDS. FOR IF A MAN FINDS HIS ENEMY, WILL HE LET HIM GO AWAY SAFE? SO MAY THE LORD REWARD YOU WITH GOOD FOR WHAT YOU HAVE DONE TO ME THIS DAY. AND NOW, BEHOLD, I KNOW THAT YOU SHALL SURELY BE KING, AND THAT THE KINGDOM OF ISRAEL SHALL BE ESTABLISHED IN YOUR HAND. SWEAR TO ME THEREFORE BY THE LORD THAT YOU WILL NOT CUT OFF MY OFFSPRING AFTER ME, AND THAT YOU WILL NOT DESTROY MY NAME OUT OF MY FATHER'S HOUSE.”

“AND DAVID SWORE THIS TO SAUL. THEN SAUL WENT HOME, BUT DAVID AND HIS MEN WENT UP TO THE STRONGHOLD.

1 SAM. 24:22



Heart of God passage

HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

- “I WAITED PATIENTLY FOR THE LORD; HE INCLINED TO ME AND HEARD MY CRY. HE DREW ME UP FROM THE PIT OF DESTRUCTION, OUT OF THE MIRY BOG, AND SET MY FEET UPON A ROCK, MAKING MY STEPS SECURE. HE PUT A NEW SONG IN MY MOUTH, A SONG OF PRAISE TO OUR GOD. MANY WILL SEE AND FEAR AND PUT THEIR TRUST IN THE LORD.”
 - PSALM 40:1-3



HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

- THEN DAVID ROSE AND WENT DOWN TO THE WILDERNESS OF PARAN. AND THERE WAS A MAN IN MAON WHOSE BUSINESS WAS IN CARMEL. THE MAN WAS VERY RICH; HE HAD THREE THOUSAND SHEEP AND A THOUSAND GOATS. HE WAS SHEARING HIS SHEEP IN CARMEL. NOW THE NAME OF THE MAN WAS NABAL (FOOL), AND THE NAME OF HIS WIFE ABIGAIL. **THE WOMAN WAS DISCERNING AND BEAUTIFUL, BUT THE MAN WAS HARSH AND BADLY BEHAVED; HE WAS A CALEBITE.** DAVID HEARD IN THE WILDERNESS THAT NABAL WAS SHEARING HIS SHEEP. 1 SAMUEL 25:1



HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

- SO DAVID SENT TEN YOUNG MEN. AND DAVID SAID TO THE YOUNG MEN, “GO UP TO CARMEL, AND GO TO NABAL (**DOLT/FOOL**) AND GREET HIM IN MY NAME. AND THUS YOU SHALL GREET HIM: ‘PEACE BE TO YOU, AND PEACE BE TO YOUR HOUSE, AND PEACE BE TO ALL THAT YOU HAVE. I HEAR THAT YOU HAVE SHEARERS. NOW YOUR SHEPHERDS HAVE BEEN WITH US, AND WE DID THEM NO HARM, AND THEY MISSED NOTHING ALL THE TIME THEY WERE IN CARMEL. ASK YOUR YOUNG MEN, AND THEY WILL TELL YOU. THEREFORE LET MY YOUNG MEN FIND FAVOR IN YOUR EYES, FOR WE COME ON A FEAST DAY. PLEASE GIVE WHATEVER YOU HAVE AT HAND TO YOUR SERVANTS AND TO YOUR SON DAVID.’” 1 SAMUEL 25:5



HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

- “WHEN DAVID'S YOUNG MEN CAME, THEY SAID ALL THIS TO NABAL IN THE NAME OF DAVID, AND THEN THEY WAITED. AND NABAL ANSWERED DAVID'S SERVANTS, “WHO IS DAVID? WHO IS THE SON OF JESSE? THERE ARE MANY SERVANTS THESE DAYS WHO ARE BREAKING AWAY FROM THEIR MASTERS. SHALL I TAKE MY BREAD AND MY WATER AND MY MEAT THAT I HAVE KILLED FOR MY SHEARERS AND GIVE IT TO MEN WHO COME FROM I DO NOT KNOW WHERE?” SO DAVID'S YOUNG MEN TURNED AWAY AND CAME BACK AND TOLD HIM ALL THIS. AND DAVID SAID TO HIS MEN, **“EVERY MAN STRAP ON HIS SWORD!”** AND EVERY MAN OF THEM **STRAPPED ON HIS SWORD. DAVID ALSO STRAPPED ON HIS SWORD. AND ABOUT FOUR HUNDRED MEN WENT UP AFTER DAVID,** WHILE TWO HUNDRED REMAINED WITH THE BAGGAGE. 1 SAMUEL 25:9



HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

- BUT ONE OF THE YOUNG MEN TOLD ABIGAIL, NABAL'S WIFE, "BEHOLD, DAVID SENT MESSENGERS OUT OF THE WILDERNESS TO GREET OUR MASTER, AND HE RAILED AT THEM. YET THE MEN WERE VERY GOOD TO US, AND WE SUFFERED NO HARM, AND WE DID NOT MISS ANYTHING WHEN WE WERE IN THE FIELDS, AS LONG AS WE WENT WITH THEM. THEY WERE A WALL TO US BOTH BY NIGHT AND BY DAY, ALL THE WHILE WE WERE WITH THEM KEEPING THE SHEEP. NOW THEREFORE KNOW THIS AND CONSIDER WHAT YOU SHOULD DO, FOR HARM IS DETERMINED AGAINST OUR MASTER AND AGAINST ALL HIS HOUSE, AND HE IS SUCH A WORTHLESS MAN THAT ONE CANNOT SPEAK TO HIM." 1

SAMUEL 25:14-17



HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

- THEN ABIGAIL MADE HASTE AND TOOK TWO HUNDRED LOAVES AND TWO SKINS OF WINE AND FIVE SHEEP ALREADY PREPARED AND FIVE SEAHS OF PARCHED GRAIN AND A HUNDRED CLUSTERS OF RAISINS AND TWO HUNDRED CAKES OF FIGS, AND LAID THEM ON DONKEYS. AND SHE SAID TO HER YOUNG MEN, “GO ON BEFORE ME; BEHOLD, I COME AFTER YOU.” BUT SHE DID NOT TELL HER HUSBAND NABAL. **AND AS SHE RODE ON THE DONKEY AND CAME DOWN UNDER COVER OF THE MOUNTAIN, BEHOLD, DAVID AND HIS MEN CAME DOWN TOWARD HER, AND SHE MET THEM.** NOW DAVID HAD SAID, “SURELY IN VAIN HAVE I GUARDED ALL THAT THIS FELLOW HAS IN THE WILDERNESS, SO THAT NOTHING WAS MISSED OF ALL THAT BELONGED TO HIM, AND HE HAS RETURNED ME EVIL FOR GOOD. GOD DO SO TO THE ENEMIES OF DAVID AND MORE ALSO, IF BY MORNING I LEAVE SO MUCH AS ONE MALE OF ALL WHO BELONG TO HIM.” 1 SAMUEL 25:18-22



HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

- WHEN ABIGAIL SAW DAVID, SHE HURRIED AND GOT DOWN FROM THE DONKEY AND FELL BEFORE DAVID ON HER FACE AND BOWED TO THE GROUND. SHE FELL AT HIS FEET AND SAID, “ON ME ALONE, MY LORD, BE THE GUILT. PLEASE LET YOUR SERVANT SPEAK IN YOUR EARS, AND HEAR THE WORDS OF YOUR SERVANT. LET NOT MY LORD REGARD THIS WORTHLESS FELLOW, NABAL, FOR AS HIS NAME IS, SO IS HE. NABAL IS HIS NAME, AND FOLLY IS WITH HIM. BUT I YOUR SERVANT DID NOT SEE THE YOUNG MEN OF MY LORD, WHOM YOU SENT. **NOW THEN, MY LORD, AS THE LORD LIVES, AND AS YOUR SOUL LIVES, BECAUSE THE LORD HAS RESTRAINED YOU FROM BLOODGUILT AND FROM SAVING WITH YOUR OWN HAND, NOW THEN LET YOUR ENEMIES AND THOSE WHO SEEK TO DO EVIL TO MY LORD BE AS NABAL.** 1 SAMUEL 25:23-26



HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

PLEASE FORGIVE THE TRESPASS OF YOUR SERVANT. FOR THE LORD WILL CERTAINLY MAKE MY LORD A SURE HOUSE, BECAUSE MY LORD IS FIGHTING THE BATTLES OF THE LORD, AND EVIL SHALL NOT BE FOUND IN YOU SO LONG AS YOU LIVE. IF MEN RISE UP TO PURSUE YOU AND TO SEEK YOUR LIFE, THE LIFE OF MY LORD SHALL BE BOUND IN THE BUNDLE OF THE LIVING IN THE CARE OF THE LORD YOUR GOD. AND THE LIVES OF YOUR ENEMIES HE SHALL SLING OUT AS FROM THE HOLLOW OF A SLING. AND WHEN THE LORD HAS DONE TO MY LORD ACCORDING TO ALL THE GOOD THAT HE HAS SPOKEN CONCERNING YOU AND HAS APPOINTED YOU PRINCE OVER ISRAEL, MY LORD SHALL HAVE NO CAUSE OF GRIEF OR PANGS OF CONSCIENCE FOR HAVING SHED BLOOD WITHOUT CAUSE OR FOR MY LORD WORKING SALVATION HIMSELF. AND WHEN THE LORD HAS DEALT WELL WITH MY LORD, THEN REMEMBER YOUR SERVANT.”

1 SAMUEL 25:28



HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

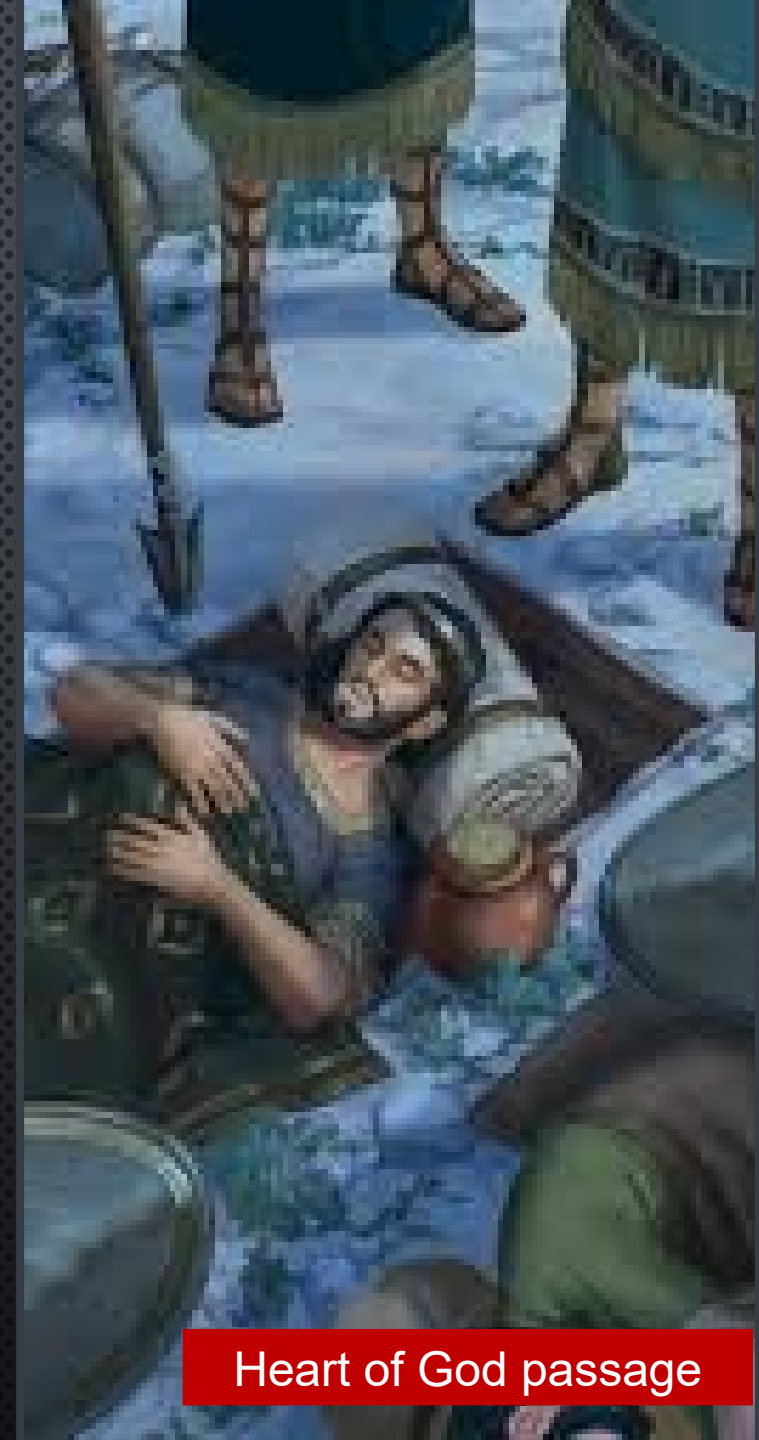
“And David said to Abigail, “Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who sent you this day to meet me! **Blessed be your discretion, and blessed be you, who have kept me this day from bloodguilt and from working salvation with my own hand!** For as surely as the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, who has restrained me from hurting you, unless you had hurried and come to meet me, truly by morning there had not been left to Nabal so much as one male.” Then David received from her hand what she had brought him. And he said to her, “Go up in peace to your house. See, I have obeyed your voice, and I have granted your petition.” 1 Samuel 25:32

HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

- THEN THE ZIPHITES CAME TO SAUL AT GIBEAH, SAYING, “IS NOT DAVID HIDING HIMSELF ON THE HILL OF HACHILAH, WHICH IS ON THE EAST OF JESHIMON?” SO SAUL AROSE AND WENT DOWN TO THE WILDERNESS OF ZIPH WITH THREE THOUSAND CHOSEN MEN OF ISRAEL TO SEEK DAVID IN THE WILDERNESS OF ZIPH. AND SAUL ENCAMPED ON THE HILL OF HACHILAH, WHICH IS BESIDE THE ROAD ON THE EAST OF JESHIMON. BUT DAVID REMAINED IN THE WILDERNESS. WHEN HE SAW THAT SAUL CAME AFTER HIM INTO THE WILDERNESS, DAVID SENT OUT SPIES AND LEARNED THAT SAUL HAD INDEED COME. THEN DAVID ROSE AND CAME TO THE PLACE WHERE SAUL HAD ENCAMPED. AND DAVID SAW THE PLACE WHERE SAUL LAY, WITH ABNER THE SON OF NER, THE COMMANDER OF HIS ARMY. SAUL WAS LYING WITHIN THE ENCAMPMENT, WHILE THE ARMY WAS ENCAMPED AROUND HIM.

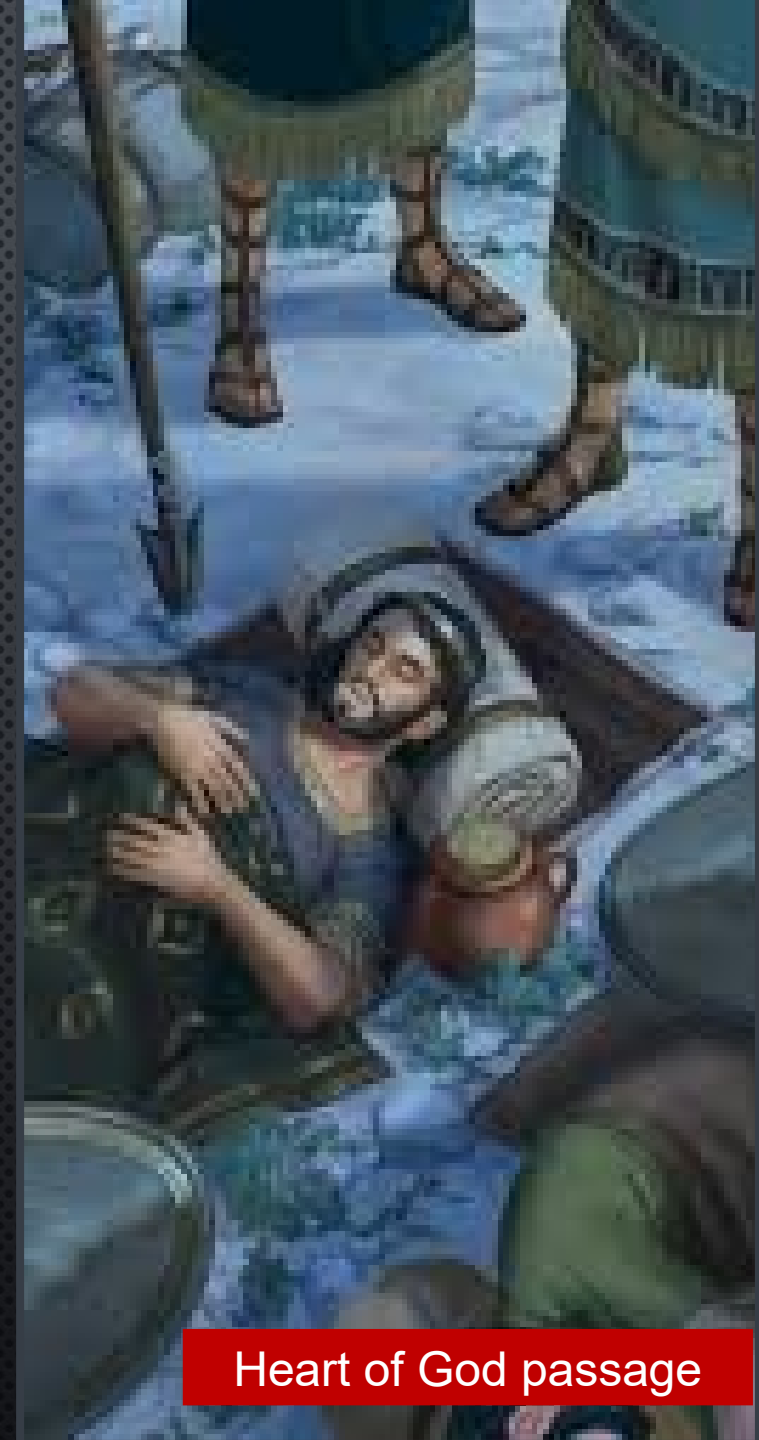
HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

- THEN DAVID SAID TO AHIMELECH THE HITTITE, AND TO JOAB'S BROTHER ABISHAI THE SON OF ZERUIAH, **“WHO WILL GO DOWN WITH ME INTO THE CAMP TO SAUL?”** AND ABISHAI SAID, **“I WILL GO DOWN WITH YOU.”** SO DAVID AND ABISHAI WENT TO THE ARMY BY NIGHT. AND THERE LAY SAUL SLEEPING WITHIN THE ENCAMPMENT, WITH HIS SPEAR STUCK IN THE GROUND AT HIS HEAD, AND ABNER AND THE ARMY LAY AROUND HIM. THEN ABISHAI SAID TO DAVID, **“GOD HAS GIVEN YOUR ENEMY INTO YOUR HAND THIS DAY. NOW PLEASE LET ME PIN HIM TO THE EARTH WITH ONE STROKE OF THE SPEAR, AND I WILL NOT STRIKE HIM TWICE.”**
- BUT DAVID SAID TO ABISHAI, **“DO NOT DESTROY HIM, FOR WHO CAN PUT OUT HIS HAND AGAINST THE LORD'S ANOINTED AND BE GUILTLESS?”** AND DAVID SAID, **“AS THE LORD LIVES, THE LORD WILL STRIKE HIM, OR HIS DAY WILL COME TO DIE, OR HE WILL GO DOWN INTO BATTLE AND PERISH. THE LORD FORBID THAT I SHOULD PUT OUT MY HAND AGAINST THE LORD'S ANOINTED. BUT TAKE NOW THE SPEAR THAT IS AT HIS HEAD AND THE JAR OF WATER, AND LET US GO.”** (26:9-11)



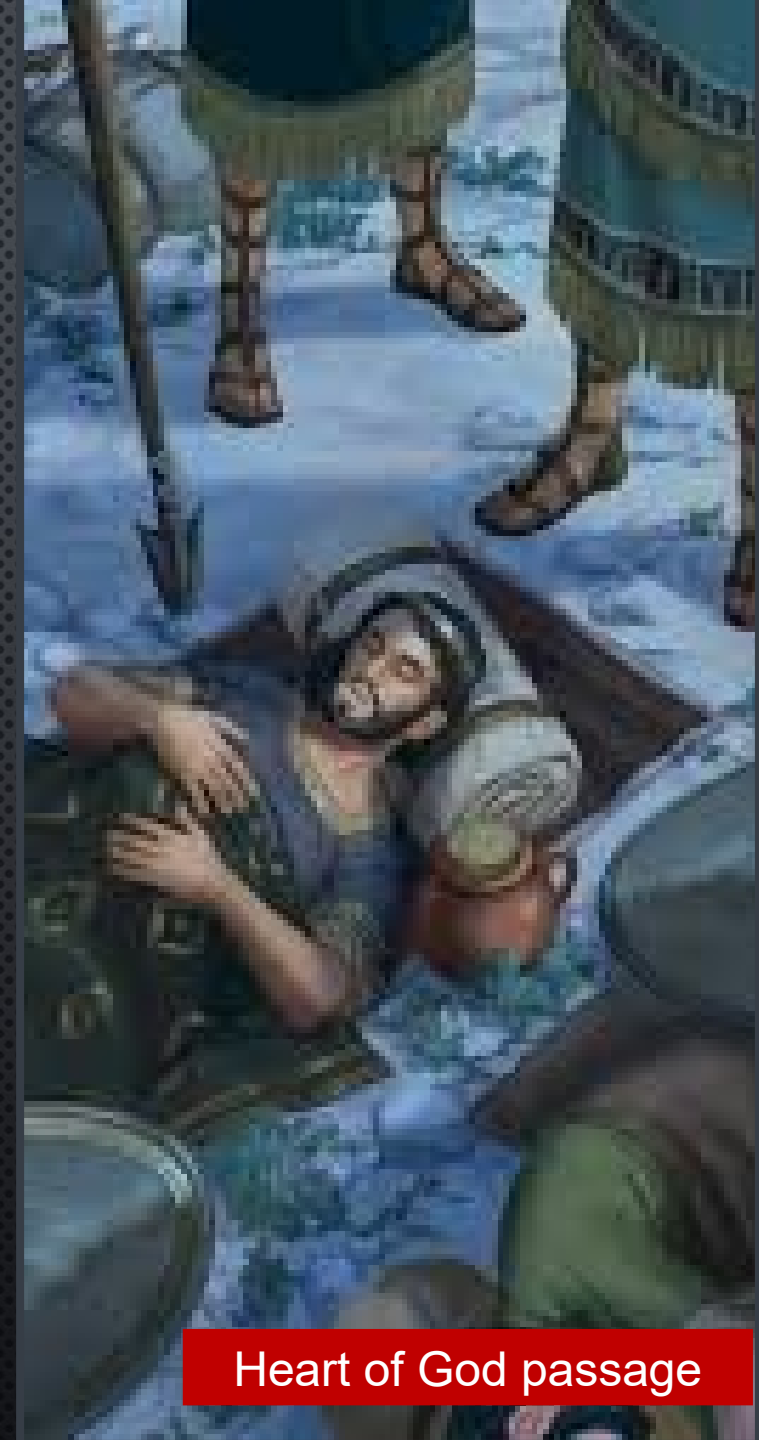
HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

- **SO DAVID TOOK THE SPEAR AND THE JAR OF WATER FROM SAUL'S HEAD, AND THEY WENT AWAY. NO MAN SAW IT OR KNEW IT, NOR DID ANY AWAKE, FOR THEY WERE ALL ASLEEP, BECAUSE A DEEP SLEEP FROM THE LORD HAD FALLEN UPON THEM. THEN DAVID WENT OVER TO THE OTHER SIDE AND STOOD FAR OFF ON THE TOP OF THE HILL, WITH A GREAT SPACE BETWEEN THEM. AND DAVID CALLED TO THE ARMY, AND TO ABNER THE SON OF NER, SAYING, "WILL YOU NOT ANSWER, ABNER?" THEN ABNER ANSWERED, "WHO ARE YOU WHO CALLS TO THE KING?" AND DAVID SAID TO ABNER, "ARE YOU NOT A MAN? WHO IS LIKE YOU IN ISRAEL? WHY THEN HAVE YOU NOT KEPT WATCH OVER YOUR LORD THE KING? FOR ONE OF THE PEOPLE CAME IN TO DESTROY THE KING YOUR LORD. THIS THING THAT YOU HAVE DONE IS NOT GOOD. AS THE LORD LIVES, YOU DESERVE TO DIE, BECAUSE YOU HAVE NOT KEPT WATCH OVER YOUR LORD, THE LORD'S ANOINTED. AND NOW SEE WHERE THE KING'S SPEAR IS AND THE JAR OF WATER THAT WAS AT HIS HEAD."** 1 SAMUEL 26:12-16



HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

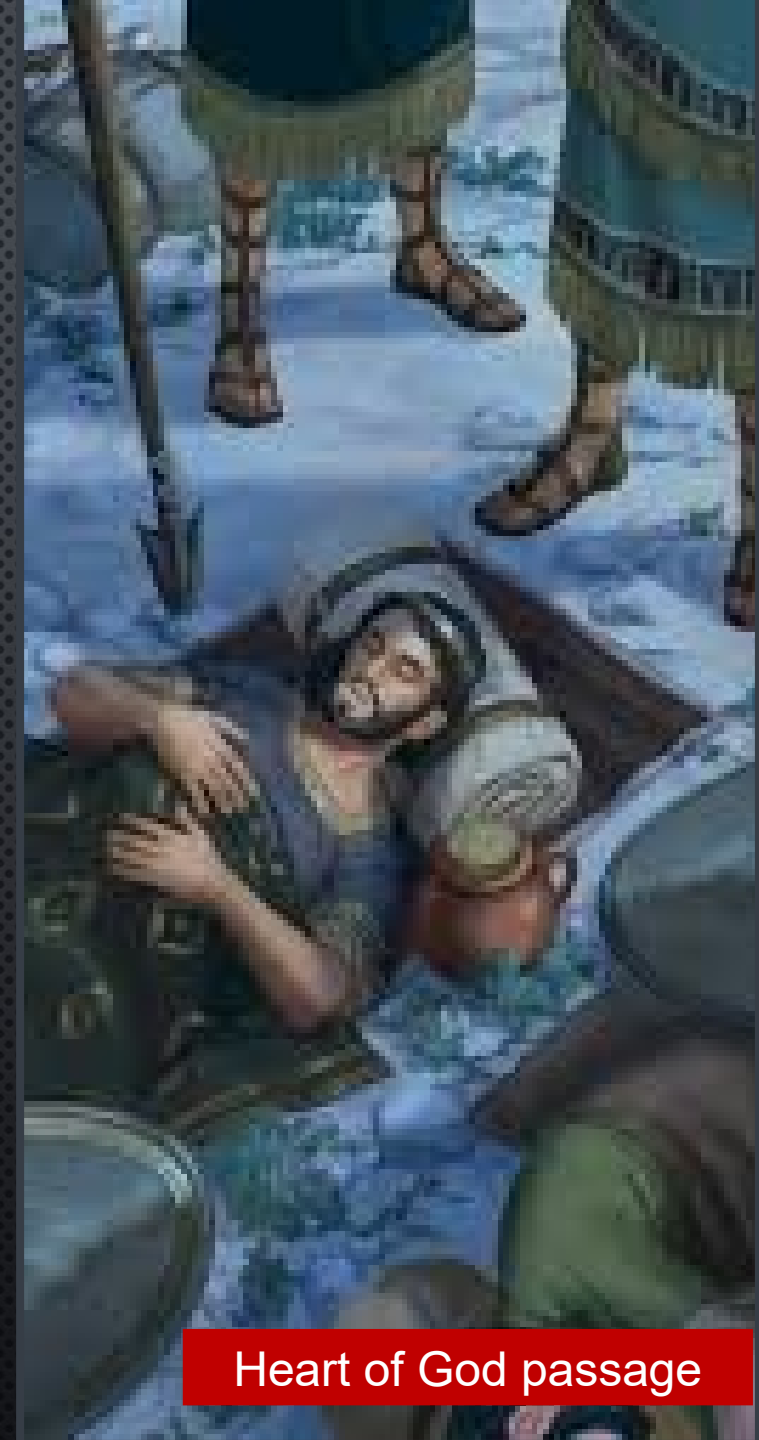
- SAUL RECOGNIZED DAVID'S VOICE AND SAID, "IS THIS YOUR VOICE, MY SON DAVID?" AND DAVID SAID, "IT IS MY VOICE, MY LORD, O KING." AND HE SAID, "WHY DOES MY LORD PURSUE AFTER HIS SERVANT? FOR WHAT HAVE I DONE? WHAT EVIL IS ON MY HANDS? NOW THEREFORE LET MY LORD THE KING HEAR THE WORDS OF HIS SERVANT. **IF IT IS THE LORD WHO HAS STIRRED YOU UP AGAINST ME**, MAY HE ACCEPT AN OFFERING, **BUT IF IT IS MEN**, MAY THEY BE CURSED BEFORE THE LORD, **FOR THEY HAVE DRIVEN ME OUT THIS DAY THAT I SHOULD HAVE NO SHARE IN THE HERITAGE OF THE LORD, SAYING, 'GO, SERVE OTHER GODS.'** NOW THEREFORE, LET NOT MY BLOOD FALL TO THE EARTH AWAY FROM THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD, FOR THE KING OF ISRAEL HAS COME OUT TO SEEK A SINGLE FLEA LIKE ONE WHO HUNTS A PARTRIDGE IN THE MOUNTAINS." 1 SAMUEL 26:17-20



Heart of God passage

HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

- THEN SAUL SAID, “I HAVE SINNED. RETURN, MY SON DAVID, FOR I WILL NO MORE DO YOU HARM, BECAUSE MY LIFE WAS PRECIOUS IN YOUR EYES THIS DAY. **BEHOLD, I HAVE ACTED FOOLISHLY, AND HAVE MADE A GREAT MISTAKE.**” AND DAVID ANSWERED AND SAID, “HERE IS THE SPEAR, O KING! LET ONE OF THE YOUNG MEN COME OVER AND TAKE IT. THE LORD REWARDS EVERY MAN FOR HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HIS FAITHFULNESS, FOR THE LORD GAVE YOU INTO MY HAND TODAY, AND I **WOULD NOT PUT OUT MY HAND AGAINST THE LORD'S ANOINTED.** BEHOLD, AS YOUR LIFE WAS PRECIOUS THIS DAY IN MY SIGHT, SO MAY MY LIFE BE PRECIOUS IN THE SIGHT OF THE LORD, AND MAY HE DELIVER ME OUT OF ALL TRIBULATION.” THEN SAUL SAID TO DAVID, “BLESSED BE YOU, MY SON DAVID! YOU WILL DO MANY THINGS AND WILL SUCCEED IN THEM.” SO DAVID WENT HIS WAY, AND SAUL RETURNED TO HIS PLACE. 1SAM. 26:21-25



HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

SIXTEEN MONTHS OF SADNESS AND

DESPAIR

THEN DAVID SAID IN HIS HEART, **“NOW I SHALL PERISH ONE DAY BY THE HAND OF SAUL. THERE IS NOTHING BETTER FOR ME THAN THAT I SHOULD ESCAPE TO THE LAND OF THE PHILISTINES. THEN SAUL WILL DESPAIR OF SEEKING ME ANY LONGER WITHIN THE BORDERS OF ISRAEL, AND I SHALL ESCAPE OUT OF HIS HAND.”** SO DAVID AROSE AND **WENT OVER, HE AND THE SIX HUNDRED MEN WHO WERE WITH HIM,** TO ACHISH THE SON OF MAOCH, KING OF GATH. AND DAVID LIVED WITH ACHISH AT GATH, HE AND HIS MEN, EVERY MAN WITH HIS HOUSEHOLD, AND DAVID WITH HIS TWO WIVES, AHINOAM OF JEZREEL, AND ABIGAIL OF CARMEL, NABAL'S WIDOW. **AND WHEN IT WAS TOLD SAUL THAT DAVID HAD FLED TO GATH, HE NO LONGER SOUGHT HIM.**

- THEN DAVID SAID TO ACHISH, **“IF I HAVE FOUND FAVOR IN YOUR EYES, LET A PLACE BE GIVEN ME IN ONE OF THE COUNTRY TOWNS, THAT I MAY DWELL THERE. FOR WHY SHOULD YOUR SERVANT DWELL IN THE ROYAL CITY WITH YOU?”** SO THAT DAY ACHISH GAVE HIM ZIKLAG. THEREFORE ZIKLAG HAS BELONGED TO THE KINGS OF JUDAH TO THIS DAY. AND THE NUMBER OF THE DAYS THAT DAVID LIVED IN THE COUNTRY OF THE PHILISTINES **WAS A YEAR AND FOUR MONTHS.** 1 SAMUEL 27:1-7

HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

THIS CAN'T BE THE HEART OF GOD

NOW DAVID AND HIS MEN WENT UP AND MADE RAIDS AGAINST THE GESHURITES, THE GIRZITES, AND THE AMALEKITES, FOR THESE WERE THE INHABITANTS OF THE LAND FROM OF OLD, AS FAR AS SHUR, TO THE LAND OF EGYPT. AND DAVID WOULD STRIKE THE LAND AND WOULD LEAVE NEITHER MAN NOR WOMAN ALIVE, BUT WOULD TAKE AWAY THE SHEEP, THE OXEN, THE DONKEYS, THE CAMELS, AND THE GARMENTS, AND COME BACK TO ACHISH. WHEN ACHISH ASKED, "WHERE HAVE YOU MADE A RAID TODAY?" DAVID WOULD SAY, "AGAINST THE NEGEB OF JUDAH," OR, "AGAINST THE NEGEB OF THE JERAHMEELITES," OR, "AGAINST THE NEGEB OF THE KENITES." AND DAVID WOULD LEAVE NEITHER MAN NOR WOMAN ALIVE TO BRING NEWS TO GATH, THINKING, "LEST THEY SHOULD TELL ABOUT US AND SAY, 'SO DAVID HAS DONE.'" SUCH WAS HIS CUSTOM ALL THE WHILE HE LIVED IN THE COUNTRY OF THE PHILISTINES. AND ACHISH TRUSTED DAVID, THINKING, "HE HAS MADE HIMSELF AN UTTER STENCH TO HIS PEOPLE ISRAEL; THEREFORE HE SHALL ALWAYS BE MY SERVANT." 1 SAMUEL 27:8-12

HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

HERE IS THE MAN WE KNOW....

- NOW WHEN DAVID AND HIS MEN CAME TO ZIKLAG ON THE THIRD DAY, THE AMALEKITES HAD MADE A RAID AGAINST THE NEGEB AND AGAINST ZIKLAG. THEY HAD OVERCOME ZIKLAG AND BURNED IT WITH FIRE AND TAKEN CAPTIVE THE WOMEN AND ALL WHO WERE IN IT, BOTH SMALL AND GREAT. THEY KILLED NO ONE, BUT CARRIED THEM OFF AND WENT THEIR WAY. AND WHEN DAVID AND HIS MEN CAME TO THE CITY, THEY FOUND IT BURNED WITH FIRE, AND THEIR WIVES AND SONS AND DAUGHTERS TAKEN CAPTIVE. **THEN DAVID AND THE PEOPLE WHO WERE WITH HIM RAISED THEIR VOICES AND WEPT UNTIL THEY HAD NO MORE STRENGTH TO WEEP.** DAVID'S TWO WIVES ALSO HAD BEEN TAKEN CAPTIVE, AHINOAM OF JEZREEL AND ABIGAIL THE WIDOW OF NABAL OF CARMEL.
- **AND DAVID WAS GREATLY DISTRESSED, FOR THE PEOPLE SPOKE OF STONING HIM, BECAUSE ALL THE PEOPLE WERE BITTER IN SOUL, EACH FOR HIS SONS AND DAUGHTERS. BUT DAVID STRENGTHENED HIMSELF IN THE LORD HIS GOD.** 1 SAMUEL 30:1-6

HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

- THEN DAVID CAME TO THE TWO HUNDRED MEN WHO HAD BEEN TOO EXHAUSTED TO FOLLOW DAVID, AND WHO HAD BEEN LEFT AT THE BROOK BESOR. AND THEY WENT OUT TO MEET DAVID AND TO MEET THE PEOPLE WHO WERE WITH HIM. AND WHEN DAVID CAME NEAR TO THE PEOPLE HE GREETED THEM. THEN ALL THE WICKED AND WORTHLESS FELLOWS AMONG THE MEN WHO HAD GONE WITH DAVID SAID, “BECAUSE THEY DID NOT GO WITH US, WE WILL NOT GIVE THEM ANY OF THE SPOIL THAT WE HAVE RECOVERED, EXCEPT THAT EACH MAN MAY LEAD AWAY HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN, AND DEPART.” 1 SAMUEL 30:21-22
- BUT DAVID SAID, “YOU SHALL NOT DO SO, MY BROTHERS, WITH WHAT THE LORD HAS GIVEN US. HE HAS PRESERVED US AND GIVEN INTO OUR HAND THE BAND THAT CAME AGAINST US. WHO WOULD LISTEN TO YOU IN THIS MATTER? FOR AS HIS SHARE IS WHO GOES DOWN INTO THE BATTLE, SO SHALL HIS SHARE BE WHO STAYS BY THE BAGGAGE. THEY SHALL SHARE ALIKE.” **AND HE MADE IT A STATUTE AND A RULE FOR ISRAEL FROM THAT DAY FORWARD TO THIS DAY.** 1 SAMUEL 30:23-25

HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

SEARCH ME, O GOD, AND KNOW MY HEART
TO THE CHOIRMASTER. A PSALM OF DAVID.

- **“O LORD, YOU HAVE SEARCHED ME AND KNOWN ME! YOU KNOW WHEN I SIT DOWN AND WHEN I RISE UP; YOU DISCERN MY THOUGHTS FROM AFAR. YOU SEARCH OUT MY PATH AND MY LYING DOWN AND ARE ACQUAINTED WITH ALL MY WAYS. EVEN BEFORE A WORD IS ON MY TONGUE, BEHOLD, O LORD, YOU KNOW IT ALTOGETHER. YOU HEM ME IN, BEHIND AND BEFORE, AND LAY YOUR HAND UPON ME. SUCH KNOWLEDGE IS TOO WONDERFUL FOR ME; IT IS HIGH; I CANNOT ATTAIN IT. WHERE SHALL I GO FROM YOUR SPIRIT? OR WHERE SHALL I FLEE FROM YOUR PRESENCE? IF I ASCEND TO HEAVEN, YOU ARE THERE! IF I MAKE MY BED IN SHEOL, YOU ARE THERE! IF I TAKE THE WINGS OF THE MORNING AND DWELL IN THE UTTERMOST PARTS OF THE SEA, EVEN THERE YOUR HAND SHALL LEAD ME, AND YOUR RIGHT HAND SHALL HOLD ME. IF I SAY, “SURELY THE DARKNESS SHALL COVER ME, AND THE LIGHT ABOUT ME BE NIGHT,” EVEN THE DARKNESS IS NOT DARK TO YOU; THE NIGHT IS BRIGHT AS THE DAY, FOR DARKNESS IS AS LIGHT WITH YOU. PSALMS 139:1-12**

HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

- "...FOR YOU FORMED MY INWARD PARTS; YOU KNITTED ME TOGETHER IN MY MOTHER'S WOMB. I PRAISE YOU, FOR I AM FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE. WONDERFUL ARE YOUR WORKS; MY SOUL KNOWS IT VERY WELL. MY FRAME WAS NOT HIDDEN FROM YOU, WHEN I WAS BEING MADE IN SECRET, INTRICATELY WOVEN IN THE DEPTHS OF THE EARTH. YOUR EYES SAW MY UNFORMED SUBSTANCE; IN YOUR BOOK WERE WRITTEN, EVERY ONE OF THEM, THE DAYS THAT WERE FORMED FOR ME, WHEN AS YET THERE WAS NONE OF THEM. HOW PRECIOUS TO ME ARE YOUR THOUGHTS, O GOD! HOW VAST IS THE SUM OF THEM! IF I WOULD COUNT THEM, THEY ARE MORE THAN THE SAND. I AWAKE, AND I AM STILL WITH YOU. PSALMS 139:13-18
- OH THAT YOU WOULD SLAY THE WICKED, O GOD! O MEN OF BLOOD, DEPART FROM ME! THEY SPEAK AGAINST YOU WITH MALICIOUS INTENT; YOUR ENEMIES TAKE YOUR NAME IN VAIN. DO I NOT HATE THOSE WHO HATE YOU, O LORD? AND DO I NOT LOATHE THOSE WHO RISE UP AGAINST YOU? I HATE THEM WITH COMPLETE HATRED; I COUNT THEM MY ENEMIES. **SEARCH ME, O GOD, AND KNOW MY HEART! TRY ME AND KNOW MY THOUGHTS! AND SEE IF THERE BE ANY GRIEVOUS WAY IN ME, AND LEAD ME IN THE WAY EVERLASTING!** PSALMS 139:19-24

HOW TO BEHAVE IN A CAVE

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