

## David Searches for Next Path *while Waiting for God* *The King and the People Series*

Dr. Goodluck Ofoegbu  
Prof. Oby Ofoegbu  
Banking Blessings Ministry  
San Antonio, Texas  
USA

### What We Will Learn

- David's carrier in Saul's army ended
- Prematurely [in human eyes]
- Needs to find another path to kingship
- Immediate needs
- Long-term needs
- Interaction with human realities as he sought to get himself in position for God's time

[bankingblessing.org](http://bankingblessing.org)

### What We Will Learn cont'd

- David's immediate and long-term needs
- Protection from Saul
- Economic viability
- Protection for his family [parents]
- Protection for his followers and families
- Building leadership reputation in Israel
- 1 Samuel 21, 22 and 23 [selected verses]

[bankingblessing.org](http://bankingblessing.org)

### David Visits Ahimelek Priest of Nob

- Requested food [short-term supply]
- And weapon [immediate and long-term use]
- Sought to shield Ahimelek from the dispute with Saul
- Interacted with Ahimelek normally while concealing dispute with Saul
- 1 Samuel 21:1–3, 6, and 8–9

[bankingblessing.org](http://bankingblessing.org)

#### 1 Samuel 21 (NIV)

1 David went to Nob, to Ahimelek the priest. Ahimelek trembled when he met him, and asked, "Why are you alone? Why is no one with you?"

2 David answered Ahimelek the priest, "The king sent me on a mission and said to me, 'No one is to know anything about the mission I am sending you on.' As for my men, I have told them to meet me at a certain place.

[bankingblessing.org](http://bankingblessing.org)

#### 1 Samuel 21 (NIV)

3 Now then, what do you have on hand? Give me five loaves of bread, or whatever you can find."

4 But the priest answered David, "I don't have any ordinary bread on hand; however, there is some consecrated bread here—provided the men have kept themselves from women."

[bankingblessing.org](http://bankingblessing.org)

### 1 Samuel 21 (NIV)

6 So the priest gave him the consecrated bread, since there was no bread there except the bread of the Presence that had been removed from before the Lord and replaced by hot bread on the day it was taken away.

[bankingblessing.org](http://bankingblessing.org)

### 1 Samuel 21 (NIV)

8 David asked Ahimelek, “Don’t you have a spear or a sword here? I haven’t brought my sword or any other weapon, because the king’s mission was urgent.”

[bankingblessing.org](http://bankingblessing.org)

### 1 Samuel 21 (NIV)

9 The priest replied, “The sword of Goliath the Philistine, whom you killed in the Valley of Elah, is here; it is wrapped in a cloth behind the ephod. If you want it, take it; there is no sword here but that one.”

David said, “There is none like it; give it to me.”

[bankingblessing.org](http://bankingblessing.org)

### Interaction with Ahimelek

- David did not tell the truth to Ahimelek
  - Not for selfish purpose
  - Not for coverup of wrongdoing
  - Apparently to protect Ahimelek from information potentially harmful to him
- Interacted normally with Ahimelek
- Shielded Ahimelek from the dispute with Saul
- A good purpose for being untruthful?

[bankingblessing.org](http://bankingblessing.org)

### At Palace of King of Gath

- David arrived at the palace of Achish, king of Gath [Philistine territory]
- Maybe intending to seek refuge there?
- Feared Achish could see him as “price catch”
- Feigned madness successfully
- Was forced to leave the city
- 1 Samuel 21:10–15

[bankingblessing.org](http://bankingblessing.org)

### 1 Samuel 21 (NIV)

10 That day David fled from Saul and went to Achish king of Gath.

11 But the servants of Achish said to him, “Isn’t this David, the king of the land? Isn’t he the one they sing about in their dances: “Saul has slain his thousands, and David his tens of thousands’?”

[bankingblessing.org](http://bankingblessing.org)

### 1 Samuel 21 (NIV)

12 David took these words to heart and was very much afraid of Achish king of Gath.

13 So he pretended to be insane in their presence; and while he was in their hands he acted like a madman, making marks on the doors of the gate and letting saliva run down his beard.

[bankingblessing.org](http://bankingblessing.org)

### 1 Samuel 21 (NIV)

14 Achish said to his servants, "Look at the man! He is insane! Why bring him to me?"

15 Am I so short of madmen that you have to bring this fellow here to carry on like this in front of me? Must this man come into my house?"

- David pretended to be what he wasn't in order to get out without revealing himself

[bankingblessing.org](http://bankingblessing.org)

### At Cave of Adullam

- David took temporary refuge in the cave of Adullam, close to the valley of Elah
- Long enough to setup his team without being discovered by Saul
- Joined by brothers and father's household
- And 400 followers
- Benefit of his reputation in Israel
- 1 Samuel 22:1–2

[bankingblessing.org](http://bankingblessing.org)

### 1 Samuel 22 (NIV)

1 David left Gath and escaped to the cave of Adullam. When his brothers and his father's household heard about it, they went down to him there.

2 All those who were in distress or in debt or discontented gathered around him, and he became their commander. About four hundred men were with him.

[bankingblessing.org](http://bankingblessing.org)

### At Mizpah, Moab

- Refuge for parents with king of Moab
- First verbal acknowledgment he was searching for "what God will do for me"
- Intended to setup a stronghold at Mizpah
- But Prophet Gad told him to return to Judah
- David relocated to forest of Hereth in Judah
- Was joined by Abiathar, survivor of Nob
- 1 Samuel 22:3–5 and 20–23

[bankingblessing.org](http://bankingblessing.org)

### 1 Samuel 22 (NIV)

3 From there David went to Mizpah in Moab and said to the king of Moab, "Would you let my father and mother come and stay with you until I learn what God will do for me?"

4 So he left them with the king of Moab, and they stayed with him as long as David was in the stronghold.

[bankingblessing.org](http://bankingblessing.org)

### 1 Samuel 22 (NIV)

5 But the prophet Gad said to David, “Do not stay in the stronghold. Go into the land of Judah.” So David left and went to the forest of Hereth.

[bankingblessing.org](http://bankingblessing.org)

### 1 Samuel 22 (NIV)

- After Saul destroyed Nob and massacred the priests for “conspiring” with David...

20 But one son of Ahimelek son of Ahitub, named Abiathar, escaped and fled to join David.

21 He told David that Saul had killed the priests of the Lord.

[bankingblessing.org](http://bankingblessing.org)

### 1 Samuel 22 (NIV)

22 Then David said to Abiathar, “That day, when Doeg the Edomite was there, I knew he would be sure to tell Saul. I am responsible for the death of your whole family.

23 Stay with me; don’t be afraid. The man who wants to kill you is trying to kill me too. You will be safe with me.”

[bankingblessing.org](http://bankingblessing.org)

### Two Principles of David

- Waiting for God...
  - Interacted with human realities
  - As he sought to get himself in position
  - To receive “what God will do for me”  
[1 Samuel 22:3]
- Protection from Saul...
  - “Stay with me; don’t be afraid. The man who wants to kill you is trying to kill me too. You will be safe with me” [1 Samuel 22:23]

[bankingblessing.org](http://bankingblessing.org)

### Purpose of David’s Army

- Protect himself from Saul
- Protect his followers from Saul
- Provide for himself and followers
- Protect Israel against enemies
- 1 Samuel 23:1–6

[bankingblessing.org](http://bankingblessing.org)

### 1 Samuel 23 (NIV)

1 When David was told, “Look, the Philistines are fighting against Keilah and are looting the threshing floors,”

2 he inquired of the Lord, saying, “Shall I go and attack these Philistines?”

The Lord answered him, “Go, attack the Philistines and save Keilah.”

[bankingblessing.org](http://bankingblessing.org)

### 1 Samuel 23 (NIV)

3 But David's men said to him, "Here in Judah we are afraid. How much more, then, if we go to Keilah against the Philistine forces!"

4 Once again David inquired of the Lord, and the Lord answered him, "Go down to Keilah, for I am going to give the Philistines into your hand."

[bankingblessing.org](http://bankingblessing.org)

### 1 Samuel 23 (NIV)

5 So David and his men went to Keilah, fought the Philistines and carried off their livestock. He inflicted heavy losses on the Philistines and saved the people of Keilah.

6 (Now Abiathar son of Ahimelek had brought the ephod down with him when he fled to David at Keilah.)

[bankingblessing.org](http://bankingblessing.org)

### What We Learned

- David setup an army for himself after carrier in Saul's army ended
  - Protect himself from Saul
  - Protect his followers from Saul
  - Provide for himself and followers
  - Protect Israel against enemies
- Interacted with human realities
  - As he sought to get himself in position
  - To receive "what God will do for me"

[bankingblessing.org](http://bankingblessing.org)