

Bible Study April 24, 2024

The Lord Knows How To Deliver - 1 SAMUEL 29 (ESV)

Quick Recap:

- David has concluded that Saul is going to kill him, so he leaves the promise land to live among the Philistines.
- King Achish gave him the land of Ziklag. And David has been raiding cities and towns to survive, Achish believes he is attacking cities in Judah.
- Achish believes David has turned on Israel. Achish has made David his bodyguard.

1 Samuel 28:1-2 (ESV)

¹ In those days the Philistines gathered their forces for war, to fight against Israel. And Achish said to David, "Understand that you and your men are to go out with me in the army." ² David said to Achish, "Very well, you shall know what your servant can do." And Achish said to David, "Very well, I will make you my bodyguard for life."

Psalm 31:14 -15 (ESV)

¹⁴ But I trust in you, O LORD; I say, "You are my God." ¹⁵ My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my persecutors!

2 Kings 21 5-6 (ESV)

⁵ And he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the house of the LORD. ⁶ And he burned his son as an offering and used fortune-telling and omens and dealt with mediums and with necromancers. He did much evil in the sight of the LORD, provoking him to anger.

Deuteronomy 4:19 (ESV)

¹⁹ And beware lest you raise your eyes to heaven, and when you see the sun and the moon and the stars, all the host of heaven, you be drawn away and bow down to them and serve them, things that the LORD your God has allotted to all the peoples under the whole heaven.

The Philistines Reject David

¹ Now the Philistines had gathered all their forces at Aphek. And the Israelites were encamped by the spring that is in Jezreel. ² As the lords of the Philistines were passing on by hundreds and by thousands, and David and his men were passing on in the rear with Achish,

³ the commanders of the Philistines said, "What are these Hebrews doing here?"

Jude 1:24 (ESV)

²⁴ Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, ²⁵ to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

And Achish said to the commanders of the Philistines, “Is this not David, the servant of Saul, king of Israel, who has been with me now for days and years, and since he deserted to me I have found no fault in him to this day.”

⁴ But the commanders of the Philistines were angry with him. And the commanders of the Philistines said to him, “Send the man back, that he may return to the place to which you have assigned him. He shall not go down with us to battle, lest in the battle he become an adversary to us. For how could this fellow reconcile himself to his lord? Would it not be with the heads of the men here?

The Philistine kings had a previous encounter, with Hebrews:

1 Sameul 14:21-23 (ESV)

²¹ Now the Hebrews who had been with the Philistines before that time and who had gone up with them into the camp, even they also turned to be with the Israelites who were with Saul and Jonathan. ²² Likewise, when all the men of Israel who had hidden themselves in the hill country of Ephraim heard that the Philistines were fleeing, they too followed hard after them in the battle. ²³ So the LORD saved Israel that day. And the battle passed beyond Beth-aven.

Could it be that God is multiple steps ahead of us. We have a God that can go ahead of us. And prepare a way. The philistines said know he can't go. I have

Deuteronomy 31:8 (ESV)

⁸ It is the LORD who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.”

⁵ Is not this David, of whom they sing to one another in dances,

***‘Saul has struck down his thousands,
and David his ten thousands’?”***

⁶ Then Achish called David and said to him, “As the LORD lives, you have been honest, and to me it seems right that you should march out and in with me in the campaign. For I have found nothing wrong in you from the day of your coming to me to this day. Nevertheless, the lords do not approve of you. ⁷ So go back now; and go peaceably, that you may not displease the lords of the Philistines.”

⁸ And David said to Achish, “But what have I done? What have you found in your servant from the day I entered your service until now, that I may not go and fight against the enemies of my lord the king?” ⁹ And Achish answered David and said, “I know that you are as blameless in my sight as an angel of God. Nevertheless, the commanders of the Philistines have said, ‘He shall not go up with us to the battle.’ ¹⁰ Now then rise early in the

morning with the servants of your lord who came with you, and start early in the morning, and depart as soon as you have light.”

¹¹ So David set out with his men early in the morning to return to the land of the Philistines. But the Philistines went up to Jezreel.

The other Philistine commanders remembered that David was the one who, as a young man, had killed their champion, Goliath (17:32-54); had killed hundreds of Philistine soldiers (18:27); and was the hero of Israelite victory songs (21:11). They were afraid that, in the heat of battle, David might turn against them. Although David was upset by this at first, God used the commanders' suspicion to keep David from having to fight against Saul and his fellow Israelites.