### 1 Samuel

## Chapter 21

1From there, David went to AhiMelech the Priest at Nob.  
  
He was surprised to see David, so he asked him:  
  
 ‘Why did you come alone… Why didn’t [your people] come with you?’  
  
2And David replied:  
  
 ‘The king sent me today, and he told me not to tell anyone why I came. [I also sent] my servants ahead to the place called PhalanNi AlomNi.  
  
 3‘Now, if you can find 5 loaves of bread, please give them to me.’  
  
4But the Priest told him:  
  
 ‘I don’t have any regular bread, just the holy loaves. If your servants haven’t been near a woman [sexually], then they may eat.’  
  
5And David said:  
  
 ‘Yes, we haven’t been near a woman, for we’ve been traveling for three days, and my servants and I are clean. Although the reason for my journey is secular, it’ll be made pure by my weapons.’  
  
6So the Priest removed the loaves from the presence of Jehovah and gave them to him, because there was no other bread around, and [David] took them.  
  
  
7Now, it so happened that on that day, there was a certain servant of Saul [that had gone there to bow] before Jehovah. He was called Doeg the Edomite. And when these things happened, he’d been there feeding Saul’s mules.  
  
8Then David said to AhiMelech:  
  
 ‘See if you can find a spear or a broadsword, because I don’t have my weapons. Hurry, for this is a matter of the king!’  
  
9And the Priest said:  
  
 ‘Look, here’s the broadsword of the Philistine GoliAth whom you cut down in the Ela Valley!  
  
 ‘I’ve get it wrapped up in a cape behind his chest plate. Take it, because there isn’t anything else like it here.’  
  
And David said:  
  
 ‘No, there’s nothing else like it. [Please] give it to me!’  
  
10So [the Priest] went and got it and gave it to David… And David continued to run from Saul.  
  
  
From there he went to see AchIsh (the king of Gath), 11and AchIsh’s servants asked:  
  
 ‘Isn’t this David, the king of the land?  
  
 ‘Isn’t he the one about whom the dancing women sang, ‘Saul cut down his thousands and David his ten thousands?’’  
  
12Well, David took those words to heart and he was afraid to appear before AchIsh. 13So he started [putting on an act] in front of them. He crawled around on his hands [and knees], laid on the ground at the [city] gate, and let spit to run down his beard.  
  
14So AchIsh said to his servants:  
  
 ‘Look, you can see that the man is having convulsions!  
  
 ‘Why have you brought him to me? 15Do you want to bring a possessed person to me? Should I invite him into my house?’