### 1 Samuel

## Chapter 27

1But David said in his heart:  
  
 ‘I’d best run to the land of the Philistines where I’ll be safe, because things don’t look too good for me here! Saul will keep searching for me in IsraEl, and by tomorrow I could be handed over to him.’  
  
2So David got up and left, taking his 600 men with him, and he went to see AchIsh (son of MaOch), the king of Gath.  
  
3Then David, his men, and both of his women (AhiNoam the JezreElite, and AbiGail the woman of NaBal the CarMelite) sat down to meet with AchIsh there at his house in Gath.  
  
4And when Saul was told that David had fled to Gath, he stopped searching for him.  
  
  
5Well when David went to AchIsh, he said this:  
  
 ‘If your servant has found favor in your eyes, please give me a place in one of your rural cities, and I’ll settle there; for, why should you settle your servant in a city to rule right next to you?’  
  
6And AchIsh gave him ZikLag, which still belongs to the Judean kings to this day.  
  
7Then, after David had stayed there in the land of the Philistines for 4 months, 8he and his men attacked the Geshurites, the Gezrites, and the AmaLechites… These are the people who inhabited the land all the way from Shurand to the land of Egypt.  
  
9He attacked the entire land and he didn’t leave a man or woman alive. However, he took their flocks, herds, burros, camels, and clothing, and thereafter, he returned to AchIsh.  
  
10So then AchIsh asked David:  
  
 ‘Whom did you attack today?’  
  
And David replied:  
  
 ‘The [land] south of Judea, from JerahMeEl south to the [land of the] Kenezites… 11And I didn’t bring anyone back alive to Gath, so that no one can say, Look at what David did!’  
  
Well, that’s the way David handled matters for as long as he stayed in the land of the Philistines.  
  
12And AchIsh trusted David, for he said:  
  
 ‘It’s a shame that he’s being treated [so badly] by his own people in IsraEl. However, he’s welcome to serve me here throughout the age.’