

I SAMUEL 22; April 6; Doeg Slays the LORD'S Priests

ANALYSIS:

1. What kind of men were the 400 who gathered themselves to David?

2. What was Doeg the Edomite's position under King Saul?

3. Was Ahimelech the priest betraying Saul when he aided David? _____
Why not? _____

4. Who refused to follow King Saul's command to kill the LORD'S
priests? _____

5. Who was the one priest that escaped and fled to David? _____

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

The LORD God used the wickedness of King Saul and Doeg to fulfill his will in the utter destruction of the priestly line of Eli. Remember? In I Samuel 2 and 3 the LORD had promised Eli that he would cut off his house because he honored his sons above the LORD and did not restrain them from their wicked ways. The LORD is now, about 50-60 years later, fulfilling the prophecy against the house of Eli. We serve a great and dreadful God who requires our obedience. This same great God can use the wickedness of men to fully accomplish his will. Rejoice today that we serve such an incredible being as the JEHOVAH of the Bible!

This chapter is referred to in Matthew 12:1-4 when Jesus teaches the Pharisees that the Lord God is more interested in mercy than in sacrifice. Since David was in real need of food when he came to the tabernacle, the LORD allowed him to eat the priest's shewbread which under ordinary circumstances was not lawful for him to eat. So too, the disciples in Matthew 12 were allowed to satisfy their hunger on the Sabbath day by taking handfuls of grain when they passed through a field of grain. The LORD is a merciful God who emphasizes mercy more than the exclusive keeping of his laws. May we strive to be as merciful to others today as our Father in Heaven is merciful to us.

HELP:

1. Those in distress, those in debt, and those who were discontented (v 2).
2. He was in charge of the servants of King Saul (v 9).
3. He was not betraying King Saul at all. He was not conspiring against King Saul because he did not know that Saul was after David. All he knew was that David was the King's faithful son-in-law who was held in great reputation by all (vv 14-15).
4. The footmen and servants of Saul standing before the King (v 17).
5. Abiathar, one of the sons of Ahimelech, the priest of the LORD (v 20).