

I SAMUEL 29; April 13; Philistines Send David Home

ANALYSIS::

1. Who noticed that David and his men were with Achish at the back of the army of Philistines? _____
2. Why did the lords of the Philistines not want David going to war with them against Israel? _____
3. The lords of the Philistines reminded Achish of what song that had once been sung about David? _____
4. What had been David's reputation all the time that he had been with Achish? _____
5. Did David really want to go and fight against Israel as he suggests in verse 8? Was this a lie? _____

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

Even though David was chased and hounded by Saul almost continually for a number of years, the LORD always took care of David and protected him from all his enemies. Notice what he wrote in Psalm 34 after he had changed his behavior before Achish (Abimelech) who drove him away (I Samuel 21:10-15). Psalm 34:6 "This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles." After such a wonderful deliverance David could therefore write, "I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth" (v 1). What great deliverance can you bless the LORD for today?!

David used great wisdom in developing a strong friendship with Achish, the king of Gath. The LORD used this friendship to not only protect David from the Philistines but also to protect David from Saul. May we in our daily jobs and walks in this world always demonstrate upright character and sterling reputations so that even this world will respect and commend us as the sons of God.

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven" Mt 5:16.

HELP:

1. The lords or princes of the Philistines (vv 3-4).
2. They were afraid that during the battle David would turn and fight against them instead of against Israel. This was a very legitimate concern which probably would have come to pass if they had let David stay and fight (v 4).
3. "Saul slew his thousands, and David his ten thousands" (v 5). And who had David slain? The Philistines, of course
4. He had been upright and good in the sight of Achish, as an angel of God (vv 6, 9).
5. We can know with certainty that David would not have fought against Israel. He was pretending to want to go and fight against Israel to protect his life and the lives of his men. David often used deception in order to protect his own life when he was running from Saul. See 19:13-17; 21:1-2; 21:10-15; 27:8-12.