

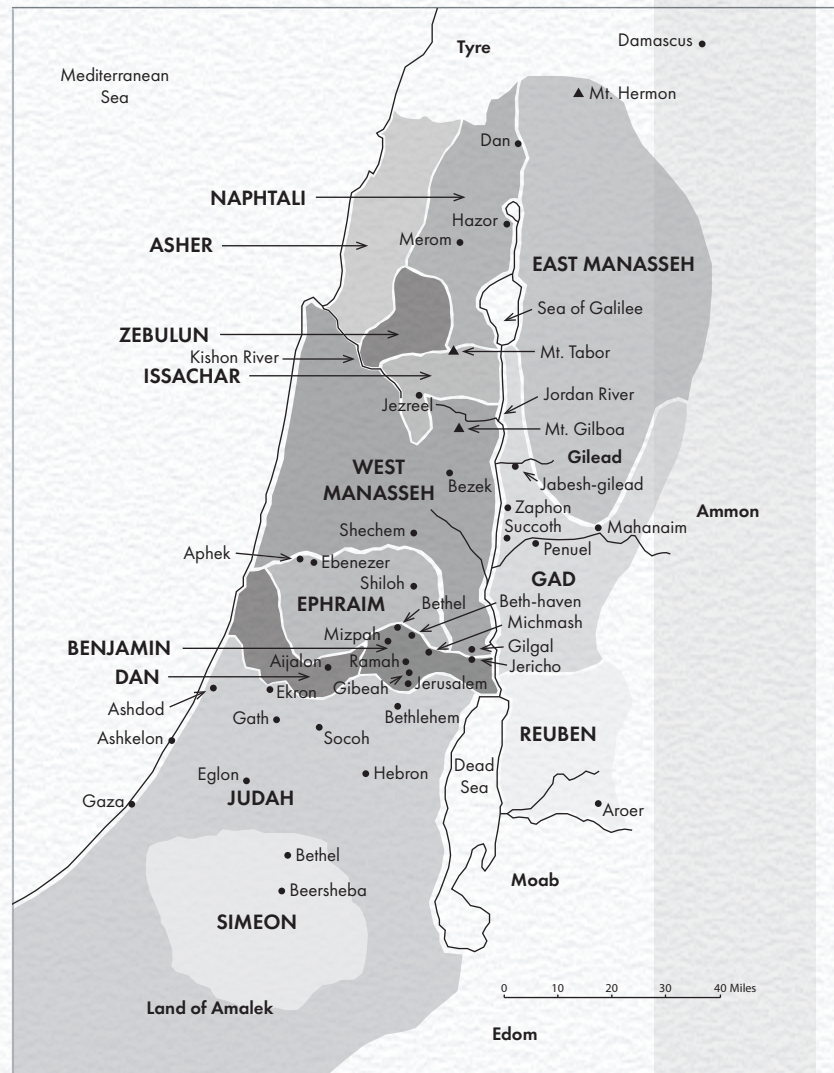
1 Samuel 18

WHEN

- Israel's first king, Saul, was appointed in approximately 1050 B.C.
- The events documented in 1 Samuel 18 took place in approximately 1023 B.C.

WHERE

- This chapter discusses David's victories over the Philistines.
- The Philistines lived in cities towards the coast of the Mediterranean Sea (Ekron, Ashdod, Ashkelon, Gaza, and Gath).



CHARACTERS

- **David** – He was selected by God to eventually become the second king of Israel.
- **Saul** – God selected Saul to be the first king of Israel. He was from the tribe of Benjamin.
- **Jonathan** – The son of Saul and the best friend of David.
- **Michal** – Saul's daughter who married David.

OUTLINE

- **DAVID AND JONATHAN BECOME FRIENDS (18:1-4):**
 - + After the defeat of Goliath, David and Jonathan became good friends.
 - + “The soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David” (18:1).
- **DAVID’S SUCCESS AND SAUL’S JEALOUSY (18:5-16):**
 - + Saul set David over his men of war and David won several victories against the Philistines.
 - + The women of Israel started singing about how Saul had defeated thousands, but David had defeated tens of thousands.
 - + This made Saul jealous and he worried David would take the kingdom from him.
 - + Twice he tried to kill David with a spear, but David evaded him.
 - + He demoted David to be the commander of only 1,000 men, but God blessed David in everything he did, and the people grew to love him.
- **SAUL TRIES TO TRICK DAVID BY OFFERING HIS DAUGHTERS IN MARRIAGE (18:17-30):**
 - + Since Saul couldn’t kill David, he devised a plan to have Israel’s enemies do it.
 - + He offered his daughter Merab to David in marriage in exchange for David fighting the Philistines.
 - + He was hoping the Philistines would kill David, but the plan didn’t work, and he ended up giving Merab to another man.
 - + When Saul found out his younger daughter, Michal, loved David, he offered her to David in exchange for 100 Philistine foreskins.
 - + Saul hoped the Philistines would kill David before he collected 100.
 - + David accepted the offer, brought Saul 200 foreskins, and married his daughter.
 - + From that day on, “Saul was David’s enemy continually.”

APPLICATION

- If God is against you, no amount of scheming, planning, or luck will help you succeed.
- Saul tried and failed several times to kill David because he was fighting against a man who had God as his ally.
- You can’t fight against God and win. Better to join Him and serve Him, than to spend your life struggling pathetically against an all-powerful adversary.