

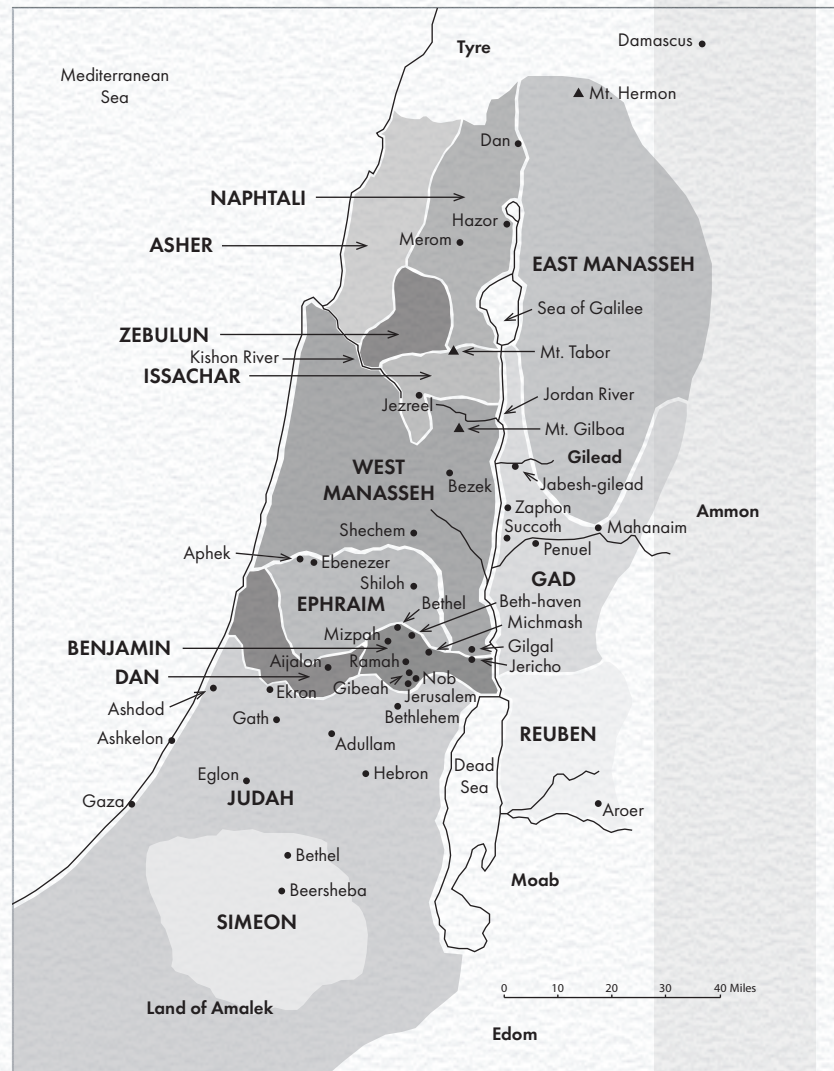
1 Samuel 22

WHEN

- Israel's first king, Saul, was appointed in approximately 1050 B.C.
- The events documented in 1 Samuel 22 took place between approximately 1015-1010 B.C.

WHERE

- David and his men lived at the cave of Adullam.
- David took his parents to Moab to keep them safe.
- After living in a stronghold for a while, David returned to Judah, to the forest of Hereth.
- Saul lived in Gibeah.
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- The town of Nob is thought to have been located just northeast of Jerusalem, perhaps within eyesight.



CHARACTERS

- **David** – He was selected by God to eventually become the second king of Israel.
- **Ahimelech** – A priest who served God at the Tabernacle in Nob.
- **Saul** – God selected Saul to be the first king of Israel. He was from the tribe of Benjamin.
- **Doeg** – An Edomite. He was Saul's chief herdsman.

OUTLINE

- **DAVID'S COMPANY GROWS TO 400 (22:1-5):**
 - + David left Gath and went to the cave of Adullam.
 - + While at the cave, a band of men gathered around David, and he became their commander.
 - + "Everyone who was in distress, and everyone who was in debt, and everyone who was bitter in soul, gathered to him" (22:2).
 - + David took his father and mother to Moab, presumably to keep them safe from Saul.
 - + David and his men live in a stronghold until the prophet Gad told him to return to Judah.
- **SAUL MURDERS GOD'S PRIESTS AND DESTROYS NOB (22:6-23):**
 - + Saul and his men were at Gibeah, amongst them was Doeg the Edomite (21:7).
 - + Doeg reported how Ahimelech had helped David by giving him bread and the sword of Goliath.
 - + Saul summoned Ahimelech and all the priests at Nob.
 - + Saul accused Ahimelech of conspiring against him with David.
 - + Ahimelech denied any wrongdoing. He was under the impression that David was Saul's most faithful servant. He didn't know Saul hated David.
 - + Saul didn't listen to Ahimelech. In his anger he commanded his guard to kill all the priests of the Lord.
 - + But Saul's servants refused to attack God's priests.
 - + So the foreigner, Doeg, struck them, killing a total of 85 priests.
 - + The city of Nob was also destroyed, all the men, women, children, and animals.
 - + One of Ahimelech's sons, Abiathar, managed to escape and found refuge with David.

APPLICATION

- The Bible doesn't support the principle of Karma (I'm referring to Karma as it's popularly defined and understood.).
- Good is not always returned for good, and evil is not always returned for evil.
- Ahimelech did a good thing by helping David, but he was rewarded with a death sentence.
- The idea of Karma has gained a lot of popularity in recent decades, and it's managed to influence some Christian circles.
- God will reward those who do good, but He doesn't promise us that the good we do for others will be returned to us in this life.
- Jesus was good to everyone, but not everyone was good to Him.