

1 Samuel 26:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then Saul said to David, Blessed be thou, my son David: thou shalt both do great things, and also shalt still prevail. So David went on his way, and Saul returned to his place.

Analysis

Saul's blessing carries prophetic weight despite his compromised spiritual state: 'thou shalt both do great things, and also shalt still prevail.' The Hebrew 'yakol tukhal' (surely prevail) uses emphatic doubling to express certainty. This ironic prophecy from David's persecutor confirms what Samuel declared at David's anointing. The narrative conclusion, 'David went on his way, and Saul returned to his place,' signals their final parting. They will not meet again; the next time Saul sees David, it will be through a medium's dark arts.

Historical Context

This represents the final direct encounter between Saul and David. The note that 'Saul returned to his place' suggests a return to normalcy that proves illusory. Within months, Saul will consult a necromancer, and soon after, he and his sons will fall on Mount Gilboa.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. When have unexpected sources spoken truth about your calling or future?
2. How do you process final encounters with those who have both blessed and wounded you?

Interlinear Text

דָּוִד בֶּן י אֶתָּה בָּר וְךָ דָּוִד אֶל וְשָׂא וְל וִי אָמַר
said **Then Saul** H413 **David** **Blessed** H859 **be thou my son** **David**
H559 H7586 H1732 H1288 H1121 H1732

דָּוִד וִי לָךְ תֹּכֵךְ ל תֹּכֵךְ ל וְגַם תַּעֲשֶׂה הַ תַּעֲשֶׂה הַ גַּם
H1571 **great** **great** H1571 **prevail** **prevail** H1980 **David**
H6213 H6213 H3201 H3201 H1732

לְמָקוֹמוֹ: שָׁב וְשָׂא וְל לְדֶרֶכּוֹ
on his way **Then Saul** **returned** **to his place**
H1870 H7586 H7725 H4725

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 26:25 (Parallel theme): When he speaketh fair, believe him not: for there are seven abominations in his heart.