

1 Samuel 26:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Saul pitched in the hill of Hachilah, which is before Jeshimon, by the way. But David abode in the wilderness, and he saw that Saul came after him into the wilderness.

Analysis

The geographical details establish the stage for another dramatic confrontation between Saul and David. The phrase 'David abode in the wilderness' (Hebrew: 'yashab bamidbar') suggests a settled, watchful waiting rather than panicked flight. David's awareness that Saul pursued him demonstrates his vigilance without paranoia, maintaining a posture of wise caution while trusting God's protection. The wilderness becomes both a place of danger and a training ground for faith.

Historical Context

The hill of Hachilah overlooked the road leading through the wilderness of Ziph toward the Dead Sea. This strategic location allowed both surveillance and escape routes. The term 'Jeshimon' (wasteland) refers to the barren wilderness stretching toward the Dead Sea rift valley.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How do you maintain spiritual vigilance without giving way to fear and anxiety?
2. In what ways has God used wilderness seasons to develop your faith?

Interlinear Text

פָּנִים וְעַל אֲשֶׁר בְּחַמֵּל הַגְּבֻעָה שָׁא וְלִי תִּן
pitched And Saul in the hill of Hachilah H834 H5921 which is before H6440
H2583 H7586 H1389 H2444

בְּמִדְבָּרָה: וַיֵּשֶׁב דָּוִיד בְּצָרָה עַל פִּישִׁים |
Jeshimon H5921 by the way But David abode him into the wilderness H4057
H3452 H1870 H1732 H3427

בְּמִדְבָּרָה: אָמַת וְשָׁא וְלִי אָמַת וְלִי רָא
and he saw H3588 came And Saul after him into the wilderness H4057
H7200 H935 H7586 H310

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