

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

פֶּנִּי יַ עַל אֲשֶׁר הַחִכִּיל הַ בְּגִבֵּעַ תִּשָּׂא וְיַחַן
pitched **And Saul** **in the hill** **of Hachilah** H834 H5921 **which is before**
H2583 H7586 H1389 H2444 H6440

הַמִּדְבָּרָה: יָשָׁב וְדָוִד הַדִּרְרָה עַל הַיְשִׁימוֹן
Jeshimon H5921 **by the way** **But David** **abode** **him into the wilderness**
H3452 H1870 H1732 H3427 H4057

הַמִּדְבָּרָה: אַחֲרַיִשָׁא וְכָא בָּא כִּי וַיֵּרָא
and he saw H3588 **came** **And Saul** **after** **him into the wilderness**
H7200 H935 H7586 H310 H4057

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