

# 1 Samuel 27:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Achish said, Whither have ye made a road to day? And David said, Against the south of Judah, and against the south of the Jerahmeelites, and against the south of the Kenites.

## Analysis

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David's deception of Achish represents the moral nadir of his Philistine sojourn. When asked 'Whither have ye made a road today?' (Hebrew: 'al-mi peshatetem,' against whom did you raid), David lies, claiming to have attacked Judah, the Jerahmeelites (a southern Judean clan), and the Kenites (allies of Israel). This falsehood preserved his alliance with Achish while concealing his true activities. The narrative presents this deception without explicit moral commentary, leaving readers to wrestle with the ethics of survival-driven dishonesty.

## Historical Context

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The Negev regions mentioned (south of Judah, Jerahmeelites, Kenites) were precisely the areas where David should have been raiding if he had truly defected from Israel. David's lies were believable because they matched what Achish expected to hear.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. How do you evaluate the ethics of deception in life-threatening situations?
2. What does David's example teach about the spiritual costs of prolonged moral compromise?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיֹּאמֶר	אָכִישׁ	אֵל	פָּשַׁטְתֶּם	הֵי יוֹם	וַיֹּאמֶר
said	And Achish	Whither	have ye made a road	to day	said
H559	H397	H408	H6584	H3117	H559
וְדָוִד	עַל	נֶגְבַּיְהוּדָה	וְעַל	נֶגְבַּיְהוּדָה	וְעַל
And David	H5921	Against the south	of Judah	H5921	Against the south
H1732		H5045	H3063		H5045
הַיֶּרֶחְמֵאֵלִים	וְעַל	נֶגְבַּיְהוּדָה	הַקֵּינִי:		
of the Jerahmeelites	H413	Against the south	of the Kenites		
H3397		H5045	H7017		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Judges 1:16** (Parallel theme): And the children of the Kenite, Moses' father in law, went up out of the city of palm trees with the children of Judah into the wilderness of Judah, which lieth in the south of Arad; and they went and dwelt among the people.

**1 Chronicles 2:9** (Parallel theme): The sons also of Hezron, that were born unto him; Jerahmeel, and Ram, and Chelubai.

**1 Chronicles 2:25** (Parallel theme): And the sons of Jerahmeel the firstborn of Hezron were, Ram the firstborn, and Bunah, and Oren, and Ozem, and Ahijah.

**1 Samuel 30:29** (Parallel theme): And to them which were in Rachal, and to them which were in the cities of the Jerahmeelites, and to them which were in the cities of the Kenites,

**Judges 4:11** (Parallel theme): Now Heber the Kenite, which was of the children of Hobab the father in law of Moses, had severed himself from the Kenites, and pitched his tent unto the plain of Zaanaim, which is by Kedesh.

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