

# 1 Samuel 27:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And David arose, and he passed over with the six hundred men that were with him unto Achish, the son of Maach, king of Gath.

## Analysis

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David's flight to Achish of Gath with six hundred men represents a significant escalation from his earlier desperate visit. The Hebrew 'wayya'abor' (passed over) suggests crossing a boundary, both geographical and spiritual. David's band now included families, transforming from a guerrilla force into a community requiring permanent settlement. This move placed the future king of Israel in service to a Philistine lord, creating moral and political complexities that would test David's integrity throughout his sixteen-month stay.

## Historical Context

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Achish, son of Maach (or Maachah), ruled Gath, one of the five principal Philistine cities. The Philistines, recent migrants from the Aegean region, operated as competing city-states rather than a unified nation, allowing David to exploit their political divisions.

## Related Passages

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**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. What compromises have you made in seasons of desperation that created ongoing complications?
2. How do you navigate relationships with those whose values differ from yours when survival requires cooperation?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיָּקָם	וַיָּקָם	וַיָּקָם	וַיָּקָם	וַיָּקָם	וַיָּקָם	וַיָּקָם
arose	And David	and he passed over	H1931	with the six	hundred	men
H6965	H1732	H5674		H8337	H3967	H376
וְאֵשׁ	וְאֵשׁ	וְאֵשׁ	וְאֵשׁ	וְאֵשׁ	וְאֵשׁ	וְאֵשׁ
H834	H5973	H413	that were with him unto Achish	the son	of Maoch	king
			H397	H1121	H4582	H4428
גֹּתִי:	גֹּתִי:	גֹּתִי:	גֹּתִי:	גֹּתִי:	גֹּתִי:	גֹּתִי:
of Gath	of Gath	of Gath	of Gath	of Gath	of Gath	of Gath
H1661	H1661	H1661	H1661	H1661	H1661	H1661

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Samuel 25:13** (References David): And David said unto his men, Gird ye on every man his sword. And they girded on every man his sword; and David also girded on his sword: and there went up after David about four hundred men; and two hundred abode by the stuff.

**1 Samuel 21:10** (Kingdom): And David arose, and fled that day for fear of Saul, and went to Achish the king of Gath.