

1 Samuel 27:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And David dwelt with Achish at Gath, he and his men, every man with his household, even David with his two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the Carmelitess, Nabal's wife.

Analysis

The domestic details reveal the human cost of David's wilderness years: his household now included two wives, Ahinoam and Abigail, each with her own story of how she came to David. Every man with David similarly brought a household, transforming the fugitive band into a refugee community. The phrase 'every man with his household' (Hebrew: 'ish u-veto') emphasizes the scope of responsibility David carried. Leadership meant providing not just for warriors but for their dependents in hostile territory.

Historical Context

Polygamy, while permitted in ancient Israel, often created family conflicts as seen in patriarchal narratives. Ahinoam of Jezreel became David's wife during the wilderness period; Abigail, widow of the foolish Nabal, brought significant wealth and wisdom to David's household.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. What responsibilities for others' welfare do you carry in your leadership?
2. How does caring for dependents shape the risks you are willing to take?

Interlinear Text

וַיָּשָׁב	דָּוִד	עִם	אֶחָד יֵשׁ	בְּגֵת	הָוָא	אֵשׁ	אֵשׁ
dwelt	And David	with Achish	at Gath			every man	every man
H3427	H1732	H5973	H397	H1661	H1931	H376	H376
וּבֵיתוֹ	דָּוִד	וּשְׁתֵּי י	אִשְׁתּוֹ	אֶחָיוֹ	עִם	הַיִּזְרְעֵאלִית	
with his household	And David	with his two	wife	Ahinoam		the Jezreelitess	
H1004	H1732	H8147	H802	H293		H3159	
וְאַבְיָגַיִל	אִשְׁתּוֹ	נָבָל ל	הַכַּרְמֶלִית:				
and Abigail	wife	Nabal's	the Carmelitess				
H26	H802	H5037	H3762				