

1 Samuel 27:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it was told Saul that David was fled to Gath: and he sought no more again for him.

Analysis

The narrative tersely reports the end of Saul's pursuit: 'he sought no more again for him.' The Hebrew 'yasaph' (continued) with negative implies permanent cessation. David's strategy achieved its immediate goal: safety from Saul. Yet this safety came at the cost of exile from the promised land, service to pagans, and moral compromise. The verse marks a turning point in the narrative; Saul's energy will now focus on the Philistine threat that will ultimately destroy him.

Historical Context

Saul's abandonment of the pursuit likely reflected both the political reality that attacking Philistine territory risked war and Saul's declining mental and physical condition. The final years of Saul's reign were marked by increasing desperation and isolation.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. When has achieving safety required accepting situations that troubled your conscience?
2. How do you evaluate whether the price of security is too high?

Interlinear Text

וַיִּגְדַּל	לְשׂאֵל	כִּי	בָּרַח	דָּוִד	גַּת	אֶל־
And it was told	Saul	H3588	was fled	that David	to Gath	H3808
H5046	H7586		H1272	H1732	H1661	
וְעַתָּה	עַד	לְבַקֵּשׁוֹ				
no more again	H5750	and he sought				
H3254		H1245				

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