

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

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|------------------------|----------------------|----------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|----------|----------|----------|
| וְיֹאמֶר | לְשָׁא | אֶל | שְׁאֵלָה | בְּכָל | בְּכָל | לְכָלָה | לְכָלָה | אַל |
| And it was told | Saul | H3588 | was fled | that David | to Gath | | | H3808 |
| H5046 | H7586 | | H1272 | H1732 | H1661 | | | |
| וְיֹאמֶר | לְבַקְשֵׁה | וְיֹאמֶר | וְיֹאמֶר | וְיֹאמֶר | וְיֹאמֶר | וְיֹאמֶר | וְיֹאמֶר | וְיֹאמֶר |
| no more again | and he sought | H5750 | | H1245 | | | | |
| H3254 | | | | | | | | |

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