

# 1 Samuel 27:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And David said unto Achish, If I have now found grace in thine eyes, let them give me a place in some town in the country, that I may dwell there: for why should thy servant dwell in the royal city with thee?

## Analysis

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David's request for 'a place in some town in the country' reveals strategic thinking within moral complexity. By leaving Gath itself, David would gain freedom from constant surveillance while creating a base for independent operations. His humble self-designation ('thy servant') and rhetorical question ('why should thy servant dwell in the royal city with thee?') employ the language of submission while actually seeking autonomy. This diplomatic maneuvering demonstrates David's ability to navigate foreign courts.

## Historical Context

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Living in the royal city would have required constant interaction with Philistine nobility and potential participation in pagan religious ceremonies. David's request for a rural assignment created distance from these compromising situations while maintaining his alliance with Achish.

## Related Passages

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**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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1. How do you create appropriate boundaries within unavoidable compromising situations?
2. What wisdom guides your requests when you must work within systems you cannot fully endorse?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיֹּאמֶר	וְדָוִד	אֶל	אֶחָיִשׁ	אִם	בָּא	מָצָאתִי	חַן
said	And David	H413	unto Achish	H518	H4994	If I have now found	grace
H559	H1732		H397			H4672	H2580

בְּעֵינֶי יְיָ	יִתְּנוּ	לִי	מָקוֹם	בְּאַחַת	בְּעִיר	הַשָּׂדֶה
in thine eyes	let them give	H0	me a place	in some	city	in the country
H5869	H5414		H4725	H259	H5892	H7704

יֵשׁ בּ	שָׁם	וְלָמָּה	יֵשׁ בּ	עֲבֹדְךָ	בְּעִיר
dwelt	H8033	H4100	dwelt	there for why should thy servant	city
H3427			H3427	H5650	H5892

הַמֶּלֶךְ הַ	עֲמֹן:
in the royal	H5973
H4467	