

# 1 Samuel 27:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the time that David dwelt in the country of the Philistines was a full year and four months.

## Analysis

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The timeframe 'a full year and four months' (Hebrew: 'yamim arba'ah chodashim,' literally 'days and four months,' where 'days' idiomatically means a year) establishes the extent of David's exile. This period roughly corresponds to the final sixteen months of Saul's reign, during which David operated independently while nominally under Philistine authority. The specificity suggests an accurate historical tradition preserved in the narrative. These months shaped David's character and established relationships that would influence his reign.

## Historical Context

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The period from approximately 1012 to 1010 BCE represents a transitional phase when Saul's kingdom deteriorated while David built a power base. David's activities during this time laid groundwork for his rapid assumption of rule after Saul's death.

## Related Passages

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

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

## Study Questions

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1. What formative periods in your life have occurred during times of apparent exile or waiting?
2. How do you steward seasons of transition when the future remains unclear?

## Interlinear Text

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בָּשָׂדֵךְ הָיָה דָּבָר יְהוָה  
H1961 **And the time** was a full year H834 **dwell** that David in the country  
H4557 H3117 H3427 H1732 H7704

חַדְשִׁים: וְאַרְבַּע הַיּוֹם פָּלֶשֶׁת יִם  
of the Philistines was a full year and four months  
H6430 H3117 H702 H2320

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Samuel 29:3** (References David): Then said the princes of the Philistines, What do these Hebrews here? And Achish said unto the princes of the Philistines, Is not this David, the servant of Saul the king of Israel, which hath been with me these days, or these years, and I have found no fault in him since he fell unto me unto this day?