

# 1 Samuel 29:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then Achish called David, and said unto him, Surely, as the LORD liveth, thou hast been upright, and thy going out and thy coming in with me in the host is good in my sight: for I have not found evil in thee since the day of thy coming unto me unto this day: nevertheless the lords favour thee not.

## Analysis

Achish's personal summons to David communicates the decision with remarkable diplomacy. His oath 'as the LORD liveth' (using YHWH, Israel's covenant name) may indicate genuine respect for David's faith or diplomatic courtesy. The assessment that David has been 'upright' (Hebrew: 'yashar') throughout his service is accurate as far as Achish knows. The phrase 'the lords favour thee not' (Hebrew: 'lo-tov attah be'eney seranim') places blame on others while expressing personal confidence. Achish genuinely believed David was loyal.

## Historical Context

Achish's use of YHWH's name suggests familiarity with Israelite religion, perhaps from his relationship with David or broader cultural awareness. His personal favor toward David would prove advantageous when David later became king and maintained peace with Gath.

## Related Passages

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## **Revelation 20:12 – Judgment according to deeds**

## Study Questions

1. How do you respond when allies' actions, though limiting, are actually protective?
2. What relationships with those outside your faith community has God used for your benefit?

## Interlinear Text

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Kings 19:27** (Parallel theme): But I know thy abode, and thy going out, and thy coming in, and thy rage against me.

**2 Samuel 3:25** (Parallel theme): Thou knowest Abner the son of Ner, that he came to deceive thee, and to know thy going out and thy coming in, and to know all that thou doest.

**Psalms 121:8** (References Lord): The LORD shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

**1 Samuel 20:3** (References Lord): And David sware moreover, and said, Thy father certainly knoweth that I have found grace in thine eyes; and he saith, Let not Jonathan know this, lest he be grieved: but truly as the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, there is but a step between me and death.

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