

# 1 Samuel 31:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when the men of Israel that were on the other side of the valley, and they that were on the other side Jordan, saw that the men of Israel fled, and that Saul and his sons were dead, they forsook the cities, and fled; and the Philistines came and dwelt in them.

## Analysis

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The aftermath extends beyond the battle as Israelites in surrounding territories flee, abandoning their cities to Philistine occupation. The Hebrew 'wayyya'azvu' (forsook) and 'wayyanusu' (fled) describe panic abandonment. The Philistines 'came and dwelt in them,' establishing long-term occupation. The battle's impact spreads far beyond Gilboa, affecting civilians who had not fought. Leadership failure produces consequences reaching those who simply lived under that leadership.

## Historical Context

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The territorial losses included strategic positions in the Jezreel Valley and transjordan. This Philistine expansion would challenge David throughout his early reign and require military campaigns to reverse.

## Related Passages

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

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

## Study Questions

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1. How do leaders' failures affect those they were meant to protect?
2. What does civilian flight reveal about the relationship between military and domestic security?

## Interlinear Text

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אֲשֶׁר יִשְׂרָאֵל לֹא רָאָה וַיֵּרָא וּ  
**saw** H376 **of Israel** H834 **and they that were on the other side** H5676  
H7200 H3478

כִּי חָזַק יְהוָה וַיֵּרָא וַיֵּרָא וַיֵּרָא  
**of the valley** H834 **and they that were on the other side** H5676 **Jordan** H3588  
H6010 H3383

וּבְנֵי יוֹסֵף וְשָׂאֵל וְכִי יִשְׂרָאֵל לֹא רָאָה וַיֵּרָא וּ  
**and fled** H376 **of Israel** H3588 **were dead** H4191 **and that Saul** H7586 **and his sons** H1121  
H5127 H3478

וַיָּשָׁב וַיֵּרָא וַיֵּרָא וַיֵּרָא וַיֵּרָא וַיֵּרָא וַיֵּרָא  
**they forsook** H853 **the cities** H5892 **and fled** H5127 **came** H935 **and the Philistines** H6430 **and dwelt** H3427  
H5800

בְּהוֹרֵם  
H2004