

# 2 Samuel 5:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But when the Philistines heard that they had anointed David king over Israel, all the Philistines came up to seek David; and David heard of it, and went down to the hold.

## Analysis

---

**But when the Philistines heard that they had anointed David king over Israel, all the Philistines came up to seek David; and David heard of it, and went down to the hold.**

This verse contributes to the narrative of David Becomes King of Israel, emphasizing God establishing His chosen king. David's anointing as king over all Israel fulfills promises made years earlier (1 Samuel 16:13). The conquest of Jerusalem and establishment of it as capital demonstrates God's blessing. Military victories over Philistines show divine enablement. Theological themes include God's faithfulness to promises, the importance of proper locations for worship, and divine empowerment for tasks God assigns.

## Historical Context

---

The historical setting of 2 Samuel 5 occurs during David's reign (circa 1010-970 BCE) over Israel's united monarchy. Archaeological discoveries, including the Tel Dan inscription mentioning the 'House of David,' corroborate biblical historicity. Ancient Near Eastern customs regarding God establishing His chosen king provide crucial background. The geopolitical situation involved regional powers—Philistines, Ammonites, Arameans, Moabites, Edomites—as David consolidated and expanded Israel's territory. Cultural practices concerning kingship, warfare, covenant relationships, family dynamics, and religious observance differed

significantly from modern Western contexts, requiring careful attention to avoid anachronistic interpretation while extracting timeless theological principles applicable across cultures and eras.

## Related Passages

---

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

---

1. How does this passage deepen your understanding of God establishing His chosen king?
2. What does this verse reveal about God's character, and how should that shape your worship and obedience?
3. In what specific ways can you apply this truth to your current circumstances and relationships this week?

## Interlinear Text

---

וּשְׁמָ ע	פְּלִשְׁתִּים	כִּי	מָשַׁח ו	אֶת	דָּוִד
<b>heard</b> H8085	<b>But when the Philistines</b> H6430	H3588	<b>that they had anointed</b> H4886	H853	<b>David</b> H1732
לְמֶלֶךְ	עַל	יִשְׂרָאֵל	וַעֲלָה	כָּל	פְּלִשְׁתִּים
<b>king</b> H4428	H5921	<b>over Israel</b> H3478	<b>came up</b> H5927	H3605	<b>But when the Philistines</b> H6430
					לְבַקֵּשׁ
					<b>to seek</b> H1245
אֶת	דָּוִד	וּשְׁמָ ע	דָּוִד	וַיֵּרַד	אֶל הַמְּצוּדָה:
H853	<b>David</b> H1732	<b>heard</b> H8085	<b>David</b> H1732	<b>of it and went down</b> H3381	H413 <b>to the hold</b> H4686

## Additional Cross-References

---

**2 Samuel 23:14** (References David): And David was then in an hold, and the garrison of the Philistines was then in Beth-lehem.

**1 Chronicles 11:16** (References David): And David was then in the hold, and the Philistines' garrison was then at Beth-lehem.

---

From KJV Study • [kjevstudy.org](http://kjevstudy.org)