

1 Samuel 24 and 26 connections

23.19: Then **some Ziphites went up to Saul at Gibeah and said, "David is hiding among us in the strongholds of Horesh, on the hill of Hachilah, which is south of Jeshimon.**

24.1ff: When Saul returned from following the Philistines, he was told, "David is in the wilderness of En-gedi." Then **Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel**, and went **to look for David** and his men in the direction of the Rocks of the Wild Goats. He came to the sheepfolds beside the road, where there was a cave; and Saul went in to relieve himself. Now David and his men were sitting in the innermost parts of the cave. **The men of David said to him, "Here is the day of which YHWH said to you, 'I will give your enemy into your hand,** and you shall do to him as it seems good to you.'" Then David went and stealthily cut off a corner of Saul's cloak. Afterward David was stricken to the heart because he had cut off a corner of Saul's cloak. **He said to his men, "YHWH forbid that I should do this thing to my lord, YHWH's anointed, to raise my hand against him; for he is YHWH's anointed."** So David scolded his men severely and did not permit them to attack Saul. Then Saul got up and left the cave, and went on his way. Afterwards David also rose up and went out of the cave and called after Saul, **"My lord the king!"** When Saul looked behind him, David bowed with his face to the ground, and did obeisance. David said to Saul, "Why do you listen to the words of those who say, 'David seeks to do you harm'? This very day your eyes have seen how YHWH gave you into my **hand** in the cave; and some urged me to kill you, but I spared you. I said, 'I will not raise my **hand** against **my lord**; for he is **YHWH's anointed**.' See, my father, see the corner of your cloak in my **hand**; for by the fact that I cut off the corner of your cloak, and did not kill you, you may know for certain that there is no wrong or treason in my **hands**. **I have not sinned against you**, though you are hunting me to take my life. May YHWH judge between me and you! **May YHWH avenge me on you**; but **my hand shall not be against you**. As the ancient proverb says, 'Out of the wicked comes forth wickedness'; but **my hand shall not be against you**. Against whom has the king of Israel come out? Whom do you pursue? A dead dog? **A single flea**? May YHWH therefore be judge, and give sentence between me and you. May he see to it, and plead my cause, and vindicate me against you." When David had finished speaking these words to Saul, **Saul said, "Is this your voice, my son David?"** Saul lifted up his voice and wept. He said to David, "You are more righteous than I; for you have repaid me good, whereas I have repaid you evil. Today you have explained how you have made good with me, in that you did not kill me when YHWH put me into your **hands**. For who has ever found an enemy, and sent the enemy safely away? **So may YHWH reward you with good for what you have done to me this day**. Now I know that you shall surely be king, and that the kingdom of Israel shall be established in your **hand**. Swear to me therefore by YHWH that you will not cut off my descendants after me, and that you will not wipe out my name from my father's house." So David swore this to Saul. Then Saul went home; but David and his men went up to the stronghold.

Then the **Ziphites came to Saul at Gibeah, saying, "David is in hiding on the hill of Hachilah, which is opposite Jeshimon."** So **Saul** rose and went down to the Wilderness of Ziph, **with three thousand chosen men of Israel, to seek David** in the Wilderness of Ziph. Saul encamped on the hill of Hachilah, which is opposite Jeshimon beside the road. But David remained in the wilderness. When he learned that Saul came after him into the wilderness, David sent out spies, and learned that Saul had indeed arrived. Then David set out and came to the place where Saul had encamped; and David saw the place where Saul lay, with Abner son of Ner, the commander of his army. Saul was lying within the encampment, while the army was encamped around him. Then David said to Ahimelech the Hittite, and to Joab's brother Abishai son of Zeruiah, "Who will go down with me into the camp to Saul?" Abishai said, "I will go down with you." So David and Abishai went to the army by night; there Saul lay sleeping within the encampment, with his spear stuck in the ground at his head; and Abner and the army lay around him. **Abishai said to David, "God has given your enemy into your hand today**; now therefore let me pin him to the ground with one stroke of the spear; I will not strike him twice." **But David said to Abishai, "Do not destroy him; for who can raise his hand against YHWH's anointed, and be guiltless?"** David said, **"As YHWH lives, YHWH will strike him down**; or his day will come to die; or he will go down into battle and perish. **YHWH forbid that I should raise my hand against YHWH's anointed**; but now take the spear that is at his head, and the water jar, and let us go." So David took the spear that was at Saul's head and the water jar, and they went away. No one saw it, or knew it, nor did anyone awake; for they were all asleep, because a deep sleep from YHWH had fallen upon them. Then David went over to the other side, and stood on top of a hill far away, with a great distance between them. David called to the army and to Abner son of Ner, saying, "Abner! Will you not answer?" Then Abner replied, "Who are you that calls to the king?" David said to Abner, "Are you not a man? Who is like you in Israel? Why then have you not kept watch over your lord the king? For one of the people came in to destroy your lord the king. This thing that you have done is not good. As YHWH lives, you deserve to die, because you have not kept watch over your lord, **YHWH's anointed**. See now, where is the king's spear, or the water jar that was at his head?" **Saul recognized David's voice, and said, "Is this your voice, my son David?"** David said, "It is my voice, **my lord, O king**." And he added, "Why does **my lord** pursue his servant? For what have I done? What guilt is on my **hands**? Now therefore let **my lord the king** hear the words of his servant. If it is YHWH who has stirred you up against me, may he accept an offering; but if it is mortals, may they be cursed before YHWH, for they have driven me out today from my share in the heritage of YHWH, saying, 'Go, serve other gods.' Now therefore, do not let my blood fall to the ground, away from the presence of YHWH; for the king of Israel has come out to seek **a single flea**, like one who hunts a partridge in the mountains." **Then Saul said, "I have sinned**; come back, my son David, for I will never do evil to you again, because my life was precious in your sight today; I have been a fool, and have made a great mistake." David replied, "Here is the spear, O king! Let one of the young men come over and get it. **YHWH rewards everyone for his righteousness and his faithfulness**; for YHWH gave you into my **hand** today, but I would not raise my **hand** against **YHWH's anointed**. As your life was precious today in my sight, so may my life be precious in the sight of YHWH, and may he rescue me from all tribulation." Then Saul said to David, "Blessed be you, my son David! You will do, yes, do many things and will prevail, yes, prevail in them." So David went his way, and Saul returned to his place.