

1 Samuel 26 keywords

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; **behold**, Saul **lay** sleeping within the encampment, with his **spear** stuck in the ground **at his head, yes, at his head**; and Abner and the army **lay** circled, yes, circled, around him. Abishai said to David, "God has given your enemy into your **hand** today; **now** therefore let me, please, 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, yes, 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, no one knew it, no one awoke; 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 **place** 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 the 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, yes, 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 ever, because my life was precious in your sight today; **behold**, I have been a fool, and have made a great mistake." David replied, "**Behold, the spear, yes, 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**. **Behold**, 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 succeed in them." So David went his way, and Saul returned to his **place**.