

## 1 Samuel Lesson 43 David Delivers Keilah and God Delivers David

### Key Themes in 1 Samuel

- The connection between our obedience and our relationship to God
- God opposes the proud and exalts the humble
- Despite human evil, God is working out His purposes in history
- Kingship in Israel and God's plan to one day raise up an anointed divine king

### Background:

**Keilah:** a town located near the border of Philistine territory. Because of its location, it was a frequent target of Philistine raids. There were walls around the city with gates that could be barred. The threshing floors were situated outside of the city gates so they were unprotected.

**ephod:** a priestly garment often connected with seeking a word from the Lord. In this chapter of 1 Samuel it is portrayed as a source of divine guidance.

**strongholds in the wilderness of Ziph:** these strongholds were located 13 miles southeast of Keilah. They were small outposts that served as signaling stations and contact points for the herdsmen and villagers of the area.

### Key words and phrases:

**"inquire of the Lord"**

**inquire:** Strong's H7592 "shaal" to request, ask, inquire

**servant:Strong's H5650 "ebed"** a servant or slave. the term was often applied to those who worshiped God and to those who ministered to Him or served Him.

### Read 1 Samuel 23: 1-14

David along with his band of distressed and outcast men have been hiding in Judah in the forest of Horeth.

1. Upon hearing that the Philistines were robbing the threshing floors of Keilah in 1 Samuel 23:1, what did David do in 23:2 and what answer did David receive? What was the response of the men he was leading in 23:3?

2. How did David respond to the fear and complaining of his men? As Christians we often encounter discouragement in the form of complaining or opposition from those we lead. How did David handle it and what can we learn from him when faced with a similar situation?

3. David obeyed the Lord in 23:5 and what was the result? How might God be using this incident to train David for his future kingship?

**Application:** What are some ways God has trained you or is training you for the ministry or role He has placed you in?

4. According to 1 Samuel 23:7-8 what enemy was David facing now? In 23:7 how did Saul interpret the circumstances? Based on the circumstances alone, what did Saul do in 23:8? What can we learn from this about relying on circumstances alone to determine God's will?

5. In 23:9 we learn David knew that Saul was planning harm against him. According to 23:9-13 what did David do? Review Psalm 34 and relate David's regard for God in his prayer to his guidance and deliverance. According to 23:14 how often did God deliver David?

**Application:** What lessons of faith and trust, guidance and deliverance can you learn from David that you can apply to your own life and battles?