

The Early Prophets - One Book, One Theme - class # 27

King David's 'passive' rise to power [& his "Hashkafa"]

Source sheet for TIM shiur by Menachem Leibtag/

I. Review – the unit from I Shmuel chap. 17 thru II Shmuel chap. 4

This unit, which we attribute to the Navi Gad, begins with David's rise to fame after killing Goliath – continues with David becoming a famous warrior, general, and also Shaul's arms bearer and 'harp player' – which leads to Shaul's jealousy of David due to his increasing fame.

Shaul first tried to kill David w/o anyone realizing it was intentional,

Then, sharing his closest cabinet ministers with his plot

And finally, by declaring David as a threat to national security, and demanding that he be turned in by anyone in the country who finds him

In today's class, we continue our study of this unit, to show how David makes no active effort to secure the Kingdom, even though he was anointed by Shmuel. Instead, he remains quite passive, and his core understanding that if he is to become King, that is God's 'problem', and his desire that should he become King, it should take place in a peaceful with, the people accepting him willingly (and not due to fear or force).

II. A summary of David's actions, while running away from Shaul

Chapter 21

David requests supplies from the kohanim in Nov by the Mishkan

[obviously, they are not aware that he is a fugitive; Shaul think they were]

David runs away to Achish King of Gat [not too far away, but safe from Shaul]

David returns to Israel – to Adulam area, joined by family and a 'band of bitter men'

[goal is protection – not aggression]

Chapter 22

David take his parents to Moav (family ties from Rut) – to protect his parents

Note how his actions can be understood as safety, or plotting rebellion

וַיֵּלֶךְ דָּוִד מִשָּׁם, מִצִּפְהַ מוֹאָב; וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-מֶלֶךְ מוֹאָב,
צֵא-נָא אָבִי וְאִמִּי אִתְּכֶם,
עַד אֲשֶׁר אֲדַע, מֵה-יַעֲשֶׂה-לִּי אֱלֹהִים.

3 And David went thence to Mizpeh of Moab; and he said unto the king of Moab: 'Let my father and my mother, I pray thee, come forth, and be with you, till I know what God will do for me.'

ד וַיִּנְחָם, אֶת-פָּנָיו מֶלֶךְ מוֹאָב; וַיֵּשְׁבוּ עִמּוֹ, כָּל-יְמֵי
הַיּוֹת-דָּוִד בַּמְּצוּדָה. {ס}

4 And he brought them before the king of Moab; and they dwelt with him all the while that David was in the stronghold. {S}

ה וַיֹּאמֶר גַּד הַנָּבִיא אֶל-דָּוִד, לֹא תֵשֵׁב בַּמְּצוּדָה--לֵךְ
וּבֵאתָ-לָדָה, אֶרֶץ יְהוּדָה; וַיֵּלֶךְ דָּוִד, וַיָּבֵא יַעַר חֶרֶת. {ס}

5 And the prophet Gad said unto David: 'Abide not in the stronghold; depart, and get thee into the land of Judah.' Then David departed, and came into the forest of Hereth. {S}

ו וַיִּשְׁמַע שָׂאוּל--כִּי נֹדַע דָּוִד, וַאֲנָשִׁים אֲשֶׁר אִתּוֹ;
וְשָׂאוּל יוֹשֵׁב בְּגִבְעָה תַּחַת-הָאֶשֶׁל בְּרָמָה, וְחִנִּיתוֹ בְּיָדוֹ,
וְכָל-עַבְדָּיו, נֹצְבִים עָלָיו.

6 And Saul heard that David was discovered, and the men that were with him; now Saul was sitting in Gibeah, under the tamarisk-tree in Ramah, with his spear in his hand, and all his servants were standing about him.

ז וַיֹּאמֶר שָׂאוּל, לְעַבְדָּיו הַנֹּצְבִים עָלָיו, שְׁמְעוּ-נָא, בְּנֵי

7 And Saul said unto his servants that stood about him: 'Hear now, ye Benjamites; will the son of Jesse give every one of you fields

יְמִינִי : גַּם-לְכַלְכֶּם, יִתֶּן בֶּן-יִשָּׁי שְׂדוֹת וּכְרָמִים--לְכַלְכֶּם
יְשִׁים, שְׂרֵי אֲלָפִים וְשְׂרֵי מֵאוֹת.

and vineyards, will he make you all captains
of thousands and captains of hundreds;

ח כִּי קִשְׁרֹתֶם כָּלְכֶם עָלַי, וְאִין-גְּלָה אֶת-אֲזְנֵי בְּכַרְת-
בְּנֵי עַם-בֶּן-יִשָּׁי, וְאִין-חָלָה מִכֶּם עָלַי, וְגָלָה אֶת-אֲזְנֵי :
כִּי הִקִּים בְּנֵי אֶת-עַבְדֵי עָלַי לְאַרְב, כִּיּוֹם הַזֶּה. { ס }

8 that all of you have conspired against me,
and there was none that disclosed it to me
when my son made a league with the son of
Jesse, and there is none of you that is sorry
for me, or discloseth unto me that my son
hath stirred up my servant against me, to lie
in wait, as at this day?' {S}

ט וַיַּעַן דּוֹעַג הָאֲדָמִי, וְהוּא נֹצֵב עַל-עַבְדֵי-שָׂאוּל--
וַיֹּאמֶר : רָאִיתִי, אֶת-בֶּן-יִשָּׁי, בָּא נֹבָה, אֶל-
אַחִימֶלֶךְ בֶּן-אַחֲטוֹב.

9 Then answered Doeg the Edomite, who
was set over the servants of Saul, and said:
'I saw the son of Jesse coming to Nob, to
Ahimelech the son of Ahitub.

-----After Shaul accuses the priests of treason and conspiracy...

יז וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְרָצִים הַנֹּצְבִים עָלָיו סְבוּ
וְהִמִּיתוּ כַּהֲנֵי יְהוָה, כִּי גַם-יָדָם עִם-דָּוִד, וְכִי
יָדְעוּ כִּי-בֵרַח הוּא, וְלֹא גָלוּ אֶת-אֲזָנוֹ (אֲזָנִי) ; וְלֹא-
אָבוּ עַבְדֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, לְשַׁלַּח אֶת-יָדָם, לִפְגֹּעַ, בְּכַהֲנֵי יְהוָה. { ס }

17 And the king said unto the guard that
stood about him: 'Turn, and slay the priests
of the LORD; because their hand also is
with David, and because they knew that he
fled, and did not disclose it to me.' But the
servants of the king would not put forth
their hand to fall upon the priests of the
LORD. {S}

יח וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, לְדוֹיֵג (לְדוֹאֵג), סֵב אֶתָּה, וּפְגַע
בְּכַהֲנֵים ; וַיִּסֵּב דוֹיֵג (דוֹאֵג) הָאֲדָמִי, וַיִּפְגַּע-הוּא
בְּכַהֲנֵים, וַיָּמַת בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא שְׁמֹנִים וַחֲמִשָּׁה אִישׁ,
נִשְׂא אֶפּוֹד בָּד.

18 And the king said to Doeg: 'Turn thou,
and fall upon the priests.' And Doeg the
Edomite turned, and he fell upon the priests,
and he slew on that day fourscore and five
persons that did wear a linen ephod.

יט וְאֶת נֹב עִיר-הַכַּהֲנִים, הִכָּה לְפִי-חֶרֶב, מֵאִישׁ
וְעַד-אִשָּׁה, מֵעוֹלָל וְעַד-יוֹנֵק ; וְשׂוֹר וַחֲמֹר וְשֵׂה,
לְפִי-חֶרֶב.

19 And Nob, the city of the priests, smote he
with the edge of the sword, both men and
women, children and sucklings, and oxen
and asses and sheep, with the edge of the
sword.

כ וַיִּמָּלֵט בֶּן-אַחַד, לְאַחִימֶלֶךְ בֶּן-אַחֲטוֹב, וְשֵׁמוֹ,
אַבְיָתָר ; וַיִּבְרַח, אַחֲרֵי דָוִד.

20 And one of the sons of Ahimelech the
son of Ahitub, named Abiathar, escaped,
and fled after David.

כא וַיִּגַּד אַבְיָתָר, לְדָוִד : כִּי הָרַג שָׂאוּל, אֶת כַּהֲנֵי
יְהוָה.

21 And Abiathar told David that Saul had
slain the LORD'S priests.

כב וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד לְאַבְיָתָר, יַדְעֵתִי בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא כִּי-
שָׂם דוֹיֵג (דוֹאֵג) הָאֲדָמִי, כִּי-הִגִּד יָגִיד, לְשָׂאוּל :
אַנְכִי סַבְתִּי, בְּכָל-נַפְשׁ בֵּית אָבִיךָ.

22 And David said unto Abiathar: 'I knew
on that day, when Doeg the Edomite was
there, that he would surely tell Saul; I have
brought about the death of all the persons of
thy father's house.

כג שְׁבֵה אִתִּי אֶל-תִּירָא, כִּי אֲשֶׁר-יִבְקֶשׂ אֶת-
נַפְשִׁי יִבְקֶשׂ אֶת-נַפְשְׁךָ : כִּי-מִשְׁמֶרֶת אֶתָּה,
עִמָּדִי. { ס }

23 Abide thou with me, fear not; for he that
seeketh my life seeketh thy life; for with me
thou shalt be in safeguard.'

Chapter 23

The risks David is willing to take to save the city of Ke'iyla, and how Hashem helps him

- א** וַיִּגְדּוּ לְדָוִד, לֵאמֹר: הִנֵּה פְּלִשְׁתִּים נֹלְחָמִים בְּקַעֲיֵלָה, וְהֵמָּה שֹׁסִים אֶת-הַגֵּרְנוֹת.
- 1** And they told David, saying: 'Behold, the Philistines are fighting against Keilah, and they rob the threshing-floors.'
- ב** וַיִּשְׁאַל דָּוִד בַּיהוָה, לֵאמֹר, הֲאֵלֶיךָ וְהַפִּיתִי, בְּפִלְשְׁתִּים הָאֵלֶּה; {ס} וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל-דָּוִד, לֵךְ וְהַפִּיתָ בְּפִלְשְׁתִּים, וְהוֹשַׁעְתָּ, אֶת-קַעֲיֵלָה.
- 2** Therefore David inquired of the LORD, saying: 'Shall I go and smite these Philistines?' {S} And the LORD said unto David: 'Go, and smite the Philistines, and save Keilah.'
- ג** וַיֹּאמְרוּ אַנְשֵׁי דָוִד, אֵלָיו, הִנֵּה אֲנַחְנוּ פֹּה בַּיהוּדָה, יִרְאִים; וְאִם כִּי-נֵלְכֶךָ קַעֲלָה, אֶל-מַעְרְכוֹת פְּלִשְׁתִּים. {ס}
- 3** And David's men said unto him: 'Behold, we are afraid here in Judah; how much more then if we go to Keilah against the armies of the Philistines?' {S}
- ד** וַיֹּסֶף עוֹד דָּוִד לְשֹׂאוֹל בַּיהוָה, וַיַּעֲנֶהוּ יְהוָה; וַיֹּאמֶר, קוּם רֵד קַעֲיֵלָה--כִּי-אֲנִי נֹתֵן אֶת-פְּלִשְׁתִּים, בְּיָדְךָ.
- 4** Then David inquired of the LORD yet again. And the LORD answered him and said: 'Arise, go down to Keilah; for I will deliver the Philistines into thy hand.'
- ה** וַיֵּלֶךְ דָּוִד וְאֲנָשָׁיו קַעֲיֵלָה וַיִּלָּחֶם בְּפִלְשְׁתִּים, וַיִּנְהַג אֶת-מִקְנֵיהֶם, וַיַּךְ בָּהֶם, מִכָּה גְדוֹלָה; וַיִּשַׁע דָּוִד, אֶת יִשְׁבֵי קַעֲיֵלָה. {ס}
- 5** And David and his men went to Keilah, and fought with the Philistines, and brought away their cattle, and slew them with a great slaughter. So David saved the inhabitants of Keilah. {S}
- ו** וַיְהִי, בְּבֹרַח אַבְיָתָר בֶּן-אֲחִימֶלֶךְ אֶל-דָּוִד--קַעֲיֵלָה; אֶפֹּד, יָרַד בְּיָדוֹ.
- 6** And it came to pass, when Abiathar the son of Ahimelech fled to David to Keilah, that he came down with an ephod in his hand.
- ז** וַיִּגֵּד לְשֹׂאוֹל, כִּי-בָּא דָּוִד קַעֲיֵלָה; וַיֹּאמֶר שָׂאוֹל, נָפַר אֶתֹּו אֱלֹהִים בְּיָדֵי--כִּי נִסְגַּר לָבוֹא, בְּעִיר דָּלְתִים וּבָרִיחַ.
- 7** And it was told Saul that David was come to Keilah. And Saul said: 'God hath delivered him into my hand; for he is shut in, by entering into a town that hath gates and bars.'
- ח** וַיִּשְׁמַע שָׂאוֹל אֶת-כָּל-הָעָם, לְמַלְחָמָה, לָרֶדֶת קַעֲיֵלָה, לְצוֹר אֶל-דָּוִד וְאֶל-אֲנָשָׁיו.
- 8** And Saul summoned all the people to war, to go down to Keilah, to besiege David and his men.
- ט** וַיֵּדַע דָּוִד--כִּי עָלָיו, שָׂאוֹל מִחֲרִישׁ הַרְעָה; וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-אַבְיָתָר הַכֹּהֵן, הַגִּישָׁה הָאֶפֹּד. {ס}
- 9** And David knew that Saul devised mischief against him; and he said to Abiathar the priest: 'Bring hither the ephod.' {S}
- י** וַיֹּאמֶר, דָּוִד, יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, שָׁמַע שָׁמַע עֲבָדְךָ כִּי-מִבְּקֵשׁ שָׂאוֹל לָבוֹא אֶל-קַעֲיֵלָה--לְשַׁחַת לְעִיר, בְּעִבּוּרֵי.
- 10** Then said David: 'O LORD, the God of Israel, Thy servant hath surely heard that Saul seeketh to come to Keilah, to destroy the city for my sake.'
- יא** הֲיִסְגְּרֵנִי בְּעַלֵי קַעֲיֵלָה בְּיָדוֹ הַיָּרֵד שָׂאוֹל, כִּאֲשֶׁר שָׁמַע עֲבָדְךָ--יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, הֲגֵד-נָא לְעֲבָדְךָ; {ס} וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה, יֵרֵד. {ס}
- 11** Will the men of Keilah deliver me up into his hand? will Saul come down, as Thy servant hath heard?' O LORD, the God of Israel, I beseech Thee, tell Thy servant.' {S} And the LORD said: 'He will come down.' {S}
- יב** וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד--הֲיִסְגְּרוּ בְּעַלֵי קַעֲיֵלָה אֶתִּי וְאֶת-אֲנָשָׁי, בְּיַד-שָׂאוֹל; וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה, יִסְגְּרוּ. {ס}
- 12** Then said David: 'Will the men of Keilah deliver up me and my men into the hand of Saul?' And the LORD said: 'They will deliver thee up.' {S}
- יג** וַיִּקָּם דָּוִד וְאֲנָשָׁיו כֶּשֶׁשׁ-מֵאוֹת אִישׁ, וַיִּצְאוּ מִקַּעֲלָה, וַיִּתְהַלְכוּ, בְּאֲשֶׁר יִתְהַלְכוּ; וּלְשֹׂאוֹל הֲגֵד, כִּי-נִמְלַט דָּוִד מִקַּעֲיֵלָה, וַיִּחְדַּל, לְצֵאתָ.
- 13** Then David and his men, who were about six hundred, arose and departed out of Keilah, and went whithersoever they could go. And it was told Saul that David was escaped from Keilah; and he forbore to go forth.

יד וַיֵּשֶׁב דָּוִד בְּמִדְבָּר בְּמִצְדוֹת, וַיֵּשֶׁב בְּהַר בְּמִדְבָּר-זִיף; וַיִּבְקֹשׂהוּ שָׂאוּל כָּל-הַיָּמִים, וְלֹא-נָתַנוּ אֱלֹהִים בְּיָדוֹ.

14 And David abode in the wilderness in the strongholds, and remained in the hill-country in the wilderness of Ziph. And Saul sought him every day, but God delivered him not into his hand.

טו וַיֵּרָא דָּוִד, כִּי-יֵצֵא שָׂאוּל לְבַקֵּשׁ אֶת-נַפְשׁוֹ; וְדָוִד בְּמִדְבָּר-זִיף, בַּחֲרָשָׁה. {ס}

15 And David saw that Saul was come out to seek his life; and David was in the wilderness of Ziph in the wood. {S}

טז וַיָּקָם יְהוֹנָתָן בֶּן-שָׂאוּל, וַיֵּלֶךְ אֶל-דָּוִד חֲרָשָׁה; וַיַּחֲזֶק אֶת-יָדוֹ, בְּאֱלֹהִים.

16 And Jonathan Saul's son arose, and went to David into the wood, and strengthened his hand in God.

יז וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו אֶל-תִּירָא, כִּי לֹא תִמְצָאָה יָד שָׂאוּל אֹבִי, וְאַתָּה תִּמְלֹךְ עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאַנְכִי אֶהְיֶה-לָּךְ לְמִשְׁנָה; וְגַם-שָׂאוּל אֹבִי, יָדַע כֵּן.

17 And he said unto him: 'Fear not, for the hand of Saul my father shall not find thee; and thou shalt be king over Israel, and I shall be next unto thee; and that also Saul my father knoweth.'

יח וַיַּכְרְתוּ שְׁנֵיהֶם בְּרִית, לִפְנֵי יְהוָה; וַיֵּשֶׁב דָּוִד בַּחֲרָשָׁה, וַיְהוֹנָתָן הָלַךְ לְבֵיתוֹ. {ס}

18 And they two made a covenant before the LORD; and David abode in the wood, and Jonathan went to his house. {S}

יט וַיַּעֲלוּ זִפְיִים אֶל-שָׂאוּל, הַגְּבַעְתָּה לֵאמֹר: הֲלוֹא דָּוִד מְסֻתָּתָר עִמָּנוּ בְּמִצְדוֹת, בַּחֲרָשָׁה--בְּגִבְעַת הַחֲכִילָה, אֲשֶׁר מִיַּמִּין הַיִּשְׁמֹן.

19 Then came up the Ziphites to Saul to Gibeah, saying: 'Doth not David hide himself with us in the strongholds in the wood, in the hill of Hachilah, which is on the south of Jeshimon?'

כ וְעַתָּה לְכָל-אֲנוֹת נַפְשֶׁךָ הַמְּלֹךְ, לָרֶדֶת--רַד; וְלָנוּ הַסְּגִירוֹ, בְּיַד הַמְּלֹךְ.

20 Now therefore, O king, come down, according to all the desire of thy soul to come down; and our part shall be to deliver him up into the king's hand.'

כא וַיֹּאמֶר שָׂאוּל, בְּרוּכִים אַתֶּם לַיהוָה: כִּי חָמַלְתֶּם, עָלַי.

21 And Saul said: 'Blessed be ye of the LORD; for ye have had compassion on me.'

כב לְכוּ-נָא הַכִּינוּ עוֹד, וַדְּעוּ וּרְאוּ אֶת-מְקוֹמוֹ אֲשֶׁר תִּהְיֶה רְגְלוֹ-מִי רָאֵהוּ, שָׁם: כִּי אָמַר אֵלָי, עָרוֹם יַעֲרֹם הוּא.

22 Go, I pray you, make yet more sure, and know and see his place where his haunt is, and who hath seen him there; for it is told me that he dealeth very subtly.

כג וּרְאוּ וַדְּעוּ, מִכָּל הַמְּחַבְּאִים אֲשֶׁר יִתְחַבֵּא שָׁם, וּשְׁבַתְּם אֵלַי אֶל-נְכוֹן, וְהִלַּכְתִּי אַתְּכֶם; וְהָיָה, אִם-יִשְׁנֶנּוּ בְּאֶרֶץ--וְחִפְּשִׁיתִי אֹתוֹ, בְּכָל אֲלָפֵי יְהוּדָה.

23 See therefore, and take knowledge of all the lurking-places where he hideth himself, and come ye back to me with the certainty, and I will go with you; and it shall come to pass, if he be in the land, that I will search him out among all the thousands of Judah.'

כד וַיָּקוּמוּ וַיֵּלְכוּ זִיפָה, לִפְנֵי שָׂאוּל; וְדָוִד וְאֲנָשָׁיו בְּמִדְבָּר מְעוֹן, בְּעֶרְבָה--אֵל, יַמִּין הַיִּשְׁמֹן.

24 And they arose, and went to Ziph before Saul; but David and his men were in the wilderness of Maon, in the Arabah on the south of Jeshimon.

כה וַיֵּלֶךְ שָׂאוּל וְאֲנָשָׁיו, לְבַקֵּשׁ, וַיַּגִּדוּ לְדָוִד, וַיֵּרֶד הַסָּלַע וַיֵּשֶׁב בְּמִדְבָּר מְעוֹן; וַיִּשְׁמַע שָׂאוּל, וַיִּרְדֹּף אַחֲרֵי-דָוִד מְדָבָר מְעוֹן.

25 And Saul and his men went to seek him. And they told David; wherefore he came down to the rock, and abode in the wilderness of Maon. And when Saul heard that, he pursued after David in the wilderness of Maon.

כו וַיֵּלֶךְ שָׂאוּל מִצַּד הַהָר, מִזֶּה, וְדָוִד וְאֲנָשָׁיו מִצַּד הַהָר, מִזֶּה; וַיְהִי דָוִד נֶחֱפָז לְלַקֵּת, מִפְּנֵי שָׂאוּל, וְשָׂאוּל וְאֲנָשָׁיו עֹטְרִים אֶל-דָּוִד וְאֶל-אֲנָשָׁיו, לְתַפְּשֵׁם.

26 And Saul went on this side of the mountain, and David and his men on that side of the mountain; and David made haste to get away for fear of Saul; for Saul and his men compassed David and his men round about to take them.

כז וּמַלְאָךְ בָּא, אֶל-שָׂאוּל לֵאמֹר: מִהָרָה וּלְכָה, פִּי-פָּשְׁטוּ פְּלִשְׁתִּים עַל-הָאָרֶץ.

27 But there came a messenger unto Saul, saying: 'Haste thee, and come; for the Philistines have made a raid upon the land.'

כח וַיָּשָׁב שָׁאוּל, מִרְדֹּף אַחֲרֵי דָוִד, וַיֵּלֶךְ, לְקִרְיַת
פְּלִשְׁתִּים; עַל-כֵּן, קָרְאוּ לַמָּקוֹם הַהוּא, סֶלַע, הַמְּחַלְקוֹת.

28 So Saul returned from pursuing after David, and went against the Philistines; therefore they called that place Sela-hammahlekoth.

כט וַיַּעַל דָּוִד, מִשָּׁם; וַיֵּשֶׁב, בְּמִצְדוֹת עֵין-גֵּדִי. {ס}

29 And David went up from thence, and dwelt in the strongholds of En-gedi.

Chapter 24

David has a “Divine” opportunity to kill Shaul in the cave, note his “Hashkafa” vs. his men
[Note as well his “migo” – when later showing Shaul the piece of his coat]

ד וַיֹּאמְרוּ אַנְשֵׁי דָוִד אֵלָיו, הֲנֵה הַיּוֹם אֲשֶׁר-אָמַר יְהוָה אֵלֶיךָ
הֲנֵה אֲנֹכִי נֹתֵן אֶת-אֵיבֶיךָ (אֵיבֶדְךָ) בְּיָדְךָ, וְעָשִׂיתָ לוֹ, כַּאֲשֶׁר
יִטֵּב בְּעֵינֶיךָ; וַיִּקָּם דָּוִד, וַיִּכְרֹת אֶת-כַּנְּף-הַמְּעִיל אֲשֶׁר-
לְשָׁאוּל--בְּלֵט.

4 And the men of David said unto him: 'Behold the day in which the LORD hath said unto thee: Behold, I will deliver thine enemy into thy hand, and thou shalt do to him as it shall seem good unto thee.' Then David arose, and cut off the skirt of Saul's robe privily.

ה וַיְהִי, אַחֲרֵי-כֵן, וַיָּבֶלֶב דָּוִד, אֶת-
עַל אֲשֶׁר כָּרַת, אֶת-כַּנְּף אֲשֶׁר לְשָׁאוּל.

5 And it came to pass afterward, that David's heart smote him, because he had cut off Saul's skirt.

ו וַיֹּאמֶר לְאַנְשָׁיו חֲלִילָה לִי מִיְהוָה, אִם-אֶעֱשֶׂה אֶת-הַדְּבָר הַזֶּה לְאֹדְנִי
לְמֹשִׁיחַ יְהוָה--לְשַׁלַּח יָדִי, בּוֹ: **כִּי-מֹשִׁיחַ יְהוָה, הוּא.**

6 And he said unto his men: 'The LORD forbid it me, that I should do this thing unto my lord, the LORD'S anointed, to put forth my hand against him, seeing he is the LORD'S anointed.'

ז וַיִּשְׁסַע דָּוִד אֶת-אַנְשָׁיו בַּדְּבָרִים, וְלֹא נִתְּנָם לְקוֹם אֶל-
שָׁאוּל; וְשָׁאוּל קָם מִהַמְּעָרָה, וַיֵּלֶךְ בַּדֶּרֶךְ. {ס}

7 So David checked his men with these words, and suffered them not to rise against Saul. And Saul rose up out of the cave, and went on his way. {S}

ט וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד לְשָׁאוּל, לָמָּה תִּשְׁמַע אֶת-דְּבָרֵי אָדָם לֵאמֹר: הֲנֵה
דָּוִד, מִבְּקֵשׁ רָעָתְךָ.

9 And David said to Saul: 'Wherefore hearkenest thou to men's words, saying: Behold, David seeketh thy hurt?'

י הֲנֵה הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה רָאוּ עֵינַיְךָ, אֶת אֲשֶׁר-נִתְּנָה יְהוָה הַיּוֹם בְּיָדִי
בְּמְעָרָה, וְאָמַר לְהַרְגֶּךָ, וַתַּחֲסֵם עָלַי; וְאָמַר, לֹא-אֶשְׁלַח יָדִי בְּאֹדְנִי--
כִּי-מֹשִׁיחַ יְהוָה, הוּא.

10 Behold, this day thine eyes have seen how that the LORD had delivered thee to-day into my hand in the cave; and some bade me kill thee; but mine eye spared thee; and I said: I will not put forth my hand against my lord; for he is the LORD'S anointed.

יא וְאָבִי רָאָה--גַּם רָאָה אֶת-כַּנְּף מְעִילָךְ, בְּיָדִי: כִּי בָכַרְתִּי אֶת-כַּנְּף
מְעִילָךְ וְלֹא הִרְגַתִּיךָ, דַּע וּרְאָה כִּי אֵין בְּיָדִי רָעָה וּפְשַׁע וְלֹא-חַטָּאתִי
לָךְ--וְאֵתָה צַדָּה אֶת-נַפְשִׁי, לְקַחְתָּהּ.

11 Moreover, my father, see, yea, see the skirt of thy robe in my hand; for in that I cut off the skirt of thy robe, and killed thee not, know thou and see that there is neither evil nor transgression in my hand, and I have not sinned against thee, though thou layest wait for my soul to take it.

יב יִשְׁפֹּט יְהוָה בֵּינִי וּבֵינֶךָ, וַיִּנְקַמְנִי יְהוָה מִמֶּנִּי; וַיְדִי, לֹא תִהְיֶה-בָּךְ.

12 The LORD judge between me and thee, and the LORD avenge me of thee; but my hand shall not be upon thee.

יג כַּאֲשֶׁר יֹאמֶר, מִשַּׁל הַקְּדָמְנִי, מִרְשָׁעִים, יֵצֵא רָשַׁע; וַיְדִי, לֹא
תִהְיֶה-בָּךְ.

13 As saith the proverb of the ancients: Out of the wicked cometh forth wickedness; but my hand shall not be upon thee.

יד אַחֲרַי מִי יֵצֵא מֶלֶךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל, אַחֲרַי מִי אֵתָה רֹדֵף: אַחֲרַי כָּלֵב מֵת, אַחֲרַי
פְּרַעַשׁ אַחָד.

14 After whom is the king of Israel come out? after whom dost thou pursue? after a dead dog, after a flea.

טו וְהָיָה יְהוָה לְדִין, וְשִׁפֹּט בֵּינִי וּבֵינֶךָ;
וַיֵּרָא וַיָּרֵב אֶת-רִיבִי, וַיִּשְׁפֹּטֵנִי מִיָּדְךָ. {פ}

15 The LORD therefore be judge, and give sentence between me and thee, and see, and plead my cause, and deliver me

טז וַיְהִי כְּכַלּוֹת דָּוִד, לְדַבֵּר אֶת-הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה אֶל-שָׁאוּל, וַיֹּאמֶר שָׁאוּל, הֲקִלָּךְ זֶה בְּנִי דָוִד; וַיִּשָּׂא שָׁאוּל קִלּוֹ, וַיִּבְדָּ.

16 And it came to pass, when David had made an end of speaking these words unto Saul, that Saul said: 'Is this thy voice, my son David?' And Saul lifted up his voice, and wept.

יז וַיֹּאמֶר, אֶל-דָּוִד, צְדִיק אַתָּה, מִמֶּנִּי: כִּי אַתָּה גִמַּלְתִּנִּי הַטּוֹבָה, וְאֲנִי גִמַּלְתִּיךָ הַרְעָה.

17 And he said to David: 'Thou art more righteous than I; for thou hast rendered unto me good, whereas I have rendered unto thee evil.

יח וְאַתָּה הַגִּדְתָּ הַיּוֹם, אֵת אֲשֶׁר-עָשִׂיתָ אֵתִי טוֹבָה--אֵת אֲשֶׁר סָגַרְנִי יְהוָה בְּיָדְךָ, וְלֹא הִרְגִיתָנִי.

18 And thou hast declared this day how that thou hast dealt well with me; forasmuch as when the LORD had delivered me up into thy hand, thou didst not kill me.

יט וְכִי-יִמְצָא אִישׁ אֶת-אִיבּוֹ, וְשָׁלְחוֹ בְּדֶרֶךְ טוֹבָה; וַיְהוֶה, יִשְׁלַמְךָ טוֹבָה, תַּחַת הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה, אֲשֶׁר עָשִׂיתָ לִּי.

19 For if a man find his enemy, will he let him go well away? wherefore the LORD reward thee good for that which thou hast done unto me this day.

כ וְעַתָּה הִנֵּה יָדַעְתִּי, כִּי מֶלֶךְ תִּמְלֹךְ; וְקָמָה, בְּיָדְךָ, מִמְּלַכְתּוֹ, יִשְׂרָאֵל.

20 And now, behold, I know that thou shalt surely be king, and that the kingdom of Israel shall be established in thy hand.

כא וְעַתָּה, הַשְּׁבַעָה לִּי בַיְהוָה, אִם-תִּכְרִית אֶת-זַרְעִי, אַחֲרָי; וְאִם-תִּשְׁמִיד אֶת-שְׁמִי, מִבַּיִת אָבִי.

21 Swear now therefore unto me by the LORD, that thou wilt not cut off my seed after me, and that thou wilt not destroy my name out of my father's house.'

Chapter 25

Why is David still afraid of Shaul, and why does he hide far away in Paaran Wilderness Davka – after the death of Shmuel. [Did both David & Shaul attend the funeral?]

Was David's behavior correct?

Note how Avigayil convinces David why NOT to avenge Naval....

Why this story is important to the theme of the book,

Note Avigayil keeps 'the last name' of her first husband (in our book) !

Chapter 26

Similar story to chapter 24 - note David knows the terrain much better than Shaul!

Note again David's "hashkafa"

ח וַיֹּאמֶר אַבִּישַׁי אֶל-דָּוִד, סַגַּר אֱלֹהִים הַיּוֹם אֶת-אוֹיְבֶךָ בְּיָדְךָ; וְעַתָּה אֲכַנּוּ נָא בַּחֲנִית וּבָאֲרֶךְ, פַּעַם אַחַת, וְלֹא אֲשָׁנָה, לוֹ.

8 Then said Abishai to David: 'God hath delivered up thine enemy into thy hand this day; now therefore let me smite him, I pray thee, with the spear to the earth at one stroke, and I will not smite him the second time.'

ט וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-אַבִּישַׁי, אֵל-תִּשְׁחִיתֵהוּ: כִּי מִי שָׁלַח יָדוֹ, בְּמִשְׁיַח יְהוָה--וְנִקָּה. {פ}

9 And David said to Abishai: 'Destroy him not; for who can put forth his hand against the LORD'S anointed, and be guiltless?' {P}

י וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד חִי-יְהוָה, כִּי אִם-יְהוָה יִגְפְּנּוּ; או-יּוֹמוּ יָבוֹא וְיָמַת, אוּ בַמִּלְחָמָה יִרָד וְנִסְפָּה.

10 And David said: 'As the LORD liveth, nay, but the LORD shall smite him; or his day shall come to die; or he shall go down into battle, and be swept away.

יא חָלִילָה לִּי מִיְהוָה, מִשְׁלַח יָדִי בְּמִשְׁיַח יְהוָה; וְעַתָּה קַח-נָא אֶת-הַחֲנִית אֲשֶׁר מֵרָאשָׁתּוֹ, וְאֶת-צִפְחַת הַמַּיִם--וְנִלְכָה-לָנוּ.

11 The LORD forbid it me, that I should put forth my hand against the LORD'S anointed; but now take, I pray thee, the spear that is at his head, and the cruse of water and let us go.'

יב וַיִּקַּח דָּוִד אֶת-הַחֲנִית וְאֶת-צַפְחַת הַפַּיִם,
מִרְאֲשֵׁי שָׁאוּל, וַיֵּלְכוּ, לָהֶם; וַאֲיִן רָאָה וַאֲיִן יוֹדַע
וַאֲיִן מְקִיץ, כִּי כָלָם יִשְׁנִים--כִּי תִרְדַּמְתַּם יְהוָה,
נִפְלָה עֲלֵיהֶם.

12 So David took the spear and the cruse of water from Saul's head; and they got them away, and no man saw it, nor knew it, neither did any awake; for they were all asleep; because a deep sleep from the LORD was fallen upon them.

Chapter 27

Note why David decides to 'run away' to the Plishtim [Achish King of Gat]
And why Shaul decides there is no longer a need to chase him.

SHMUEL BET

Chapter 2 after death of Shaul, David & his men move to Hebron, now King of Yehuda!

ה וַיִּשְׁלַח דָּוִד מַלְאָכִים, אֶל-אֲנָשֵׁי יַבִּישׁ
גִּלְעָד; וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵיהֶם, בְּרַכִּים אַתֶּם
לַיהוָה, אֲשֶׁר עָשִׂיתֶם הַחֶסֶד הַזֶּה עִם-
אֲדֹנֵיכֶם עִם-שָׁאוּל, וַתִּקְבְּרוּ אֹתוֹ.

5 And David sent messengers unto the men of Jabesh-gilead, and said unto them: 'Blessed be ye of the LORD, that ye have shown this kindness unto your lord, even unto Saul, and have buried him.

ו וְעַתָּה, יַעַשׂ-יְהוָה עִמָּכֶם חֶסֶד וְאֶמֶת;
וְגַם אֲנֹכִי, אֶעֱשֶׂה אִתְּכֶם הַטּוֹבָה הַזֹּאת,
אֲשֶׁר עָשִׂיתֶם, הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה.

6 And now the LORD show kindness and truth unto you; and I also will requite you this kindness, because ye have done this thing.

ז וְעַתָּה תַחֲזִקְנָה יְדֵיכֶם, וְהָיוּ לְבָנֵי-חַיִל-
כִּי-מָת, אֲדֹנֵיכֶם שָׁאוּל; וְגַם-אֹתִי,
מִשְׁחוּ בֵּית-יְהוּדָה לְמֶלֶךְ--עֲלֵיהֶם. {פ}

7 Now therefore let your hands be strong, and be ye valiant; for Saul your lord is dead, and also the house of Judah have anointed me king over them.' {P}

ח וַאֲבִנֵר בֶּן-נֵר, שָׂר-צָבָא אֲשֶׁר לְשָׁאוּל--
לָקַח, אֶת-אִישׁ בִּשְׁתַּבֵּן שָׁאוּל, וַיַּעֲבֵרְהוּ,
מַחֲנֵים.

8 Now Abner the son of Ner, captain of Saul's host, had taken Ish-bosheth the son of Saul, and brought him over to Mahanaim;

ט וַיַּמְלִכֵהוּ, אֶל-הַגִּלְעָד, וְאֶל-הָאֲשׁוּרִי,
וְאֶל-יִזְרְעֵאל; וְעַל-אֶפְרַיִם, וְעַל-בִּנְיָמִן,
וְעַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, כֻּלָּה. {פ}

9 and he made him king over Gilead, and over the Ashurites, and over Jezreel, and over Ephraim, and over Benjamin, and over all Israel.

Chapter 3 – The attempt to make a treaty with Avner to unite the nation

יז וַדַּבֵּר-אֲבִנֵר הָיָה, עִם-זִקְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל
לֵאמֹר: גַּם-תָּמוּל, גַּם-שָׁלְשָׁם, הָיִיתֶם
מִבְּקָשִׁים אֶת-דָּוִד לְמֶלֶךְ, עֲלֵיכֶם.

17 And Abner had communication with the elders of Israel, saying: 'In times past ye sought for David to be king over you;

יח וְעַתָּה, עֲשׂוּ: כִּי יְהוָה, אָמַר אֶל-

18 now then do it; for the LORD hath

דָּוִד לֵאמֹר, בְּיַד דָּוִד עֲבָדִי הוֹשִׁיעַ אֶת-
עַמִּי יִשְׂרָאֵל מִיַּד פְּלִשְׁתִּים, וּמִיַּד כָּל-
אֹיְבֵיהֶם.

spoken of David, saying: By the hand of
My servant David I will save My people
Israel out of the hand of the Philistines,
and out of the hand of all their enemies.'

יט וַיְדַבֵּר גַּם-אַבְנֵר, בְּאָזְנֵי בְנֵימִין;
וַיֵּלֶךְ גַּם-אַבְנֵר, לְדַבֵּר בְּאָזְנֵי דָוִד
בְּחֶבְרוֹן, אֵת כָּל-אֲשֶׁר-טוֹב בְּעֵינֵי
יִשְׂרָאֵל, וּבְעֵינֵי כָל-בֵּית בְּנֵימִן.

19 And Abner also spoke in the ears of
Benjamin; and Abner went also to speak
in the ears of David in Hebron all that
seemed good to Israel, and to the whole
house of Benjamin.

כ וַיָּבֹא אַבְנֵר אֶל-דָּוִד חֶבְרוֹן, וְאִתּוֹ
עֲשָׂרִים אַנְשִׁים; וַיַּעַשׂ דָּוִד לְאַבְנֵר
וּלְאַנְשֵׁים אֲשֶׁר-אִתּוֹ, מִשְׁתֶּה.

20 So Abner came to David to Hebron,
and twenty men with him. And David
made Abner and the men that were with
him a feast.

כא וַיֹּאמֶר אַבְנֵר אֶל-דָּוִד אַקוּמָה
וְאֵלְכָה וְאֶקְבְּצָה אֶל-אֲדֹנָי הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-
כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, וַיִּכְרַתוּ אִתְּךָ בְרִית,
וּמְלַכְתָּ, בְּכָל אֲשֶׁר-תִּתְאוּהָ נַפְשְׁךָ;
וַיִּשְׁלַח דָּוִד אֶת-אַבְנֵר, וַיֵּלֶךְ בְּשָׁלוֹם.

21 And Abner said unto David: 'I will
arise and go, and will gather all Israel
unto my lord the king, that they may
make a covenant with thee, and that thou
mayest reign over all that thy soul
desireth.' And David sent Abner away;
and he went in peace.

כב וְהִנֵּה עֲבָדֵי דָוִד וַיּוֹאֵב בָּא מִהַגְדוּד,
וְשָׁלַל רַב עִמָּם הֵבִיאוּ; וְאַבְנֵר, אֵינְנו
עִם-דָּוִד בְּחֶבְרוֹן--כִּי שָׁלְחוֹ, וַיֵּלֶךְ
בְּשָׁלוֹם.

22 And, behold, the servants of David
and Joab came from a foray, and brought
in a great spoil with them; but Abner
was not with David in Hebron; for he
had sent him away, and he was gone in
peace.

כג וַיּוֹאֵב וְכָל-הַצָּבָא אֲשֶׁר-אִתּוֹ, בָּאוּ;
וַיִּגְדּוּ לַיּוֹאֵב, לֵאמֹר, בָּא-אַבְנֵר בֶּן-נֵר
אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, וַיִּשְׁלַחְהוּ וַיֵּלֶךְ בְּשָׁלוֹם.

23 When Joab and all the host that was
with him were come, they told Joab,
saying: 'Abner the son of Ner came to
the king, and he hath sent him away, and
he is gone in peace.'

כד וַיָּבֹא יוֹאֵב אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, וַיֹּאמֶר מָה
עָשִׂיתָה: הִנֵּה-בָא אַבְנֵר אֶלְיָךְ, לָמָה-
זֶה שָׁלַחְתָּ וַיֵּלֶךְ הַלּוֹךְ.

24 Then Joab came to the king, and said:
'What hast thou done? behold, Abner
came unto thee; why is it that thou hast
sent him away, and he is quite gone?

כה יָדַעְתָּ אֶת-אַבְנֵר בֶּן-נֵר, כִּי לְפָתַתְךָ
בָּא; וְלָדַעַת אֶת-מוֹצְאָךְ, וְאֶת-מְבוֹאֲךָ
(מוֹבְאָךְ), וְלָדַעַת, אֵת כָּל-אֲשֶׁר אַתָּה
עוֹשֶׂה.

25 Thou knowest Abner the son of Ner,
that he came to deceive thee, and to
know thy going out and thy coming in,
and to know all that thou doest.'

כו וַיֵּצֵא יוֹאֵב, מֵעַם דָּוִד, וַיִּשְׁלַח

26 And when Joab was come out from

מִלְאָכִים אַחֲרֵי אַבְנֵר, וַיָּשִׁבוּ אֹתוֹ
מִבּוֹר הַסָּרָה; וְדָוִד, לֹא יָדָע.

David, he sent messengers after Abner, and they brought him back from Bor-sirah; but David knew it not.

כז וַיָּשָׁב אַבְנֵר, חֶבְרוֹן, וַיִּטְהוּ יוֹאָב
אֶל-תּוֹךְ הַשַּׁעַר, לְדַבֵּר אִתּוֹ בְּשָׁלִי;
וַיִּכְהוּ שָׁם, הַחֹמֶשׁ--וַיָּמָת, בְּדָם
עֲשָׂהאֵל אָחִיו.

27 And when Abner was returned to Hebron, Joab took him aside into the midst of the gate to speak with him quietly, and smote him there in the groin, that he died, for the blood of Asahel his brother.

כח וַיִּשְׁמַע דָּוִד, מֵאַחֲרֵי כֵן, וַיֹּאמֶר
נְקִי אֲנֹכִי וּמַמְלַכְתִּי מֵעַם יְהוָה, עַד-
עוֹלָם--מִדְּמֵי, אַבְנֵר בֶּן-נֵר.

28 And afterward when David heard it, he said: 'I and my kingdom are guiltless before the LORD for ever from the blood of Abner the son of Ner;

כט יִחְלוּ עַל-רֹאשׁ יוֹאָב, וְאֵל כָּל-בַּיִת
אָבִיו; וְאֵל-יִכְרַת מִבַּיִת יוֹאָב זָב
וּמִצָּרַע וּמִחֲזִיק בַּפֶּלֶךְ, וְנֹפֵל בַּחֶרֶב--
וְחֹסֵר-לֶחֶם.

29 let it fall upon the head of Joab, and upon all his father's house; and let there not fail from the house of Joab one that hath an issue, or that is a leper, or that leaneth on a staff, or that falleth by the sword, or that lacketh bread.'

ל וַיּוֹאָב וְאַבִּישַׁי אָחִיו, הֲרִגוּ לְאַבְנֵר:
עַל אֲשֶׁר הִמִּית אֶת-עֲשָׂהאֵל אָחִיהֶם,
בְּגִבְעוֹן--בַּמִּלְחָמָה. {ס}

30 So Joab and Abishai his brother slew Abner, because he had killed their

לא וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-יוֹאָב וְאֵל-כָּל-
הָעָם אֲשֶׁר-אִתּוֹ, קִרְעוּ בְּגָדֵיכֶם וְחַגְרוּ
שָׁקִים, וְסַפְדוּ, לִפְנֵי אַבְנֵר; וְהַמְלִךְ
דָּוִד, הִלֵּךְ אַחֲרֵי הַמָּטָה.

31 And David said to Joab, and to all the people that were with him: 'Rend your clothes, and gird you with sackcloth, and wail before Abner.' And king David followed the bier.

לב וַיִּקְבְּרוּ אֶת-אַבְנֵר, בְּחֶבְרוֹן; וַיִּשָּׂא
הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-קוֹלוֹ, וַיִּבֶן אֶל-קֶבֶר אַבְנֵר,
וַיִּבְכוּ, כָּל-הָעָם. {ס}

32 And they buried Abner in Hebron; and the king lifted up his voice, and wept at the grave of Abner; and all the people wept. {S}

לג וַיִּקְנֶן הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל-אַבְנֵר, וַיֹּאמֶר:
הַכְּמוֹת נָבֵל, יָמוּת אַבְנֵר.

33 And the king lamented for Abner, and said: Should Abner die as a churl dieth?