

**CAN YOU ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS?**

1. Describe the attitude of the members of the community of Ziph towards David.
2. Describe the attitude of Nabal of Carmel and his wife towards David.
3. What prompted Saul to go to the medium of Ein-Dor?
4. Describe the death of Saul.
5. How did David become the king over all of Israel?

This and much more will be addressed in the eighth lecture of this series: "**David (*Dovid HaMelech*): Saint and Scholar**".

To derive maximum benefit from this lecture, keep these questions in mind as you listen to the lecture and read through the outline. Go back to these questions once again at the end of the lecture and see how well you answer them.

PLEASE NOTE: This outline and source book were designed as a powerful tool to help you appreciate and understand the basis of Jewish History. Although the lectures can be listened to without the use of the outline, we advise you to read the outline to enhance your comprehension. Use it, as well, as a handy reference guide and for quick review.

**This lecture is dedicated to the honor and merit of the Brin Family**

THE EPIC OF THE ETERNAL PEOPLE  
Presented by Rabbi Shmuel Irons

Series XVI Lecture #8

DAVID (*DOVID HAMELECH*): SAINT AND SCHOLAR

I. In Pursuit of David

A.

וַיִּקָּם יְהוֹנָתָן בֶּן שָׁאוּל וַיֵּלֶךְ אֶל דָּוִד הַרְשָׁה וַיִּחַזַּק אֶת יָדוֹ בָּא—לְהִימָן: וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו אֵל תִּירָא כִּי לֹא תִמְצָאָךְ יַד שָׁאוּל אָבִי וְאַתָּה תִּמְלֹךְ עַל יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאַנְכִי אֶהְיֶה לְךָ לְמִשְׁנָה וְגַם שָׁאוּל אָבִי יָדַע כֵּן: וַיִּכְרְתוּ שְׁנֵיהֶם בְּרִית לִפְנֵי ד' וַיָּשֶׁב דָּוִד בַּחֲרָשָׁה וַיְהוֹנָתָן הָלַךְ לְבֵיתוֹ: שְׁמוּאֵל א כג:טז-יח

And Jonathan, Saul's son, arose, and went to David into the wood, and strengthened his hand in G-d. - And he said to him, Fear not; for the hand of Saul my father shall not find you; - and you shall be king over Israel, and I shall be next to you; - and that also Saul my father knows. - And they two made a covenant before the L-rd; and David stayed in the wood, and Jonathan went to his house. **Samuel I 23:16-18**

B.

וַיֵּלֶךְ שָׁאוּל וְאֲנָשָׁיו לְבַקֵּשׁ וַיִּגְדּוּ לְדָוִד וַיִּרְדּוּ הַסָּלַע וַיָּשֶׁב בְּמִדְבָּר מְעוֹן וַיִּשְׁמַע שָׁאוּל וַיִּרְדֹּף אַחֲרָיו דָּוִד מִדְּבַר מְעוֹן: וַיֵּלֶךְ שָׁאוּל מִצַּד הַהָר וְדָוִד וְאֲנָשָׁיו מִצַּד הַהָר מִזֶּה וַיְהִי דָוִד נֹחֵץ לְלַכֵּת מִפְּנֵי שָׁאוּל וְשָׁאוּל וְאֲנָשָׁיו עֹטְרִים אֶל דָּוִד וְאֵל אֲנָשָׁיו לְתַפְשׂוֹם: וּמִלְאָךְ בָּא אֶל שָׁאוּל לְאֹמַר מִהֲרָה וְלָכֶה כִּי פִשְׁטוּ פְלִשְׁתִּים עַל הָאָרֶץ: וַיָּשֶׁב שָׁאוּל מִרְדֹּף אַחֲרָיו דָּוִד וַיֵּלֶךְ לְקִרְאֵת פְּלִשְׁתִּים עַל כֵּן קָרְאוּ לְמָקוֹם הַהוּא סָלַע הַמְחַלְקוֹת: וַיַּעַל דָּוִד מִשָּׁם וַיָּשֶׁב בְּמִצְדוֹת עֵין גְּדִי: שְׁמוּאֵל א כג:כה-כט

And Saul and his men went to seek him. - And they told David; therefore he came down into a rock, and stayed in the wilderness of Maon. And when Saul heard that, he pursued after David in the wilderness of Maon. 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 surrounded David and his men to capture them. - And there came a messenger to Saul, saying, Hurry, and come; for the Philistines have invaded the land. And Saul returned from pursuing after David, and went against the Philistines; therefore they called that place Sela-Hammahlekoth. And David went up from there, and stayed in fortresses at Ein-Gedi. **Samuel I 23:25-29**

C.

וַיְהִי כַּאֲשֶׁר שָׁב שָׁאוּל מֵאַחֲרֵי פְלִשְׁתִּים וַיִּגְדּוּ לוֹ לְאֹמַר הִנֵּה דָוִד בְּמִדְבָּר עֵין גְּדִי: וַיִּקַּח שָׁאוּל שְׁלֹשׁת אֲלָפִים אִישׁ בַּחֹר מִכָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיֵּלֶךְ לְבַקֵּשׁ אֶת דָּוִד וְאֲנָשָׁיו עַל פְּנֵי צוּרֵי הַיַּעֲלִים: וַיָּבֵא אֶל גְּדֵרוֹת הַצֹּאן עַל הַדְּרֹךְ וְשָׁם מָעְרָה וַיָּבֵא שָׁאוּל לְהִסָּד אֶת רַגְלָיו וְדָוִד וְאֲנָשָׁיו בִּירְכֹתֵי הַמְּעָרָה יֹשְׁבִים: וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֲנָשֵׁי דָוִד אֵלָיו הִנֵּה הַיּוֹם אֲשֶׁר אָמַר ד' אֵלָיךְ הִנֵּה אֲנִי נֹתֵן אֶת אִיבֶךָ בְּיָדְךָ וְעֲשִׂיתָ לוֹ כַּאֲשֶׁר יִטֵּב בְּעֵינֶיךָ וַיִּקָּם דָּוִד וַיִּכְרֹת אֶת כַּנָּף הַמְּעִיל אֲשֶׁר לְשָׁאוּל בְּלֹט: וַיְהִי אַחֲרָיו כֵּן וַיֵּד לֵב דָּוִד אֲתוֹ עַל אֲשֶׁר כָּרַת אֶת כַּנָּף אֲשֶׁר לְשָׁאוּל: וַיֹּאמֶר לְאֲנָשָׁיו חָלִילָה לִּי מִד' אִם אֶעֱשֶׂה אֶת הַדְּבָר הַזֶּה לְאֹדְנִי לְמֹשִׁיחַ ד' לְשִׁלַּח יָדִי בּוֹ כִּי מֹשִׁיחַ ד' הוּא: וַיִּשְׁסַע דָּוִד אֶת אֲנָשָׁיו בְּדַבְרֵים וְלֹא נִתְּנָם לְקוֹם אֶל שָׁאוּל וְשָׁאוּל קָם מִהַמְּעָרָה וַיֵּלֶךְ בְּדָרֶךְ: וַיִּקָּם דָּוִד אַחֲרָיו כֵּן וַיֵּצֵא מִהַמְּעָרָה וַיִּקְרָא אַחֲרָיו שָׁאוּל לְאֹמַר אֲדֹנָי הַמְּלֹךְ וַיִּבֹט שָׁאוּל אַחֲרָיו וַיִּקַּד דָּוִד אַפָּיִם אֲרָצָה וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוֶה: וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד לְשָׁאוּל לְמָה תִּשְׁמַע אֶת דְּבָרֵי אָדָם לְאֹמַר הִנֵּה דָוִד מִבְּקֶשׁ רַעְתָּךְ: הִנֵּה הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה רָאוּ עֵינֶיךָ אֶת אֲשֶׁר נִתְּנָךְ ד' | הַיּוֹם | בְּיָדִי בְּמְעָרָה וְאֹמַר לְהַרְגֶךָ וְתַחֵס עָלֶיךָ וְאֹמַר

לֹא אֶשְׁלַח יָדַי בְּאֹדְנַי כִּי מְשִׁיחַ ד' הוּא: וְאָבִי רָאָה גַם רָאָה אֶת כִּנְּף מְעִילָךְ בְּיָדַי כִּי בִכְרָתִי אֶת כִּנְּף מְעִילָךְ וְלֹא הִרְגַתִּיךָ דַּע וּרְאָה כִּי אֵין בְּיָדַי רֶעָה וּפְשַׁע וְלֹא חָטָאתִי לָךְ וְאַתָּה צָדָה אֶת נַפְשִׁי לְקַחְתָּהּ: יִשְׁפֹּט ד' בֵּינִי וּבֵינֶךָ וּנְקַמְנִי ד' מִמֶּךָ וַיְדִי לֹא תִהְיֶה בָּךְ: כַּאֲשֶׁר יֹאמֵר מִשַׁל הַקְּדַמְנִי מִרְשָׁעִים יֵצֵא רִשְׁע וַיְדִי לֹא תִהְיֶה בָּךְ: אַחֲרֵי מִי יֵצֵא מִלֶּךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל אַחֲרֵי מִי אֶתָּה רִדְף אַחֲרַי כָּלֵב מִת אַחֲרַי פָּרַעַשׁ אַחָד: וְהִיָּה ד' לְדִין וְשֹׁפֵט בֵּינִי וּבֵינֶךָ וַיִּרְא וַיִּרְב אֶת רִיבֵי וַיִּשְׁפֹּטֵנִי מִיָּדָךְ: וַיְהִי | כְּכֹלֹת דָּוִד לְדַבֵּר אֶת הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה אֶל שָׁאוּל וַיֹּאמֶר שָׁאוּל הַקֶּלֶךְ זֶה בְּנֵי דָוִד וַיִּשָּׂא שָׁאוּל קִלּוֹ וַיִּבְכֶּךָ: וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל דָּוִד צִדִּיק אַתָּה מִמֶּנִּי כִּי אַתָּה גִּמְלַתְנִי הַטּוֹבָה וְאֲנִי גִּמְלַתִּיךָ הָרָעָה: וְאַתָּה הִגַּדְתָּ הַיּוֹם אֶת אֲשֶׁר עָשִׂיתָ אֵתִי טוֹבָה אֶת אֲשֶׁר סָגַרְנִי ד' בְּיָדְךָ וְלֹא הִרְגַתְנִי: וְכִי יִמְצָא אִישׁ אֶת אֵיבּוֹ וְשָׁלְחוֹ בְּדַרְךְ טוֹבָה וְד' יִשְׁלַמְךָ טוֹבָה תַּחַת הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר עָשִׂיתָ לִּי: וְעַתָּה הִנֵּה יַדְעִתִּי כִּי מִלֶּךְ תִּמְלֹךְ וְקָמָה בְּיָדְךָ מַמְלַכַת יִשְׂרָאֵל: וְעַתָּה הַשְׁבֵּעָה לִּי בַד' אִם תִּכְרִית אֶת זְרַעִי אַחֲרַי וְאִם תִּשְׁמִיד אֶת שְׁמִי מִבֵּית אָבִי: וַיִּשְׁבַּע דָּוִד לְשָׁאוּל וַיִּלְךָ שָׁאוּל אֶל בֵּיתוֹ וְדָוִד וְאֲנָשָׁיו עָלוּ עַל הַמְּצוּדָה: שְׁמוּאֵל א כד-א-כב

And it came to pass, when Saul returned from following the Philistines, that it was told him, saying, Behold, David is in the wilderness of Ein-Gedi. Then Saul took three thousand chosen men from all Israel, and went to seek David and his men upon the rocks of the wild goats. And he came to the sheepfolds (pens) by the way, where there was a cave; and Saul went in to relieve himself; and David and his men remained in the back of the cave. - And the men of David said to him, Behold the day of which the L-rd said to you, Behold, I will deliver your enemy into your hand, that you may do to him as it shall seem good in your eyes. Then David arose, and cut off the skirt of Saul's robe secretly. And it came to pass afterward, that David's heart struck him, because he had cut off Saul's skirt. - And he said to his men, The L-rd forbid that I should do this thing to my master, the L-rd's anointed, to stretch forth my hand against him, seeing he is the anointed of the L-rd. So David scolded his servants with these words, and did not allow them to rise against Saul. And Saul rose up from the cave, and went on his way. David also arose afterward, and went out of the cave, and cried after Saul, saying, My lord the king. And when Saul looked behind him, David stooped with his face to the earth, and bowed. And David said to Saul, Why did you listen to men's words, saying, Behold, David seeks your hurt? Behold, this day your eyes have seen how the L-rd had delivered you today into my hand in the cave; and some told me to kill you; but my eye spared you; and I said, I will not put forth my hand against my lord; for he is the L-rd's anointed. Moreover, my father, see, indeed see the skirt of your robe in my hand; for in that I cut off the skirt of your robe, and killed you not, know you and see that there is neither evil nor transgression in my hand, and I have not sinned against you; yet you hunt my soul to take it. The L-rd judge between me and you, and the L-rd avenge me of you; but my hand shall not be upon you. As the proverb of the ancients says, Wickedness proceeds from the wicked; but my hand shall not be upon you. After whom has the king of Israel come out? After whom do you pursue? After a dead dog, after a flea. The L-rd therefore be judge, and judge between me and you, and see, and plead my cause, and deliver me from your hand. And it came to pass, when David had finished speaking these words to Saul, that Saul said, Is this your voice, my son David? And Saul lifted up his voice, and wept. And he said to David, You are more righteous than I; for you have rewarded me good, - while I have rewarded you evil. And you have shown this day how you have dealt well with me; because when the L-rd had delivered me into your hand, you did not kill me. For if a man finds his enemy, will he let him go well away? Therefore the L-rd reward you good for what you have done to me this day. And now, behold, I know well that you shall surely be king, and that the kingdom of Israel shall be established in your hand. - Swear now therefore to me by the L-rd, that you will not cut off my seed after me, and that you will not destroy my name from my father's house. And David swore to Saul. And Saul went home; - but David and his men went up to the fortress. **Samuel I 24:1-22**

D.

וַיָּמָת שְׁמוּאֵל וַיִּקְבְּצוּ כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיִּסְפְּדוּ לוֹ וַיִּקְבְּרוּהוּ בְּבֵיתוֹ בְּרָמָה וַיָּקָם דָּוִד וַיֵּרֵד אֶל מְדִבְרַת פָּאָרָן:  
שְׁמוּאֵל א כה:

And Samuel died; and all the Israelites were gathered together, and lamented him, and buried him in his house at Ramah. And David arose, and went down to the wilderness of Paran.  
**Shmuel I 25:1**

E.

(1) וַיָּבֹאוּ הַזִּפְתִּים אֶל שְׁאוּל הַגִּבְעָתָה לֵאמֹר הֲלוֹא דָוִד מְסֻתָּתָר בַּגִּבְעָת הַחֲכִילָה עַל פְּנֵי הַיְשִׁימֹן:  
וַיָּקָם שְׁאוּל וַיֵּרֵד אֶל מְדִבְרַת זִיף וְאֵתוֹ שְׁלֹשַׁת אֲלָפִים אִישׁ בַּחֲוָרֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל לְבַקֵּשׁ אֶת דָּוִד בְּמְדִבְרַת זִיף:  
וַיִּחַן שְׁאוּל בַּגִּבְעָת הַחֲכִילָה אֲשֶׁר עַל פְּנֵי הַיְשִׁימֹן עַל הַדֶּרֶךְ וְדָוִד יָשָׁב בְּמְדִבְרַת וִירָא כִּי בָא שְׁאוּל אַחֲרָיו  
הַמְדַבְּרָה: וַיִּשְׁלַח דָּוִד מְרַגְלִים וַיֵּדַע כִּי בָא שְׁאוּל אֶל נָכוֹן: וַיָּקָם דָּוִד וַיָּבֹא אֶל הַמָּקוֹם אֲשֶׁר חָנָה שָׁם  
שְׁאוּל וַיִּרְא דָּוִד אֶת הַמָּקוֹם אֲשֶׁר שָׁכַב שָׁם שְׁאוּל וְאֲבִנָּר בֶּן נֹר שֶׁר צָבָאוּ וְשְׁאוּל שָׁכַב בְּמַעְגַל וְהָעַם  
חָנִים סְבִיבֹתָיו: וַיַּעַן דָּוִד וַיֹּאמֶר | אֶל אַחִימֵלֵךְ הַחֲתִי וְאֶל אֲבִישִׁי בֶן צְרוּיָה אַחִי יוֹאֵב לֵאמֹר מִי יָרַד אִתִּי  
אֶל שְׁאוּל אֶל הַמַּחֲנֶה וַיֹּאמֶר אֲבִישִׁי אֲנִי אָרַד עִמָּךְ: וַיָּבֹא דָוִד וְאֲבִישִׁי | אֶל הָעַם לִילָה וְהִנֵּה שְׁאוּל שָׁכַב  
יָשֵׁן בְּמַעְגַל וְחֲנִיתוֹ מְעוּכָה בְּאֶרֶץ מְרֹאשְׁתּוֹ וְאֲבִנָּר וְהָעַם שֹׁכְבִים סְבִיבֹתָיו: וַיֹּאמֶר אֲבִישִׁי אֶל דָּוִד  
סָגֵר אֶ– לַהִים הַיּוֹם אֶת אֵיבֶךָ בַּיָּדָךְ וְעַתָּה אֲכַנּוּ נָא בַּחֲנִית וּבְאֶרֶץ פְּעַם אַחַת וְלֹא אֲשַׁנֶּה לּוֹ: וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד  
אֶל אֲבִישִׁי אֶל תִּשְׁחִיתֶהוּ כִּי מִי שֶׁלַּח יָדוֹ בְּמִשְׁיַח ד' וְנָקָה: וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד חֵי ד' כִּי אִם ד' יִגָּפְנוּ אוֹ יוֹמוֹ  
יָבֹא וְמָת אוֹ בְּמַלְחָמָה יָרַד וְנִסְפָּה: חֲלִילָה לִי מִד' מִשְׁלַח יָדֵי בְּמִשְׁיַח ד' וְעַתָּה קַח נָא אֶת הַחֲנִית אֲשֶׁר  
מְרֹאשְׁתּוֹ וְאֶת צַפְחַת הַמַּיִם וְנִלְכָה לָנוּ: וַיִּקַּח דָּוִד אֶת הַחֲנִית וְאֶת צַפְחַת הַמַּיִם מְרֹאשְׁתֵי שְׁאוּל וַיִּלְכוּ  
לָהֶם וְאִין רָאָה וְאִין יוֹדַע וְאִין מְקִיץ כִּי כָּלֵם יִשְׁנִים כִּי תִרְדַּמְת ד' נִפְלָה עֲלֵיהֶם: וַיַּעֲבֹר דָּוִד הָעֵבֶר  
וַיַּעֲמֵד עַל רֹאשׁ הָהָר מִרְחֹק רַב הַמָּקוֹם בֵּינֵיהֶם: וַיִּקְרָא דָּוִד אֶל הָעַם וְאֶל אֲבִנָּר בֶּן נֹר לֵאמֹר הֲלוֹא תַעֲנֶנָּה  
אֲבִנָּר וַיַּעַן אֲבִנָּר מִי אֶתָּה קְרָאתָ אֶל הַמֶּלֶךְ: וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל אֲבִנָּר הֲלוֹא אִישׁ אֶתָּה וּמִי כְמוֹךָ  
בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל וְלָמָּה לֹא שְׁמַרְתָּ אֶל אֲדֹנָיֶךָ הַמֶּלֶךְ כִּי בָא אַחַד הָעַם לְהַשְׁחִית אֶת הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲדֹנָיֶךָ: לֹא טוֹב  
הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר עָשִׂיתָ חֵי ד' כִּי בָנִי מוֹת אַתָּם אֲשֶׁר לֹא שְׁמַרְתֶּם עַל אֲדֹנָיֶכֶם עַל מִשְׁיַח ד' וְעַתָּה | רָאָה  
אִי חֲנִית הַמֶּלֶךְ וְאֶת צַפְחַת הַמַּיִם אֲשֶׁר מְרֹאשְׁתּוֹ: וַיִּכַּר שְׁאוּל אֶת קוֹל דָּוִד וַיֹּאמֶר הַקּוֹלֵךְ זֶה בְּנֵי דָוִד  
וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד קוֹלִי אֲדֹנָי הַמֶּלֶךְ: וַיֹּאמֶר לָמָּה זֶה אֲדֹנָי רִדְף אַחֲרַי עֲבַדוּ כִּי מָה עָשִׂיתִי וּמָה בְּיָדִי רָעָה:  
וְעַתָּה יִשְׁמַע נָא אֲדֹנָי הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת דְּבָרֵי עֲבַדוֹ אִם ד' הִסִּיתָךְ בִּי יָרַח מִנְחָה וְאִם | בְּנֵי הָאָדָם אַרְוִרִים הֵם  
לְפָנֵי ד' כִּי גִרְשׁוּנֵי הַיּוֹם מֵהַסְּתַפַּח בְּנַחֲלַת ד' לֵאמֹר לָךְ עֲבַד אֱלֹהִים אַחֲרַיִם: וְעַתָּה אֵל | פֶּל דְּמִי אַרְצָה  
מִנְגַּד פְּנֵי ד' כִּי יֵצֵא מֶלֶךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל לְבַקֵּשׁ אֶת פְּרַעַשׁ אֶחָד כְּאֲשֶׁר יִרְדֹּף הַקְּרָא בְּהָרִים: וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁאוּל  
חֲטָאתִי שׁוֹב בְּנֵי דָוִד כִּי לֹא אָרַע לָךְ עוֹד תַּחַת אֲשֶׁר יִקְרָה נַפְשִׁי בְּעֵינֶיךָ הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה הִנֵּה הַסְּכַלְתִּי וְאֲשַׁגָּה  
הַרְבֵּה מְאֹד: וַיַּעַן דָּוִד וַיֹּאמֶר הִנֵּה חֲנִית הַמֶּלֶךְ וַיַּעֲבֹר אֶחָד מֵהַנְּעָרִים וַיִּקְחָהּ: וְד' יָשִׁיב לְאִישׁ אֶת צִדְקָתוֹ  
וְאֶת אֲמָנָתוֹ אֲשֶׁר נִתְּנָךְ ד' | הַיּוֹם בְּיָד וְלֹא אֲבִיתִי לְשַׁלַּח יָדִי בְּמִשְׁיַח ד': וְהִנֵּה כְּאֲשֶׁר גִּדְּלָה נַפְשֶׁךָ הַיּוֹם  
הַזֶּה בְּעֵינֵי כֶן תִּגְדַּל נַפְשִׁי בְּעֵינֵי ד' וַיִּצְלַנִי מִכָּל צָרָה: וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁאוּל אֶל דָּוִד בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה בְּנֵי דָוִד גַּם עָשָׂה  
תַּעֲשֶׂה וְגַם יָכֹל תִּוְכַל וַיִּלְךְ דָּוִד לְדִרְכוֹ וְשְׁאוּל שָׁב לְמְקוֹמוֹ: שְׁמוּאֵל א כה–

And the Ziphites came to Saul to Gibeath, saying, Does not David hide himself in the hill of Hachilah, which is before Jeshimon? Then Saul arose, and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, having three thousand chosen men of Israel with him, to seek David in the wilderness of Ziph. And Saul camped in the hill of Hachilah, which is before Jeshimon, by the road. But David remained in the wilderness, and he saw that Saul came after him into the wilderness. David therefore sent out spies, and understood that Saul was indeed there. And David arose, and came to the place where Saul had camped; and David beheld the place where Saul lay, and Abner the son of Ner, the captain of his army; and Saul lay in the barricade, and the people camped around him. Then answered David and said to Ahimelech the Hittite, and to Abishai the son of Zeruah,

brother to Joab, saying, Who will go down with me to Saul to the camp? And Abishai said, I will go down with you. So David and Abishai came to the people by night; and, behold, Saul lay sleeping within the barricade, and his spear stuck in the ground at his head; and Abner and the people lay around him. Then said Abishai to David, G-d has delivered your enemy into your hand this day; now therefore let me strike him, I beg you, with the spear to the earth at once, and I will not strike him a second time. - And David said to Abishai, Destroy him not; for who can stretch forth his hand against the L-rd's anointed, and be guiltless? And David said, As the L-rd lives, the L-rd shall strike him; or his day shall come to die; or he shall descend into battle, and perish.. The L-rd forbid that I should stretch forth my hand against the L-rd's anointed; but, I beg you, take now the spear that is at his head, and the jar of water, and let us go. So David took the spear and the jar of water near Saul's head; and they went away, and no man saw it, nor knew it, nor did any awake; for they were all asleep; because a deep sleep from the L-rd had fallen upon them. Then David went over to the other side, and stood on the top of a hill far away; a great space being between them; And David cried to the people, and to Abner the son of Ner, saying, Will you not answer, Abner? Then Abner answered and said, Who are you who shouts to the king? And David said to Abner, Are you not a brave man? and who is like you in Israel? Why then have you not guarded your lord the king? For one of the people came in to destroy the king your lord. This thing is not good that you have done. As the L-rd lives, you deserve to die, because you have not guarded your master, the L-rd's anointed. And now see where the king's spear is, and the jar of water that was at his head. And Saul knew David's voice, and said, Is this your voice, my son David? And David said, It is my voice, my lord, O king. And he said, Why does my lord thus pursue after his servant? for what have I done? or what evil is in my hand? And therefore, I beg you, let my lord the king hear the words of his servant. If it is the L-rd who has stirred you up against me, let Him accept an offering; but if it is the sons of men, cursed be they before the L-rd; for they have driven me out this day from having a share in the inheritance of the L-rd, saying, Go, serve other gods. And therefore, let not my blood fall to the earth before the face of the L-rd; for the king of Israel has come out to seek a flea, as when one hunts a partridge in the mountains. Then said Saul, I have sinned; return, my son David; for I will no more do you harm, because my soul was precious in your eyes this day; behold, I have played the fool, and have erred very much. And David answered and said, Behold the king's spear! and let one of the young men come over and fetch it. The L-rd requite to every man his righteousness and his faithfulness; for the L-rd delivered you into my hand today, but I would not stretch forth my hand against the L-rd's anointed. And, behold, as your life was much esteemed this day in my eyes, so let my life be much esteemed in the eyes of the L-rd, and let Him deliver me from all tribulation. Then Saul said to David, Blessed be you, my son David; you shall do great things, and will succeed in them. So David went on his way, and Saul returned to his place. **Samuel I 26:1-25**

(2) כל הדר בחו"ל כאילו עובד עבודת כוכבים וכן בדוד הוא אומר: (שמואל א' כ"ו) כי גרשוני היום מהסתפח בנחלת ד' לאמר לך עבוד אלהים אחרים, וכי מי אמר לו לדוד לך עבוד אלהים אחרים? אלא לומר לך: כל הדר בחו"ל כאילו עובד עבודת כוכבים. כתובות ק':

Whoever lives outside the Land [of Israel] may be regarded as one who worships idols. Similarly it was said in Scripture in [the story of] David (Samuel I 26:19), "For they have driven me out this day that I should not cleave to the inheritance of the L-rd, saying: Go, serve other gods." Now, whoever said to David, "Serve other gods"? But [the text intended] to tell you that whoever lives outside the Land may be regarded as one who worships idols. **Kesubos 110b**

F.

וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל לְבוֹ עֵתָה אֶסְפָּה יוֹם אֶחָד בְּיַד שָׂאוּל אֵין לִי טוֹב כִּי הִמְלִט אִמְלִט | אֶל-אֶרֶץ פְּלִשְׁתִּים וְנוֹאֵשׁ מִמֶּנִּי שָׂאוּל לְבַקְשָׁנִי עוֹד בְּכָל גְּבוּל יִשְׂרָאֵל וְנִמְלִטְתִּי מִיָּדוֹ: וַיִּקָּם דָּוִד וַיַּעֲבֹר הוּא וְשֵׁשׁ מֵאוֹת אִישׁ אֲשֶׁר עִמּוֹ אֶל אַכִּישׁ בֶּן מַעוֹךְ מֶלֶךְ גַּת: וַיֵּשֶׁב דָּוִד עִם אַכִּישׁ בְּגַת הוּא וְאֲנָשָׁיו אִישׁ וּבֵיתוֹ דָּוִד וְשֵׁשֶׁתִּי נָשָׁיו אַחִינֹעַם הַיִּזְרְעֵאלִית וְאַבִּיגַיִל אִשְׁתׁ נָבָל הַכַּרְמֶלִית: וַיִּגַּד לְשָׂאוּל כִּי בָרַח דָּוִד גַּת וְלֹא יָסַף עוֹד לְבַקְשׁוֹ: וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל אַכִּישׁ אִם-נָא מְצֵאתִי חֵן בְּעֵינֶיךָ יִתְּנוּ לִי מְקוֹם בְּאַחַת עָרֵי הַשְּׂדֵה וְאֲשֻׁבָה שָׁם וְלָמָּה יֵשֶׁב עַבְדְּךָ בְּעִיר הַמַּמְלָכָה עִמָּךְ: וַיִּתֵּן לוֹ אַכִּישׁ בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא אֶת צִקְלָג לְכֵן הִיָּתָה צִקְלָג לְמַלְכֵי יְהוּדָה עַד הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה: וַיְהִי מִסְפַּר הַיָּמִים אֲשֶׁר יֵשֶׁב דָּוִד בַּשְּׂדֵה פְּלִשְׁתִּים יָמִים וְאַרְבָּעָה חֳדָשִׁים: וַיַּעַל דָּוִד וְאֲנָשָׁיו וַיִּפְשְׁטוּ אֶל הַגְּשׁוּרִי וְהַגִּזְרִי וְהַעֲמֻלְקִי כִּי הִנֵּה יֹשְׁבוֹת הָאֶרֶץ אֲשֶׁר מֵעוֹלָם בּוֹאֵךְ שׁוֹרָה וְעַד אֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם: וְהִכָּה דָוִד אֶת הָאֶרֶץ וְלֹא יָחִיהָ אִישׁ וְאִשָּׁה וְלָקַח צֹאן וּבָקָר וְחִמְרִים וּגְמָלִים וּבְגָדִים וַיֵּשֶׁב וַיָּבֵא אֶל אַכִּישׁ: וַיֹּאמֶר אַכִּישׁ אֶל פְּשֻׁטָם הַיּוֹם וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד עַל נֶגֶב יְהוּדָה וְעַל נֶגֶב הַיַּרְחֵמְאֵלִי וְאֶל נֶגֶב הַקֵּינִי: וְאִישׁ וְאִשָּׁה לֹא יָחִיהָ דָוִד לְהַבִּיא גַת לְאָמֵר פֶּן יִגְדוּ עֲלֵינוּ לְאָמֵר כֹּה עָשָׂה דָוִד וְכֹה מִשְׁפָּטוֹ כָּל הַיָּמִים אֲשֶׁר יֵשֶׁב בַּשְּׂדֵה פְּלִשְׁתִּים: וַיֹּאמֶן אַכִּישׁ בְּדוֹד לְאָמֵר הַבָּאֵשׁ הַבָּאֵשׁ בְּעַמּוֹ בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל וְהָיָה לִי לְעַבְד׃ שְׂמוּאֵל א כו:א-יב

And David said in his heart, I shall now perish one day by the hand of Saul; there is nothing better for me than that I should speedily escape into the land of the Philistines; and Saul shall despair of seeking me any more within the borders of Israel; so shall I escape from his hand. - And David arose, and he passed over with the six hundred men who were with him to Achish, the son of Maach, king of Gath. And David stayed with Achish at Gath, he and his men, every man with his household, David with his two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the Carmelitess, Nabal's wife. And Saul was told that David had fled to Gath; and he sought for him no more. - And David said to Achish, If I have now found grace in your eyes, let them give me a place in some town in the country, that I may live there; for why should your servant live in the royal city with you? Then Achish gave him Ziklag that day; therefore Ziklag belongs to the kings of Judah to this day. And the time that David lived in the country of the Philistines was a year (a few days) and four months. And David and his men went up, and raided the Geshurites, and the Gizrites, and the Amalekites; for those nations were of old the inhabitants of the land, in the direction to Shur, as far as the land of Egypt. And David struck the land, and left neither man nor woman alive, and took away the sheep, and the oxen, and the donkeys, and the camels, and the garments, and returned, and came to Achish. And Achish said, Where did you make a raid today? And David said, Against the Negev of Judah, and against the Negev of the Jerahmeelites, and against the Negev of the Kenites. And David saved neither man nor woman alive, to bring news to Gath, saying, Lest they should tell on us, saying, So did David, and so was his custom all the while he lived in the country of the Philistines. And Achish believed David, saying, He has made himself completely loathsome to his people Israel; therefore he shall be my servant forever. **Samuel I 27:1-12**

## II. The Death of Saul

A.

(1) וַיְהִי בַיָּמִים הֵהֵם וַיִּקְבְּצוּ פְּלִשְׁתִּים אֶת מַחְנֵיהֶם לְצַבָּא לְהִלָּחֵם בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל וַיֹּאמֶר אַכִּישׁ אֶל דָּוִד יָדַע תְּדַע כִּי אֲתִי תִצָּא בְּמַחְנֶה אֲתָה וְאֲנָשֶׁיךָ: וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל אַכִּישׁ לְכֵן אֲתָה תִדַּע אֶת אֲשֶׁר יַעֲשֶׂה עַבְדְּךָ וַיֹּאמֶר אַכִּישׁ אֶל דָּוִד לְכֵן שְׂמֵר לְרֹאשֵׁי אֲשִׁימָךְ כָּל הַיָּמִים: וְשְׂמוּאֵל מֵת וַיִּסְפְּדוּ לוֹ כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיִּקְבְּרוּהוּ בְרָמָה וּבְעִירוֹ וְשָׂאוּל הִסִּיר הָאֲבוֹת וְאֶת הַיָּדְעָנִים מִהָאֶרֶץ: וַיִּקְבְּצוּ פְּלִשְׁתִּים וַיָּבֹאוּ וַיַּחֲנוּ בְּשׁוֹנֵם וַיִּקְבֹּץ שָׂאוּל אֶת כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיַּחֲנוּ בְּגִלְבֹּעַ: וַיֵּרָא שָׂאוּל אֶת מַחְנֶה פְּלִשְׁתִּים וַיֵּרָא וַיַּחְרַד לְבוֹ מָאֹד: וַיִּשְׂאֵל שָׂאוּל בְּד' וְלֹא עָנָהוּ ד' גַּם בְּחַלְמוֹת גַּם בְּאוּרִים גַּם בְּנָבִיאִים: וַיֹּאמֶר שָׂאוּל לְעַבְדֵי בְקָשׁוּ

לִי אֵשֶׁת בַּעֲלַת אוֹב וְאֵלֶּכָּה אֵלֶיהָ וְאֶדְרָשָׁה בָּהּ וַיֹּאמְרוּ עֲבָדָיו אֵלָיו הֲנֵה אֵשֶׁת בַּעֲלַת אוֹב בְּעֵינֵי דָוִד:  
 וַיִּתְחַפֵּשׂ שָׂאוּל וַיִּלְבַּשׂ בְּגָדִים אַחֲרָיִם וַיִּלְךָ הוּא וּשְׁנֵי אַנְשֵׁים עִמּוֹ וַיָּבֹאוּ אֶל הָאִשָּׁה לִילָה וַיֹּאמֶר קִסְמִי  
 נָא לִי בָּאוֹב וְהֵעֲלֵי לִי אֵת אֲשֶׁר אָמַר אֵלַיךָ: וַתֹּאמֶר הָאִשָּׁה אֵלָיו הֲנֵה אַתָּה יֹדַעַת אֵת אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה שָׂאוּל  
 אֲשֶׁר הִכְרִית אֵת הָאֲבוֹת וְאֵת הַיְדֻעָנִי מִן הָאָרֶץ וְלָמָּה אַתָּה מִתְנַקֵּשׁ בְּנַפְשִׁי לְהַמִּיתַנִּי: וַיִּשָּׁבַע לָהּ שָׂאוּל  
 בְּד' לֵאמֹר חַי ד' אִם יִקְרָךְ עוֹן בְּדָבָר הַזֶּה: וַתֹּאמֶר הָאִשָּׁה אֵת מִי אֶעֱלֶה לָּךְ וַיֹּאמֶר אֵת שְׂמוּאֵל הֵעֲלֵי לִי:  
 וַתֵּרָא הָאִשָּׁה אֵת שְׂמוּאֵל וַתִּזְעַק בְּקוֹל גְּדוֹל וַתֹּאמֶר הָאִשָּׁה אֶל שָׂאוּל לָמָּה רָמִיתַנִּי וְאַתָּה שָׂאוּל:  
 וַיֹּאמֶר לָהּ הַמֶּלֶךְ אֵל תִּירָאִי כִּי מָה רֵאִית וַתֹּאמֶר הָאִשָּׁה אֶל שָׂאוּל אֱלֹהִים רָאִיתִי עֲלִים מִן הָאָרֶץ: וַיֹּאמֶר  
 לָהּ מָה תֹּאמְרוּ וַתֹּאמֶר אִישׁ זָקֵן עֵלָה וְהוּא עָטָה מַעִיל וַיִּדַע שָׂאוּל כִּי שְׂמוּאֵל הוּא וַיִּקַּד אַפָּיִם אַרְצָה  
 וַיִּשְׁתַּחוּ: וַיֹּאמֶר שְׂמוּאֵל אֶל שָׂאוּל לָמָּה הִרְגַּזְתַּנִּי לְהַעֲלוֹת אֹתִי וַיֹּאמֶר שָׂאוּל צַר לִי מְאֹד וּפְלִשְׁתִּים |  
 נִלְחָמִים בִּי וְאֲ-לֵהִים סָר מֵעָלַי וְלֹא עָנְנִי עוֹד גַּם בְּיַד הַנְּבִיאִים גַּם בְּחִלְמוֹת וְאֶקְרָאָה לָּךְ לְהוֹדִיעַנִי מָה  
 אַעֲשֶׂה: וַיֹּאמֶר שְׂמוּאֵל וְלָמָּה תִּשְׁאַלְנִי וְד' סָר מֵעָלֶיךָ וַיְהִי עֲרֹךְ: וַיַּעַשׂ ד' לוֹ כַּאֲשֶׁר דָּבַר בְּיַדִּי וַיִּקְרַע  
 ד' אֵת הַמַּמְלָכָה מִיַּדִּי וַיִּתְּנָה לְרַעְדֵי לְדָוִד: כַּאֲשֶׁר לֹא שָׁמַעַתְּ בְּקוֹל ד' וְלֹא עָשִׂיתְּ חֲרוֹן אַפּוֹ בְּעַמְלֶק עַל  
 כֵּן הִדְבַר הַזֶּה עָשָׂה לָּךְ ד' הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה: וַיִּתֵּן ד' גַּם אֵת יִשְׂרָאֵל עִמָּךְ בְּיַד פְּלִשְׁתִּים וּמָחַר אַתָּה וּבְנֶיךָ עִמִּי  
 גַּם אֵת מַחְנֵה יִשְׂרָאֵל יִתֵּן ד' בְּיַד פְּלִשְׁתִּים: וַיִּמָּהַר שָׂאוּל וַיִּפֹּל מֵלֹא קוֹמָתוֹ אַרְצָה וַיֵּרָא מְאֹד מִדְּבַרֵי  
 שְׂמוּאֵל גַּם כַּח לֹא הָיָה בּוֹ כִּי לֹא אָכַל לֶחֶם כָּל הַיּוֹם וְכָל הַלַּיְלָה: וַתָּבוֹא הָאִשָּׁה אֶל שָׂאוּל וַתֵּרָא כִּי  
 נִבְהַל מְאֹד וַתֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו הֲנֵה שָׁמַעַתְּ שִׁפְחָתְךָ בְּקוֹלְךָ וְאֲשִׁים נַפְשִׁי בְּכַפִּי וְאֲשַׁמַּע אֵת דְּבַרְיֶךָ אֲשֶׁר דִּבַּרְתָּ  
 אֵלַי: וַעֲתָה שָׁמַע נָא גַם אַתָּה בְּקוֹל שִׁפְחָתְךָ וְאֲשַׁמָּה לְפָנֶיךָ פֶּת לֶחֶם וְאֲכֹל וַיְהִי כֵךְ כַּח כִּי תִלָּךְ בְּדַרְךָ:  
 וַיִּמָּאֵן וַיֹּאמֶר לֹא אֲכַל וַיִּפְרָצוּ בּוֹ עֲבָדָיו וְגַם הָאִשָּׁה וַיִּשְׁמַע לְקֹלָם וַיִּקָּם מִהָאָרֶץ וַיֵּשֶׁב אֶל הַמַּטָּה:  
 וְלֹאֲשָׁה עֶגְל מֶרְבֵּק בְּבֵית וַתִּמָּהַר וַתִּזְבַּחַהּ וַתִּקַּח קֶמַח וַתִּלְשׁ וַתִּפְהוּ מִצּוֹת: וַתִּגַּשׁ לְפָנָי שָׂאוּל וְלַפְנֵי  
 עֲבָדָיו וַיֹּאכְלוּ וַיִּקְמוּ וַיִּלְכוּ בְּלִילָה הַהוּא: שְׂמוּאֵל א כח-א כה

And it came to pass in those days, that the Philistines gathered their armies together for warfare, to fight with Israel. And Achish said to David, You must know, that you shall go out with me to battle, you and your men. And David said to Achish, Surely you shall know what your servant can do. And Achish said to David, Therefore will I make you my bodyguard forever. And Samuel was dead, and all Israel had lamented him, and buried him in Ramah, in his own city. And Saul had expelled those who were mediums, and the wizards, out of the land. - And the Philistines gathered themselves together, and came and camped in Shunem; and Saul gathered all Israel together, and they camped in Gilboa. And when Saul saw the camp of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart greatly trembled. And when Saul inquired of the L-rd, the L-rd answered him not, neither by dreams, nor by Urim, - nor by prophets. - Then said Saul to his servants, Seek me a woman who is a medium, that I may go to her, and inquire of her. And his servants said to him, Behold, there is a woman in Ein-Dor who is a medium. And Saul disguised himself, and put on other garments, and went, he and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night; and he said, I beg you, divine for me by a spirit, and bring him up for me, whoever I shall name to you. And the woman said to him, Behold, you know what Saul has done, how he has expelled those who are mediums, and the wizards, from the land; why then do you lay a snare for my life, to cause me to die? And Saul swore to her by the L-rd, saying, As the L-rd lives, there shall no punishment happen to you for this thing. Then said the woman, Whom shall I bring up to you? And he said, Bring me up Samuel. And when the woman saw Samuel, she cried with a loud voice; and the woman spoke to Saul, saying, Why have you deceived me? You are Saul! And the king said to her, Do not be afraid; for what did you see? And the woman said to Saul, I saw a G-dlike (angelic) man ascending from the earth. And he said to her, What is his appearance? And she said, An old man comes up; and he is covered with a mantle. And Saul perceived that it was Samuel, and he stooped with his face to the ground, and bowed. And Samuel said to Saul, Why have you disturbed by bringing me up? And Saul answered, I am in

great distress; for the Philistines make war against me, and G-d has departed from me, and answers me no more, neither by prophets, nor by dreams; therefore I have called you, that you may make known to me what I shall do. Then said Samuel, Why then do you ask of me, seeing the L-rd has departed from you, and has become your enemy? And the L-rd has done for Himself, as He spoke by me; for the L-rd has torn the kingdom from your hand, and given it to your neighbor, to David; Because you would not obey the voice of the L-rd, nor execute His fierce anger upon Amalek, therefore has the L-rd done this thing to you this day. And the L-rd will also deliver Israel with you into the hand of the Philistines; and tomorrow shall you and your sons be with me; the L-rd also shall deliver the camp of Israel into the hand of the Philistines. Then Saul fell at once full length upon the ground, and was greatly afraid, because of the words of Samuel; and there was no strength in him; for he had not eaten bread all day, nor all night. And the woman came to Saul, and saw that he was greatly troubled, and said to him, Behold, your maidservant has obeyed your voice, and I have put my life in my hand, and have listened to your words which you spoke to me. And therefore, I beg you, listen you also to the voice of your maid servant, and let me set a morsel of bread before you; and eat, that you may have strength, when you go on your way. But he refused, and said, I will not eat. But his servants, together with the woman, compelled him; and he listened to their voice. So he arose from the earth, and sat upon the bed. And the woman had a fat calf in the house; and she hurried, and killed (ritually slaughtered) it, and took flour, and kneaded it, and baked with it unleavened bread. And she brought it before Saul, and before his servants; and they ate. Then they rose up, and went away that night. **Samuel I 28:1-25**

(2) אמר רבה בר חיננא סבא משמיה דרב: כל העושה דבר עבירה ומתבייש בו מוחלין לו על כל עונותיו, שנאמר: (יחזקאל ט"ז) למען תזכרי ובשת ולא יהיה לך עוד פתחון פה מפני כלמתך בכפרי לך לכל אשר עשית נאם ד' א-להים. דילמא צבור שאני? אלא, מהכא: (שמואל א' כ"ח) ויאמר שמואל אל שאול למה הרגזתני להעלות אתי, ויאמר שאול צר לי מאד ופלשתים נלחמים בי וד' סר מעלי ולא ענני עוד גם ביד הנביאים גם בחלמות ואקראה לך להודיעני מה אעשה, ואילו אורים ותמים לא קאמר משום דקטליה לנוב עיר הכהנים. ומנין דאחילו ליה מן שמיא שנאמר (שמואל א' כ"ח) ויאמר שמואל אל שאול ומחר אתה ובניך עמי, ואמר רבי יוחנן: עמי במחיצתי. ורבנן אמרי, מהכא: (שמואל ב' כ"א) והוקענום לד' בגבעת שאול בחיר ד', יצתה בת קול ואמרה: בחיר ד'. ברכות יב:

Rabah b. Hinena the elder said in the name of Rav: If one commits a sin and is ashamed of it, all his sins are forgiven him, as it says (Ezekiel 16:63), "That you may remember and be confounded, and never open your mouth any more, because of your shame; when I have forgiven you all that you have done, says the L-rd G-d." Perhaps with a whole congregation the case is different? Rather [we derive it] from here (Samuel I 28:15), "Why have you disturbed by bringing me up? And Saul answered, I am in great distress; for the Philistines make war against me, and G-d has departed from me, and answers me no more, neither by prophets, nor by dreams; therefore I have called you, that you may make known to me what I shall do." But he did not mention the Urim and Tummim because he had killed all [the people of] Nov, the city of the priests. And how do we know that Heaven had forgiven him? Because it says (ibid. 16 and 19), "And Samuel said . . . and tomorrow shall you and your sons be with me," and R. Yohanan said: *With me* means, in my compartment [in Paradise]. The Rabbis say [we learn it] from here (Samuel II 21:6), "We will hang them up unto the L-rd in Gibeah of Saul, the chosen of the L-rd." A divine voice came forth and proclaimed: The chosen of the L-rd. **Berachos 12b**



B.

וַיִּקְבְּצוּ פְּלִשְׁתִּים אֶת כָּל מַחֲנֵיהֶם אֶפְקָה וַיִּשְׂרְאֵל חֲנִים בְּעֵין אֲשֶׁר בְּיַזְרְעֵאל: וְסַרְנֵי פְּלִשְׁתִּים עֲבָרִים לְמֵאוֹת וְלֵאלָפִים וְדוֹד וְאֲנָשָׁיו עֲבָרִים בְּאַחַרְנָה עִם אַכִּישׁ: וַיֹּאמְרוּ שָׂרֵי פְּלִשְׁתִּים מֶה הָעֲבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה וַיֹּאמֶר אַכִּישׁ אֶל שָׂרֵי פְּלִשְׁתִּים הֲלוֹא זֶה דָּוִד עֶבֶד | שְׂאוּל מֶלֶךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל אֲשֶׁר הָיָה אִתִּי זֶה יָמִים אוֹ זֶה שָׁנִים וְלֹא מִצָּאתִי כּוּ מְאוּמָה מִיּוֹם נָפְלוּ עַד הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה: וַיִּקְצְפוּ עָלָיו שָׂרֵי פְּלִשְׁתִּים וַיֹּאמְרוּ לוֹ שָׂרֵי פְּלִשְׁתִּים הֲשֵׁב אֶת הָאִישׁ וַיֵּשֶׁב אֶל מְקוֹמוֹ אֲשֶׁר הִפְקַדְתּוֹ שָׁם וְלֹא יֵרֵד עִמָּנוּ בְּמִלְחָמָה וְלֹא יִהְיֶה לָנוּ לְשֹׁטֵן בְּמִלְחָמָה וּבִמָּה יִתְרַצֶּה זֶה אֶל אֲדֹנָיו הֲלוֹא בְּרָאשֵׁי הָאֲנָשִׁים הָהֵם: הֲלוֹא זֶה דָּוִד אֲשֶׁר יַעֲנוּ לוֹ בְּמַחְלוֹת לֵאמֹר הֲפֹה שְׂאוּל בְּאַלְפָיו וְדוֹד בְּרַבְבְּתָיו: שְׂמוּאֵל כֹּט:א-ד

And the Philistines gathered together all their armies to Aphek; - and the Israelites camped by a spring which is in Jezreel. - And the lords of the Philistines passed on by [together with the companies of the] hundreds, and (by) [the regiments of the] thousands; but David and his men passed on in the rear with Achish. - Then said the princes of the Philistines, What are these Hebrews doing here? And Achish said to the princes of the Philistines, Is this not David, the [rebellious] servant of Saul the king of Israel, who has been with me a year or more (literally: days or perhaps years [if you count from the time that he initially fled from Saul]), and I have found no fault in him since he came over to me to this day? And the princes of the Philistines were angry with him; and the princes of the Philistines said to him, Make this fellow return, that he may go back to his place which you have appointed him, and let him not go down with us to battle, lest in the battle he be an adversary to us; for how should he reconcile himself to his master? should it not be with the heads of these men? Is this not David, of whom they sang one to another in dances, saying, Saul slew his thousands, and David his ten thousands? **Samuel I 29:1-5**

C.

(1) וּפְּלִשְׁתִּים נִלְחָמִים בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל וַיִּנְסוּ אַנְשֵׁי יִשְׂרָאֵל מִפְּנֵי פְּלִשְׁתִּים וַיִּפְּלוּ חֲלָלִים בְּהַר הַגִּלְבָּעַ: וַיִּדְבְּקוּ פְּלִשְׁתִּים אֶת שְׂאוּל וְאֶת בָּנָיו וַיִּכּוּ פְּלִשְׁתִּים אֶת יְהוֹנָתָן וְאֶת אֲבִינָדָב וְאֶת מֶלְכִי שׁוּעַ בְּנֵי שְׂאוּל: וַתִּכְבַּד הַמִּלְחָמָה אֶל שְׂאוּל וַיִּמְצָאֵהוּ הַמּוֹרִים אַנְשִׁים בְּקֶשֶׁת וַיַּחַל מְאֹד מִהַמּוֹרִים: וַיֹּאמֶר שְׂאוּל לְנִשְׂא כְלָיו שְׁלֵף חַרְבְּךָ | וְדַקְרַנִּי בָּהּ פֶּן יָבוֹאוּ הָעֲרָלִים הָאֵלֶּה וְדַקְרַנִּי וְהִתְעַלְּלוּ בִּי וְלֹא אָבָה נִשְׂא כְלָיו כִּי יֵרָא מְאֹד וַיִּקַּח שְׂאוּל אֶת הַחֶרֶב וַיִּפֹּל עָלֶיהָ: וַיֵּרָא נִשְׂא כְלָיו כִּי מֵת שְׂאוּל וַיִּפֹּל גַּם הוּא עַל חַרְבּוֹ וַיָּמָת עִמּוֹ: וַיָּמָת שְׂאוּל וּשְׁלֵשֶׁת בָּנָיו וְנִשְׂא כְלָיו גַּם כָּל אַנְשָׁיו בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא יַחְדָּו: וַיֵּרָאוּ אַנְשֵׁי יִשְׂרָאֵל אֲשֶׁר בְּעֶבֶר הָעֵמֶק וְאֲשֶׁר | בְּעֶבֶר הַיַּרְדֵּן כִּי נָסוּ אַנְשֵׁי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְכִי מָתוּ שְׂאוּל וּבָנָיו וַיַּעֲזְבוּ אֶת הָעָרִים וַיִּנְסוּ וַיָּבֹאוּ פְּלִשְׁתִּים וַיֵּשְׁבוּ בָּהֶן: וַיְהִי מִמַּחֲרַת וַיָּבֹאוּ פְּלִשְׁתִּים לְפָשֵׁט אֶת הַחֲלָלִים וַיִּמְצְאוּ אֶת שְׂאוּל וְאֶת שְׁלֵשֶׁת בָּנָיו נָפְלִים בְּהַר הַגִּלְבָּעַ: וַיִּכְרְתוּ אֶת רֵאשׁוֹ וַיִּפְשְׁטוּ אֶת כְּלָיו וַיִּשְׁלְחוּ בְּאֶרֶץ פְּלִשְׁתִּים סָבִיב לְבִשָׁר בֵּית עֲצָבִיהֶם וְאֶת הָעֵם: וַיִּשְׂמוּ אֶת כְּלָיו בֵּית עֲשָׁתְרוֹת וְאֶת גּוֹיֹתוֹ תָּקְעוּ בְּחֹמַת בֵּית שָׁן: וַיִּשְׁמְעוּ אֲלָיו יִשְׁבִּי יְבִישׁ גִּלְעָד אֶת אֲשֶׁר עָשׂוּ פְּלִשְׁתִּים לְשְׂאוּל: וַיִּקְוֹמוּ כָּל אִישׁ חֵיל וַיִּלְכוּ כָּל הַלַּיְלָה וַיִּקְחוּ אֶת גּוֹיֵת שְׂאוּל וְאֶת גּוֹיֵת בָּנָיו מִחֹמַת בֵּית שָׁן וַיָּבֹאוּ יְבִישָׁה וַיִּשְׁרְפוּ אֹתָם שָׁם: וַיִּקְחוּ אֶת עֲצָמֹתֵיהֶם וַיִּקְבְּרוּ תַּחַת הָאֲשֵׁל בְּיְבִישָׁה וַיִּצְמְדוּ שְׂבַעַת יָמִים: שְׂמוּאֵל א לֹא:א-יג

And the Philistines fought against Israel; and the men of Israel fled from before the Philistines, and fell down killed in Mount Gilboa. - And the Philistines followed closely upon Saul and upon his sons; and the Philistines slew Jonathan, and Abinadab, and Melchishua, Saul's sons. And the battle went hard against Saul, and the archers hit him; and he was badly wounded by the archers. Then said Saul to his armor bearer, Draw your sword, and thrust me through with it; lest these uncircumcised come and thrust me through, and abuse me. But his armor bearer would not; for he was terrified. Therefore Saul took a sword, and fell upon it. And when his armor bearer saw that Saul was dead, he fell likewise upon his sword, and died with him. So Saul died, and his

three sons, and his armor bearer, and all his men, that same day together. And when the men of Israel who were on the other side of the valley, and those who were on the other side of the Jordan, saw that the men of Israel fled, and that Saul and his sons were dead, they abandoned the cities, and fled; and the Philistines came and dwelt in them. And it came to pass on the next day, when the Philistines came to strip the slain, that they found Saul and his three sons fallen on Mount Gilboa. And they cut off his head, and stripped off his armor, and sent to the land of the Philistines, to proclaim it in the house of their idols, and among the people. And they put his armor in the house of Ashtaroth; and they fastened his body to the wall of Beth-Shean. And when the inhabitants of Jabesh-Gilead heard what the Philistines had done to Saul; All the brave men arose, and went all night, and took the body of Saul and the bodies of his sons from the wall of Beth-Shean, and came to Jabesh, and burnt them there. - And they took their bones, and buried them under a tamarisk tree at Jabesh and fasted seven days. **Samuel I 31:1-13**

(2) גדול המאבד עצמו לדעת, והוא אנוס. כשואל המלך, אין מונעין ממנו כל דבר. שולחן ערוך יורה דעה סימן שמה:ג

An adult who committed suicide and did it while being under extreme duress like King Saul, is not denied any of the [normative] honors. **Shulchan Aruch Yoreh Deah 345:3**

D.

ויהי אחרי מות שאול ודוד שב מהכות את העמלק וישב דוד בצקלג ימים שנים: ויהי | ביום השלישי והנה איש בא מן המחנה מעם שאול ובגדיו קרעים ואדמה על ראשו ויהי בבאו אל דוד ויפל ארצה וישתחו: ויאמר לו דוד אי מזה תבוא ויאמר אליו ממחנה ישראל נמלטתי: ויאמר אליו דוד מה היה הדבר הגד נא לי ויאמר אשר נס העם מן המלחמה וגם הרבה נפל מן העם וימתו וגם שאול ויהונתן בנו מתו: ויאמר דוד אל הנער המגיד לו איך ידעת כי מת שאול ויהונתן בנו: ויאמר הנער | המגיד לו נקרא נקריתי בהר הגלבוע והנה שאול נשען על חניתו והנה הרכב ובעלי הפרשים הדבקהו: ויפן אחריו ויראני ויקרא אלי ואמר הנני: ויאמר לי מי אתה ואמר אליו עמלקי אנכי: ויאמר אלי עמד נא עלי ומתתני כי אחזני השבץ כי כל עוד נפשי בי: ואעמד עליו ואמתתהו כי ידעתי כי לא יחיה אחרי נפלו ואקח הנזר | אשר על ראשו ואצעדה אשר על זרעו ואביאם אל אדני הנה: ויחזק דוד בבגדיו ויקרעם וגם כל האנשים אשר אתו: ויספדו ויככו ויצמו עד הערב על שאול ועל יהונתן בנו ועל עם ד' ועל בית ישראל כי נפלו בחרב: ויאמר דוד אל הנער המגיד לו אי מזה אתה ויאמר בן איש גר עמלקי אנכי: ויאמר אליו דוד איך לא יראת לשלח ידך לשחת את משיח ד': ויקרא דוד לאחד מהנערים ויאמר גש פגע בו ויכהו וימת: ויאמר אליו דוד דמך על ראשך כי פיד ענה כף לאמר אנכי מתתי את משיח ד': ויקנן דוד את הקינה הזאת על שאול ועל יהונתן בנו: ויאמר ללמד בני יהודה קשת הנה כתובה על ספר הישר: הצבי ישראל על במותיך חלל איך נפלו גבורים: אל תגידו בגת אל תבשרו בחוצת אשקלון פן תשמחנה בנות פלשתים פן תעלזנה בנות הערלים: הרי בגלבוע אל טל ואל מטר עליכם ושדי תרומת כי שם נגעל מגן גבורים מגן שאול בלי משיח בשמן: מדם חללים מחלב גבורים קשת יהונתן לא נשוג אחר וחרב שאול לא תשוב ריקם: שאול ויהונתן הנאהבים והנעימים בחייהם ובמותם לא נפרדו מנשורים קלו מאריות גברו: בנות ישראל אל שאול בכינה המלבשכם שני עם עדנים המעלה עדי זהב על לבושכן: איך נפלו גברים בתוך המלחמה יהונתן על במותיך חלל: צר לי עליך אחי יהונתן נעמת לי מאד נפלאתה אהבתך לי מאהבת נשים: איך נפלו גבורים ויאבדו כלי מלחמה: שמואל ב א-א-כו

And it came to pass after the death of Saul, when David returned from the slaughter of the Amalekites, and David had stayed two days in Ziklag; It came to pass on the third day, that, behold, a man came from the camp from Saul with his clothes torn and earth upon his head; and

so it was, when he came to David, that he fell to the earth, and bowed down. And David said to him, From where do you come? And he said to him, From the camp of Israel have I escaped. And David said to him, How went the matter? I beg you, tell me. And he answered, The people have fled from the battle, and many of the people also have fallen and died; and Saul and Jonathan his son are dead also. And David said to the young man who told him, How do you know that Saul and Jonathan his son are dead? And the young man who told him said, As I happened by chance upon Mount Gilboa, behold, *Saul leaned upon his spear*; and, behold, the chariots and horsemen followed hard after him. And when he looked behind him, he saw me, and called me. And I answered, Here am I. And he said to me, Who are you? And I answered him, I am an *Amalekite*. And he said to me, Stand, I beg you, upon me, and slay me; for agony has come upon me, and yet I still have life in me. So I stood beside him, and slew him, because I was sure that he could not live after he was fallen; and I took the crown that was upon his head, and the bracelet that was on his arm, and have brought them here to my lord. Then David took hold of his clothes, and tore them; and likewise all the men who were with him; And they mourned, and wept, and fasted until the evening, for Saul, and for Jonathan his son, and for the people of the L-rd, and for the house of Israel; because they had fallen by the sword. - And David said to the young man who told him, Where are you from? And he answered, *I am the son of a stranger, an Amalekite*. And David said to him, How were you not afraid to stretch forth your hand to destroy the L-rd's anointed? And David called one of the young men, and said, Go near, and fall upon him. And he struck him that he died. And David said to him, Your blood be upon your head; for your mouth has testified against you, saying, I have killed the L-rd's anointed. - And David lamented with this lamentation over Saul and over Jonathan his son; And he said To teach the sons of Judah the use of the bow; behold, it is written in the book of Jasher. - The beauty, O Israel, is slain upon your high places; how are the mighty fallen! Tell it not in Gath, proclaim it not in the streets of Ashkelon; lest the daughters of the Philistines rejoice, lest the daughters of the uncircumcised triumph. You, Mountains of Gilboa, let there be no dew, neither let there be rain, upon you, nor fields of offerings; for there the shield of the mighty was defiled, the shield of Saul, as though it (he) had not been anointed with oil. From the blood of the slain, from the fat of the mighty, the bow of Jonathan turned not back, and the sword of Saul returned not empty. Saul and Jonathan were loved and dear in their lives, and in their death they were not divided; - they were swifter than eagles, they were stronger than lions. - You daughters of Israel, weep over Saul, who clothed you in scarlet, with other delights, who put on ornaments of gold upon your apparel. How are the mighty fallen in the midst of the battle! O Jonathan, you were slain in your high places. I am distressed for you, my brother Jonathan; very dear have you been to me; your love to me was wonderful, passing the love of women. How are the mighty fallen, and the weapons of war perished! **Samuel II 1:1-27**

### III. David, the King of Judah

#### A.

(1) וַיְהִי אַחֲרַי כִּן וַיִּשְׂאֵל דָּוִד בְּד' | לֵאמֹר הֲאֵעֲלֶה בְּאֶחָת עַרְי יְהוּדָה וַיֹּאמֶר ד' אֱלֹו עֲלֶה וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אָנָּה אֵעֲלֶה וַיֹּאמֶר חֲבֵרֹנָה: וַיַּעַל שָׁם דָּוִד וְגַם שְׁתֵּי נַשְׂוֹ אַחֲיִנְעַם הַיִּזְרְעֵלִית וְאַבִּיגַיִל אִשְׁתׁ נָבָל הַכַּרְמֶלִי: וְאַנְשֵׁוֹ אֲשֶׁר עִמּוֹ הֵעֲלֶה דָוִד אִישׁ וּבֵיתוֹ וַיִּשְׁבּוּ בְּעָרֵי חֲבֵרוֹן: וַיָּבֹאוּ אַנְשֵׁי יְהוּדָה וַיִּמְשְׁחוּ שָׁם אֶת-דָּוִד לְמֶלֶךְ עַל בֵּית יְהוּדָה וַיִּגְדּוּ לְדָוִד לֵאמֹר אַנְשֵׁי יְבִישׁ גִּלְעָד אֲשֶׁר קָבְרוּ אֶת שָׁאוּל: וַיִּשְׁלַח דָּוִד מְלָאכִים אֶל אַנְשֵׁי יְבִישׁ גִּלְעָד וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵיהֶם בְּרָכִים אַתֶּם לִד' אֲשֶׁר עָשִׂיתֶם הַחֶסֶד הַזֶּה עִם אֲדֹנֵיכֶם עִם שָׁאוּל וַתִּקְבְּרוּ אֹתוֹ: וַעֲתָה יַעַשׂ ד' עִמָּכֶם חֶסֶד וְאַמֶּת וְגַם אֲנֹכִי אֶעֱשֶׂה אִתְּכֶם הַטּוֹבָה הַזֹּאת אֲשֶׁר עָשִׂיתֶם הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה: וַעֲתָה | תִּחְזַקְנָה יַדֵּיכֶם וְהָיוּ לְבָנֵי חֵיל כִּי מֵת אֲדֹנֵיכֶם שָׁאוּל וְגַם אֶתִּי מִשְׁחוּ בֵּית יְהוּדָה לְמֶלֶךְ עֲלֵיהֶם: וְאַבְנֶר בֶּן נֵר שָׂר צָבָא אֲשֶׁר לְשָׁאוּל לָקַח אֶת אִישׁ בִּשְׁתׁ בֶּן שָׁאוּל וַיַּעֲבִרְהוּ

מַחְנִימִים: וַיִּמְלְכוּ אֵל הַגִּלְעָד וְאֵל הָאֲשׁוּרִי וְאֵל יִזְרְעֵאל וְעַל אֶפְרַיִם וְעַל בְּנֵימִן וְעַל יִשְׂרָאֵל כֻּלָּה: בֶּן אַרְבָּעִים שָׁנָה אִישׁ בִּשְׁתַּת בֶּן שָׁאוּל בְּמַלְכוֹ עַל יִשְׂרָאֵל וּשְׁתַּיִם שָׁנִים מָלַךְ אַךְ בֵּית יְהוּדָה הָיוּ אַחֲרֵי דָוִד: וַיְהִי מִסְפָּר הַיָּמִים אֲשֶׁר הָיָה דָוִד מָלַךְ בְּחֶבְרוֹן עַל בֵּית יְהוּדָה שְׁבַע שָׁנִים וְשֵׁשׁ חֳדָשִׁים: שְׁמוּאֵל ב בֵּא-יֵא

And it came to pass after this, that David inquired of the L-rd, saying, Shall I go up to any of the cities of Judah? And the L-rd said to him, Go up. And David said, Where shall I go up? And He said, To Hebron. So David went up there, and his two wives also, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail Nabal's wife the Carmelite. And his men who were with him did David bring up, every man with his household; and they lived in the cities of Hebron. - And the men of Judah came, and there they anointed David king over the house of Judah. And they told David, saying, That the men of Jabesh-Gilead were those who buried Saul. And David sent messengers to the men of Jabesh-Gilead, and said to them, Blessed be you of the L-rd, that you have shown this kindness to your lord, to Saul, and have buried him. And now the L-rd show kindness and truth to you; and I also will reward you this kindness, because you have done this thing. Therefore now let your hands be strengthened, and be brave; for your master Saul is dead, and also the house of Judah have anointed me king over them. - And Abner the son of Ner, captain of Saul's army, took Ish-Bosheth the son of Saul, and brought him over to Mahanaim; - And made him king over Gilead, and over the Ashurites, and over Jezreel, and over Ephraim, and over Benjamin, and over all Israel. Ish-Bosheth, Saul's son, was forty years old when he began to reign over Israel, and reigned two years. But the house of Judah followed David. And the time that David was king in Hebron over the house of Judah was seven years and six months. **Samuel II 2:1-11**

(2) לקח את איש בושת: מקרא היה דורש שעתידין שני מלכים לעמוד מבנימין שאמר לו הקב"ה ליעקב מלכים מחלצוך יצאו (בראשית לה יב) וכבר נולדו כל בניו חוץ מבנימין. רש"י שם

[Avner] took Ish-Bosheth the son of Saul: Avner understood that Scripture dictated that [at least] two kings were destined to issue forth from Binyamin, as the Holy One, blessed be He, told Yaakov (Genesis 35:11), “. . . and kings shall come from your loins.” At that time all of Yaakov's children were born with the exception of Binyamin. **Rashi ibid.**

B.

וַתְּהִי הַמְּלַחְמָה אַרְבָּה בֵּין בֵּית שָׁאוּל וּבֵין בֵּית דָּוִד וְדָוִד הִלָּךְ וַחֲזַק וּבֵית שָׁאוּל הִלְכִים וְדָלִים: וַיִּנְלְדוּ לְדָוִד בָּנִים בְּחֶבְרוֹן וַיְהִי בְּכוֹרוֹ אַמְנוֹן לְאַחִינֹעַם הַיִּזְרְעֵאלִית: וּמִשְׁנֵהוּ כָּלֵאב לְאַבְיָגַיִל אִשְׁתּוֹ נָבָל הַכַּרְמֶלִי וְהַשְּׁלִשִׁי אַבְשָׁלוֹם בֶּן מַעֲכָה בֵּת תַּלְמִי מֶלֶךְ גִּשׁוּר: וְהַרְבִּיעִי אֲדֹנִיָּה בֶּן חַגִּית וְהַחֲמִישִׁי שְׁפָטִיָּה בֶּן אַבְיָטָל: וְהַשְּׁשִׁי יִתְרֵעַם לְעַגְלָה אִשְׁתּוֹ דָּוִד אֵלֶּה יִלְדוּ לְדָוִד בְּחֶבְרוֹן: וַיְהִי בַּהֲיוֹת הַמְּלַחְמָה בֵּין בֵּית שָׁאוּל וּבֵין בֵּית דָּוִד וְאַבְנֵר הָיָה מִתְחַזֵּק בְּבֵית שָׁאוּל: וְלְשָׁאוּל פִּלְגֶשׁ וּשְׁמָה רְצַפָּה בַת אִיָּה וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל אַבְנֵר מִדּוֹעַ בָּאתָה אֶל פִּלְגֶשׁ אֲבִי: וַיַּחַר לְאַבְנֵר מְאֹד עַל דְּבַרֵי אִישׁ בִּשְׁתַּת וַיֹּאמֶר הֲרֵאשׁ כָּלֵב אֲנֹכִי אֲשֶׁר לִיהוּדָה הַיּוֹם אַעֲשֶׂה חֶסֶד עִם בֵּית | שָׁאוּל אַבְיָד אֶל אַחִיו וְאֵל מִרְעֵהוּ וְלֹא הִמְצִיתָךְ בְּיַד דָּוִד וַתִּפְקֹד עָלַי עוֹן הָאִשָּׁה הַיּוֹם: כֹּה יַעֲשֶׂה אֱ-לֹהִים לְאַבְנֵר וְכֹה יִסִּיף לוֹ כִּי כָּאֲשֶׁר נִשְׁבַּע ד' לְדָוִד כִּי כֵן אַעֲשֶׂה לוֹ: לְהַעֲבִיר הַמְּמַלְכָּה מִבֵּית שָׁאוּל וּלְהַקִּים אֶת כֹּסֵא דָוִד עַל יִשְׂרָאֵל וְעַל יְהוּדָה מִדָּן וְעַד בְּאֵר שָׁבַע: וְלֹא יָכֹל עוֹד לְהֵשִׁיב אֶת אַבְנֵר דְּבַר מִירְאָתוֹ אֹתוֹ: וַיִּשְׁלַח אַבְנֵר מִלְּאָכִים | אֶל דָּוִד תַּחֲתָיו לֵאמֹר לְמִי אָרְץ לֵאמֹר כָּרְתָה בְרִיתְךָ אִתִּי וְהָנָה יָדִי עִמָּךְ לְהִסָּב אֵלֶיךָ אֶת כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל: שְׁמוּאֵל ב גֵּא-יֵב

And there was a long war between the house of Saul and the house of David; but David became stronger and stronger, and the house of Saul became weaker and weaker. And to David were sons born in Hebron; and his firstborn was Amnon, of Ahinoam the Jezreelitess; And his second, Kileab, of Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite; and the third, Absalom the son of Maachah

the daughter of Talmai, king of Geshur; - And the fourth, Adonijah the son of Haggith; and the fifth, Shephatiah the son of Abital; And the sixth, Ithream, by Eglah, David's wife. These were born to David in Hebron. And it came to pass, while there was war between the house of Saul and the house of David, that Abner made himself strong for the house of Saul. And Saul had a concubine, whose name was Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah; and Ish-Bosheth said to Abner, Why have you gone in to my father's concubine? - Then was Abner very angry for the words of Ish-Bosheth, and said, Am I a dog's head of Judah? - I show kindness this day to the house of Saul your father, to his brothers, and to his friends, by not delivering you to the hand of David; nevertheless you charge me today with a fault concerning this woman. - So do G-d to Abner, and more also, unless, as the L-rd has sworn to David, so I do to him; To transfer the kingdom from the house of Saul, and to set up the throne of David over Israel and over Judah, from Dan to Beersheba. And he could not answer Abner a word again, because he feared him. And Abner sent messengers to David from his place, saying, Whose is the land? Make your covenant with me, and, behold, my hand shall be with you, to bring all Israel to you. **Samuel II 3:1-12**

C.

וַיָּבֹא אֲבִנֵר אֶל דָּוִד חֶבְרוֹן וְאֵתוֹ עֲשָׂרִים אַנְשִׁים וַיַּעַשׂ דָּוִד לְאֲבִנֵר וְלְאֲנָשָׁיו אֲשֶׁר אִתּוֹ מִשְׁתֶּה: וַיֹּאמֶר אֲבִנֵר אֶל דָּוִד אֲקוּמָה | וְאֵלֶכָה וְאֶקְבְּצָה אֶל אֲדֹנָי הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיִּכְרְתוּ אֹתָךְ בְּרִית וּמַלְכֹת בְּכָל אֲשֶׁר תֵּאֱוֹה נַפְשֶׁךָ וַיִּשְׁלַח דָּוִד אֶת אֲבִנֵר וַיֵּלֶךְ בְּשָׁלוֹ: שְׁמוּאֵל ב ג:כ-כא

So Abner came to David to Hebron, and twenty men with him. And David made Abner and the men who were with him a feast. And Abner said to David, I will arise and go, and will gather all Israel to my lord the king, that they may make a covenant with you, and that you may reign over all that your heart desires. And David sent Abner away; and he went in peace. **Samuel II 3:20-21**

D.

וַיָּשָׁב אֲבִנֵר חֶבְרוֹן וַיִּטְהוּ יוֹאָב אֶל תּוֹךְ הַשָּׁעַר לְדַבֵּר אִתּוֹ בְּשָׁלִי וַיִּכְהוּ שָׁם הַחֲמֹשׁ וַיָּמַת בְּדָם עֲשֵׂהָאֵל אָחִיו: וַיִּשְׁמַע דָּוִד מֵאַחֲרָיו כִּן וַיֹּאמֶר נָקִי אָנֹכִי וּמִמְלַכְתִּי מֵעַם ד' עַד עוֹלָם מִדְּמֵי אֲבִנֵר בֶּן נֹר: יָחֳלוּ עַל רֹאשׁ יוֹאָב וְאֵל כָּל בֵּית אָבִיו וְאֵל יִכְרַת מִבֵּית יוֹאָב זָב וּמִצָּרַע וּמְחֻזֵּיק בְּפִלֶךָ וְנִפְלַ בַּחֲרָב וְחָסַר לָחֶם: שְׁמוּאֵל ב ג:כז-כט

And when Abner returned to Hebron, Joab took him aside in the gate to speak with him quietly, and struck him there in the belly, that he died, for the blood of Asahel his brother. - And afterward when David heard it, he said, I and my kingdom are guiltless before the L-rd forever from the blood of Abner the son of Ner; Let it rest on the head of Joab, and on all his father's house; and let there not fail from the house of Joab one who has a discharge, or who is a leper, or who leans on crutches, or who is killed by the sword, or who lacks bread. **Samuel II 3:27-29**

E.

וַיָּבֹאוּ הַבַּיִת וְהוּא שָׁכַב עַל מִטָּתוֹ בַּחֲדָר מִשְׁכָּבוֹ וַיִּכְהוּ וַיִּמָּתוּהוּ וַיִּסִּירוּ אֶת־רֹאשׁוֹ וַיִּקְחוּ אֶת רֹאשׁוֹ וַיֵּלְכוּ דֶרֶךְ הָעֲרָבָה כָּל הַלַּיְלָה: וַיָּבֹאוּ אֶת רֹאשׁ אִישׁ בִּשְׁת אֶל דָּוִד חֶבְרוֹן וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֶל הַמֶּלֶךְ הִנֵּה רֹאשׁ אִישׁ בִּשְׁת בֶּן שְׂאוּל אֵיבֶךָ אֲשֶׁר בִּקֵּשׁ אֶת נַפְשֶׁךָ וַיִּתֵּן ד' לְאֲדֹנָי הַמֶּלֶךְ נְקָמוֹת הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה מִשְׂאוּל וּמִזֶּרְעוֹ: וַיַּעַן דָּוִד אֶת רֶכֶב | וְאֵת בַּעֲנָה אָחִיו בְּנֵי רִמּוֹן הַבְּאֵרְתִּי וַיֹּאמֶר לָחֶם חֵי ד' אֲשֶׁר פָּדָה אֶת נַפְשִׁי מִכָּל צָרָה: כִּי הַמַּגִּיד לִי לֵאמֹר הִנֵּה מֵת שְׂאוּל וְהוּא הָיָה כַּמְבֹשֵׁר בְּעֵינָיו וְאַחֲזָה בּוֹ וְאַהֲרָגְהוּ בְּצַקְלָג אֲשֶׁר לִתְתִי לוֹ בְּשָׂרָה: אַף כִּי אַנְשִׁים רָשָׁעִים הָרְגוּ אֶת אִישׁ צַדִּיק בְּבֵיתוֹ עַל מִשְׁכָּבוֹ וְעֵתָה הֲלוֹא אֲבִקֵּשׁ אֶת דָּמוֹ מִיָּדְכֶם וּבַעֲרֹתִי אֶתְכֶם מִן הָאָרֶץ: וַיִּצֹ דָּוִד אֶת הַנְּעָרִים וַיַּהֲרֹגֵם וַיִּקְצְצוּ אֶת יְדֵיהֶם וְאֵת רַגְלֵיהֶם וַיִּתְּלוּ עַל הַבְּרֹכָה בְּחֶבְרוֹן וְאֵת רֹאשׁ אִישׁ בִּשְׁת לָקְחוּ וַיִּקְבְּרוּ בְּקִבְרֵי אֲבִנֵר בְּחֶבְרוֹן: שְׁמוּאֵל ב ד:ז-

For when they came into the house, he lay on his bed in his bed chamber, and they struck him, and slew him, and beheaded him, and took his head, and went away through the Arabah all night. And they brought the head of Ish-Bosheth to David to Hebron, and said to the king, Behold the head of Ish-Bosheth the son of Saul your enemy, which sought your life; and the L-rd has avenged my lord, the king, this day of Saul, and of his seed. And David answered Rechab and Baanah his brother, the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, and said to them, As the L-rd lives, who has redeemed my soul from all adversity, When one told me, saying, Behold, Saul is dead, thinking to have brought good news, I took hold of him, and slew him in Ziklag, who thought that I would give him a reward for his news; How much more, when wicked men have killed a righteous person in his own house on his bed? shall I not therefore now require his blood of your hand, and take you away from the earth? And David commanded his young men, and they slew them, and cut off their hands and their feet, and hanged them up over the pool in Hebron. But they took the head of Ish-Bosheth, and buried it in the sepulcher of Abner in Hebron. **Samuel II 4:7-12**

#### IV. David, king of Israel

##### A.

וַיָּבֹאוּ כָּל שְׂבֵטֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶל דָּוִד חֶבְרוֹנָה וַיֹּאמְרוּ לְאֹמֶר הֲנֵנוּ עִצְמְךָ וּבִשְׂרֵךְ אֲנַחְנוּ: גַּם אֶתְמוֹל גַּם-שְׁלֹשׁוֹם בְּהִיּוֹת שְׂאוֹל מֶלֶךְ עָלֵינוּ אַתָּה הָיִיתָ הַמוֹצִיא וְהַמְּבִיא אֶת יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיֹּאמֶר ד' לָךְ אַתָּה תִרְעָה אֶת עַמִּי אֶת יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאַתָּה תִּהְיֶה לְנֶגִיד עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל: וַיָּבֹאוּ כָּל זְקֵנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶל הַמֶּלֶךְ חֶבְרוֹנָה וַיִּכְרַת לָהֶם הַמֶּלֶךְ דָּוִד בְּרִית בְּחֶבְרוֹן לִפְנֵי ד' וַיִּמְשְׁחוּ אֶת דָּוִד לְמֶלֶךְ עַל יִשְׂרָאֵל: בֵּן שְׁלֹשִׁים שָׁנָה דָּוִד בְּמָלְכוֹ אַרְבָּעִים שָׁנָה מֶלֶךְ: בְּחֶבְרוֹן מֶלֶךְ עַל יְהוּדָה שְׁבַע שָׁנִים וְשִׁשָּׁה חֳדָשִׁים וּבִירוּשָׁלַם מֶלֶךְ שְׁלֹשִׁים וְשָׁלֹשׁ שָׁנָה עַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיְהוּדָה: שְׂמוֹאל ב הֵא-ה

Then came all the tribes of Israel to David to Hebron, and spoke, saying, Behold, we are your bone and your flesh. Also in time past, when Saul was king over us, you were he that led out and brought in Israel; and the L-rd said to you, You shall feed my people Israel, and you shall be a captain over Israel. So all the elders of Israel came to the king to Hebron; and king David made a covenant with them in Hebron before the L-rd; and they anointed David king over Israel. David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months; and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty three years over all Israel and Judah. **Samuel II 5:1-5**

##### B.

וַיֵּלֶךְ הַמֶּלֶךְ וְאֲנָשָׁיו יְרוּשָׁלַם אֶל הַיְבֻסִי יוֹשֵׁב הָאָרֶץ וַיֹּאמֶר לְדָוִד לֵאמֹר לֹא תָבֹא הִנֵּה כִּי אִם הִסִּירְךָ הָעוֹרִים וְהַפְּסָחִים לֵאמֹר לֹא יָבֹא דָוִד הִנֵּה: וַיִּלְכֹּד דָּוִד אֶת מִצְדַּת צִיּוֹן הִיא עִיר דָּוִד: וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא כָּל מִכָּה יְבִסִי וַיִּגַע בְּצַנּוֹר וְאֶת הַפְּסָחִים וְאֶת הָעוֹרִים שָׁנְאֵי נֶפֶשׁ דָּוִד עַל כֵּן יֹאמְרוּ עוֹר וּפְסָח לֹא יָבֹא אֶל הַבַּיִת: וַיֵּשֶׁב דָּוִד בְּמִצְדָה וַיִּקְרָא לָהּ עִיר דָּוִד וַיִּבֶן דָּוִד סָבִיב מִן הַמְּלוּא וּבֵיתָה: וַיֵּלֶךְ דָּוִד הַלּוֹךְ וְגָדוֹל וְד' א-לְהִי צ-בָאוֹת עִמּוֹ: וַיִּשְׁלַח חִירָם מֶלֶךְ צֹר מְלֹאכִים אֶל דָּוִד וְעֵצֵי אַרְזִים וְחֲרָשֵׁי עֵץ וְחֲרָשֵׁי אָבֶן קִיר וַיִּבְנוּ בֵּית לְדָוִד: וַיִּדַע דָּוִד כִּי הֵכִינוּ ד' לְמֶלֶךְ עַל יִשְׂרָאֵל וְכִי נִשְׂא מַמְלַכְתּוֹ בְּעֶבֶר עִמּוֹ יִשְׂרָאֵל: שְׂמוֹאל ב הו-יב

And the king and his men went to Jerusalem to the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land; who spoke to David, saying, Unless you even take away the blind and the lame, you shall not come in here; thinking, David cannot come in here. - Nevertheless David took the fortress of Zion; the same is the city of David. And David said on that day, Whoever gets up to the aqueduct, and strikes the Jebusites, and the lame and the blind, who are hated by David's soul, [he shall be chief and captain.] Therefore the saying, [Because of] the blind and the lame {David} shall not

come into the house. So David lived in the fortress, and called it the city of David. And David built around from the Millo inward. - And David went on, and grew great, and the L-rd G-d of H-sts was with him. And Hiram, king of Tyre, sent messengers to David, and cedar trees, and carpenters, and masons; and they built David a house. And David perceived that the L-rd had established him king over Israel, and that He had exalted his kingdom for His people Israel's sake. **Samuel II 5:6-12**

C.

וְדוֹד וְכָל בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל מֵעַלִּים אֶת אַרְוֹן ד' בְּתִירוּעָה וּבִקְוֹל שׁוֹפָר: וְהָיָה אַרְוֹן ד' בָּא עִיר דָּוִד וּמִיכָל בֵּת שְׂאוּל נִשְׁקָפָה | בְּעַד הַחֲלוּן וַתֵּרָא אֶת הַמֶּלֶךְ דָּוִד מְפֹזֵז וּמְכַרְכֵּר לְפָנָי ד' וַתִּבֹּז לוֹ בְּלִבָּהּ: וַיָּבֵאוּ אֶת אַרְוֹן ד' וַיִּצְגּוּ אֹתוֹ בְּמִקְוָמוֹ בַּתּוֹךְ הָאֵהָל אֲשֶׁר נָטָה לוֹ דָּוִד וַיַּעַל דָּוִד עֲלוֹת לְפָנָי ד' וּשְׁלָמִים: וַיְכַל דָּוִד מִהַעֲלוֹת הָעוֹלָה וְהַשְׁלָמִים וַיְכַרֵּךְ אֶת הָעָם בְּשֵׁם ד' צ'—בְּאוֹת: שְׂמוּאֵל ב וַיֵּד—יח

So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the L-rd with shouting, and with the sound of the shofar. And as the ark of the L-rd came into the city of David, Michal, Saul's daughter, looked through a window, and saw king David leaping and dancing before the L-rd; and she despised him in her heart. And they brought in the ark of the L-rd, and set it in his place, in the midst of the tabernacle that David had pitched for it; and David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the L-rd. And as soon as David had finished offering burnt offerings and peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the L-rd of H-sts. **Samuel II 6:14-18**

D.

וְהָיָה כִּי יָשָׁב הַמֶּלֶךְ בְּבֵיתוֹ וּד' הִנִּיחַ לוֹ מִסְבִּיב מִפֶּלֶא אֵיבִיו: וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֵל נָתַן הַנְּבִיא רָאָה נָא אָנֹכִי יוֹשֵׁב בְּבֵית אַרְזִים וְאַרְוֹן הָאֵ—לֵהִים יֹשֵׁב בַּתּוֹךְ הִירִיעָה: וַיֹּאמֶר נָתַן אֵל הַמֶּלֶךְ כָּל אֲשֶׁר בְּלִבְכֶּךָ לָךְ עֲשֵׂה כִּי ד' עִמָּךְ: וְהָיָה בְּלִילָה הַהוּא וְהָיָה דִבְרַר ד' אֵל נָתַן לְאֹמְרִי: לָךְ וְאֹמְרָתְךָ אֵל עֲבָדִי אֵל דָּוִד כֹּה אָמַר ד' הֵאֱתָה תְּבַנֶּה לִּי בַיִת לְשִׁבְתִּי: כִּי לֹא יִשְׁבְּתִי בְּבֵית לְמִיּוֹם הַעֲלֹתִי אֶת בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל מִמִּצְרַיִם וְעַד הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה וְאַהֲיָה מִתְּהַלֵּךְ בְּאֵהָל וּבְמִשְׁכָּן: בְּכָל אֲשֶׁר הִתְהַלַּכְתִּי בְּכָל בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל הִדְבַּר דְּבַרְתִּי אֶת אַחַד שְׁבִטֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אֲשֶׁר צִוִּיתִי לְרַעוֹת אֶת עַמִּי אֶת יִשְׂרָאֵל לֵאמֹר לָמָּה לֹא בְּנִיתֶם לִי בַיִת אַרְזִים: וְעַתָּה כֹּה תֹאמַר לְעַבְדִּי לְדָוִד כֹּה אָמַר ד' צְבָאוֹת אֲנִי לְקַחְתִּיךָ מִן הַנְּהוּרָה מֵאַחַר הַצֹּאֵן לְהִיוֹת נְגִיד עַל עַמִּי עַל יִשְׂרָאֵל: וְאַהֲיָה עִמָּךְ בְּכָל אֲשֶׁר הִלַּכְתָּ וְאִכְרַתָּה אֶת כָּל אֵיבֶיךָ מִפְּנֵיךָ וְעָשִׂיתִי לָךְ שֵׁם גָּדוֹל כְּשֵׁם הַגְּדֹלִים אֲשֶׁר בְּאַרְצֵךְ: וְשִׁמְתִי מְקוֹם לְעַמִּי לְיִשְׂרָאֵל וְנִטְעַתִּיו וְשָׁכַן תַּחְתָּיו וְלֹא יִרְגַּז עוֹד וְלֹא יִסִּיפוּ בְנֵי עוֹלָה לְעַנּוֹתוֹ כְּאֲשֶׁר בְּרָאשׁוֹנָה: וְלִמֵּן הַיּוֹם אֲשֶׁר צִוִּיתִי שְׁפָטִים עַל עַמִּי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְהִנִּיחְתִּי לָךְ מִכָּל אֵיבֶיךָ וְהִגִּיד לָךְ ד' כִּי בַיִת יַעֲשֶׂה לָךְ ד': כִּי | יִמְלָאוּ יְמֶיךָ וּשְׁכַבְתָּ אֶת אֲבֹתֶיךָ וְהִקִּימְתִי אֶת זְרַעְךָ אַחֲרֶיךָ אֲשֶׁר יֵצֵא מִמֶּעֶיךָ וְהִכִּינְתִּי אֶת מַמְלַכְתּוֹ: הוּא יְבַנֶּה בַיִת לְשִׁמִּי וְכִנְנִיתִי אֶת כִּסֵּא מַמְלַכְתּוֹ עַד עוֹלָם: אֲנִי אֶהְיֶה לוֹ לְאֵב וְהוּא יִהְיֶה לִּי לְבֵן אֲשֶׁר בְּהַעֲוֹתוֹ וְהִכְחַתִּיו בְּשִׁבְטֵי אֲנָשִׁים וּבְנִגְעֵי בְנֵי אָדָם: וְחִסְדִּי לֹא יִסּוּר מִמֶּנּוּ כְּאֲשֶׁר הִסְרִיתִי מֵעַם שְׂאוּל אֲשֶׁר הִסְרִיתִי מִלְּפָנֶיךָ: וְנֹאמְנָן בַּיִתְךָ וּמִמְלַכְתְּךָ עַד עוֹלָם לְפָנֶיךָ כִּסְאֶךָ יִהְיֶה נְכוּן עַד עוֹלָם: כְּכָל הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה וְכָכָל הַחֲזִיוֹן הַזֶּה כֵּן דִּבַּר נָתַן אֵל דָּוִד: וַיָּבֵא הַמֶּלֶךְ דָּוִד וַיֵּשֶׁב לְפָנָי ד' וַיֹּאמֶר מִי אָנֹכִי א—דָּנִי?—הוּוֹה וּמִי בַיִתִּי כִּי הִבִּיאֲתָנִי עַד הַלֵּם: וַתִּקְטַן עוֹד זֹאת בְּעֵינֶיךָ א—דָּנִי?—הוּוֹה וַתִּדְבַּר גַּם אֵל בַּיִת עֲבָדְךָ לְמַרְחוּק וְזֹאת תּוֹרַת הָאָדָם א—דָּנִי?—הוּוֹה: וּמָה יוֹסִיף דָּוִד עוֹד לְדַבֵּר אֵלֶיךָ וְאַתָּה יְדַעְתָּ אֶת עֲבָדְךָ א—דָּנִי?—הוּוֹה: בְּעֵבֹר דְּבָרְךָ וּכְלַבְּךָ עָשִׂיתָ אֶת כָּל הַגְּדוּלָה הַזֹּאת לְהוֹדִיעַ אֶת עֲבָדְךָ: עַל כֵּן גְּדַלְתָּ א—דָּנִי?—הוּוֹה כִּי אֵינְךָ כְּמוֹךָ וְאֵינְךָ א—לֵהִים זוֹלָתְךָ בְּכָל אֲשֶׁר שָׁמַעְנוּ בְּאֲזִינוֹנוּ: וּמִי כַעֲמָךְ כִּי־יִשְׂרָאֵל גּוֹי אֶחָד בְּאַרְצֵךְ אֲשֶׁר הִלְכוּ א—לֵהִים לְפָדוֹת לוֹ לְעַם וְלְשׁוֹם לוֹ שֵׁם וְלַעֲשׂוֹת לָכֶם הַגְּדוּלָה וְנִרְאוֹת לְאַרְצֶךָ מִפְּנֵי עִמָּךְ אֲשֶׁר פָּדִיתָ לָךְ מִמִּצְרַיִם גּוֹיִם וְא—לֵהִיוּ: וַתְּכוֹנֵן לָךְ אֶת עִמָּךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל | לָךְ לְעַם עַד עוֹלָם וְאַתָּה ד' הֵייתָ לָהֶם לֵא—לֵהִים: וְעַתָּה ד' א—לֵהִים הִדְבַּר אֲשֶׁר דְּבַרְתָּ עַל עֲבָדְךָ וְעַל בֵּיתוֹ הֵקַם עַד עוֹלָם וְעָשִׂה כְּאֲשֶׁר דְּבַרְתָּ: וַיְגַדֵּל שִׁמְךָ עַד עוֹלָם לֵאמֹר ד' צְבָאוֹת א—לֵהִים עַל יִשְׂרָאֵל וּבַיִת עֲבָדְךָ דָּוִד יִהְיֶה נְכוּן לְפָנֶיךָ: כִּי אַתָּה ד' צ'—בְּאוֹת א—לֵהִי יִשְׂרָאֵל גְּלִיתָה אֶת אֲזֵן עֲבָדְךָ

לֵאמֹר בֵּית אֲבֹנֶה לָךְ עַל כֵּן מָצָא עֲבָדְךָ אֶת לְבוֹ לְהִתְפַּלֵּל אֵלֶיךָ אֶת הַתְּפִלָּה הַזֹּאת: וְעַתָּה | אֲ-דֹנִי יְ-הוָה  
 אֶתָּה הוּא הָאֱ-לֹהִים וְדַכְרִיךָ יְהִיו אֲמֶת וְתִדְבֵר אֶל עֲבָדְךָ אֶת הַטּוֹבָה הַזֹּאת: וְעַתָּה הוֹאֵל וּבְרַךְ אֶת בֵּית  
 עֲבָדְךָ לְהָיוֹת לְעוֹלָם לְפָנֶיךָ כִּי אֶתָּה אֲ-דֹנִי יְ-הוָה דְּבַרְתָּ וּמִבְרַכְתָּךְ יְבָרַךְ בֵּית עֲבָדְךָ לְעוֹלָם: שְׂמוּאֵל  
 ב ז א-כט

And it came to pass, when the king sat in his house, and the L-rd had given him rest from all his enemies; That the king said to Nathan the prophet, See now, I live in a house of cedar, but the ark of G-d dwells within curtains. And Nathan said to the king, Go, do all that is in your heart; for the L-rd is with you. And it came to pass that night, that the word of the L-rd came to Nathan, saying, Go and tell My servant David, Thus said the L-rd, Shall you build Me a house for Me to dwell in? Because I have not dwelt in any house since the time that I brought up the people of Israel out of Egypt, even to this day, but have walked in a tent and in a tabernacle. In all the places where I have walked with all the people of Israel spoke I a word with any of the tribes of Israel, whom I commanded to feed My people Israel, saying, Why do you not build Me a house of cedar? And therefore so shall you say to My servant David, Thus said the L-rd of H-sts, I took you from the sheepfold, from following the sheep, to be ruler over My people, over Israel; And I was with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from your sight, and have made you a great name, like the names of the great men who are in the earth. And I have appointed a place for My people Israel, and have planted them, that they may dwell in a place of their own, and move no more; nor shall the children of wickedness afflict them any more, as formerly, From the time that I commanded judges to be over My people Israel, and have caused you to rest from all your enemies. Also the L-rd tells you that He will make you a house. And when your days are fulfilled, and you shall sleep with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who shall issue from your bowels, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his father, and he shall be My son. If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with such plagues as befall the sons of men; But My mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away before you. And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you; your throne shall be established forever. According to all these words, and according to all this vision, so did Nathan speak to David. Then went king David in, and sat before the L-rd, and he said, Who am I, O L-rd G-d? and what is my house, that You have brought me thus far? And this was yet a small thing in Your sight, O L-rd G-d; but You have spoken also of Your servant's house continuing for a great while to come. And does any man deserve such a course, O L-rd G-d? And what can David say more to You? for You, L-rd G-d, know Your servant. For Your word's sake, and according to Your own heart, have You done all these great things, to make Your servant know them. Therefore You are great, O L-rd G-d; for there is none like You, neither is there any G-d beside You, according to all that we have heard with our ears. And what one nation in the earth is like Your people, like Israel, whom G-d went to redeem for a people to Himself, and to make Him a name, and to do for You great things and awesome, for Your land, before Your people, which You redeemed to You from Egypt, from the nations and their gods? For You have confirmed to Yourself Your people Israel to be a people to You forever; and You, L-rd, have become their G-d. And now, O L-rd G-d, the word that You have spoken concerning Your servant, and concerning his house, establish it forever, and do as You have said. And let Your name be magnified forever, saying, The L-rd of hosts is the G-d over Israel; and let the house of Your servant David be established before You. For You, O L-rd of hosts, G-d of Israel, have revealed to Your servant, saying, I will build You a house; therefore has Your servant found in his heart to pray this prayer to You. And now, O L-rd G-d, You are that G-d, and Your words are true, and You have promised this goodness to Your servant; Therefore now let it please You to bless the house of Your servant, that it may continue forever



before You; for You, O L-rd G-d, have spoken it; and with Your blessing let the house of Your servant be blessed forever. **Samuel II 7:1-29**

E.

א"ר יהושע בן לוי, מאי דכתיב: (תהלים קכ"ב) שיר המעלות לדוד שמחתי באומרים לי בית ד' נלך? אמר דוד לפני הקדוש ברוך הוא: רבש"ע, שמעתי בני אדם שהיו אומרים מתי ימות זקן זה ויבא שלמה בנו ויבנה בית הבחירה ונעלה לרגל, ושמחתי אמר לו הקב"ה: (תהלים פ"ד) כי טוב יום בחצריך מאלף, טוב לי יום אחד שאתה עוסק בתורה לפני, מאלף עולות שעתידי שלמה בנך להקריב לפני על גבי המזבח. מכות י.

R. Yehoshua b. Levi said: What is the meaning of the [Psalmist's] words (Psalms 122:1), "A song of Ascents unto David. I was rejoiced when they said unto me: Let us go unto the House of the L-rd?" David, addressing himself to the Holy One, blessed be He, said: L-rd of the Universe! I heard men saying, "When will this old man die and let his son Solomon come and build us the Chosen Shrine and we shall go up there [as pilgrims]?" and I rejoiced at that. Said the Holy One, blessed be He, to him (Psalms 84:11), "A day in your courts is better than a thousand!" Better to Me one day spent by you in study of Torah than a thousand sacrifices that your son Solomon will [some day] offer before Me, on the altar! **Makkos 10a**