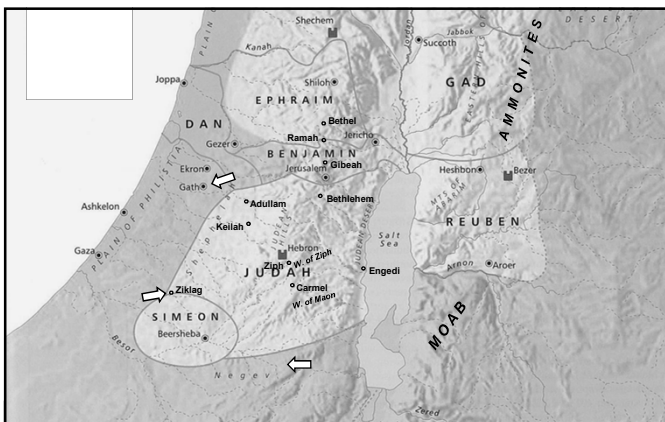


In Search of a King 1-2 SAMUEL

1 Samuel 27:1-28:2

To Philistia: Prudence or Folly?



Prudence or Folly?

Q: *How shall we evaluate David's actions?*

Prudence or Folly?

A. Case for the Negative View

- David's faith wavered and he reacted out of irrational fear (27:1)
- David sought refuge among the Philistines, the enemies of Israel!
- David engaged in ruthless raids to supply his men and cover his tracks

Prudence or Folly?

A. Case for the Negative View

- David was forced into deception and lying in order to maintain his position

➤ *All of this led to unforeseen and potentially disastrous consequences*

Prudence or Folly?

B. Case for the Positive View

- David employed necessary means to escape Saul's unrelenting pursuit
- David's move to Philistia was necessary and had positive outcomes
- David faithfully conducted "holy war" against Israel's enemies while a fugitive

Prudence or Folly?

B. Case for the Positive View

- David's motive for deceiving was to avoid harmful consequences from Achish and yet remain loyal to Israel

Applying Ambiguity

1. Showing God's Unfailing Promise

- God provides for and protects David even in Philistia!
- David is not our savior....Jesus is!

Applying Ambiguity

2. Wrestling with Ambiguity

- David reflects the ambiguity we face in the decisions we make – *is this prudent faith or lack of trust?*
- wrestling continually before God is healthy and necessary