

1 & 2 Samuel Series

Lesson #086

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Dean Bible Ministries

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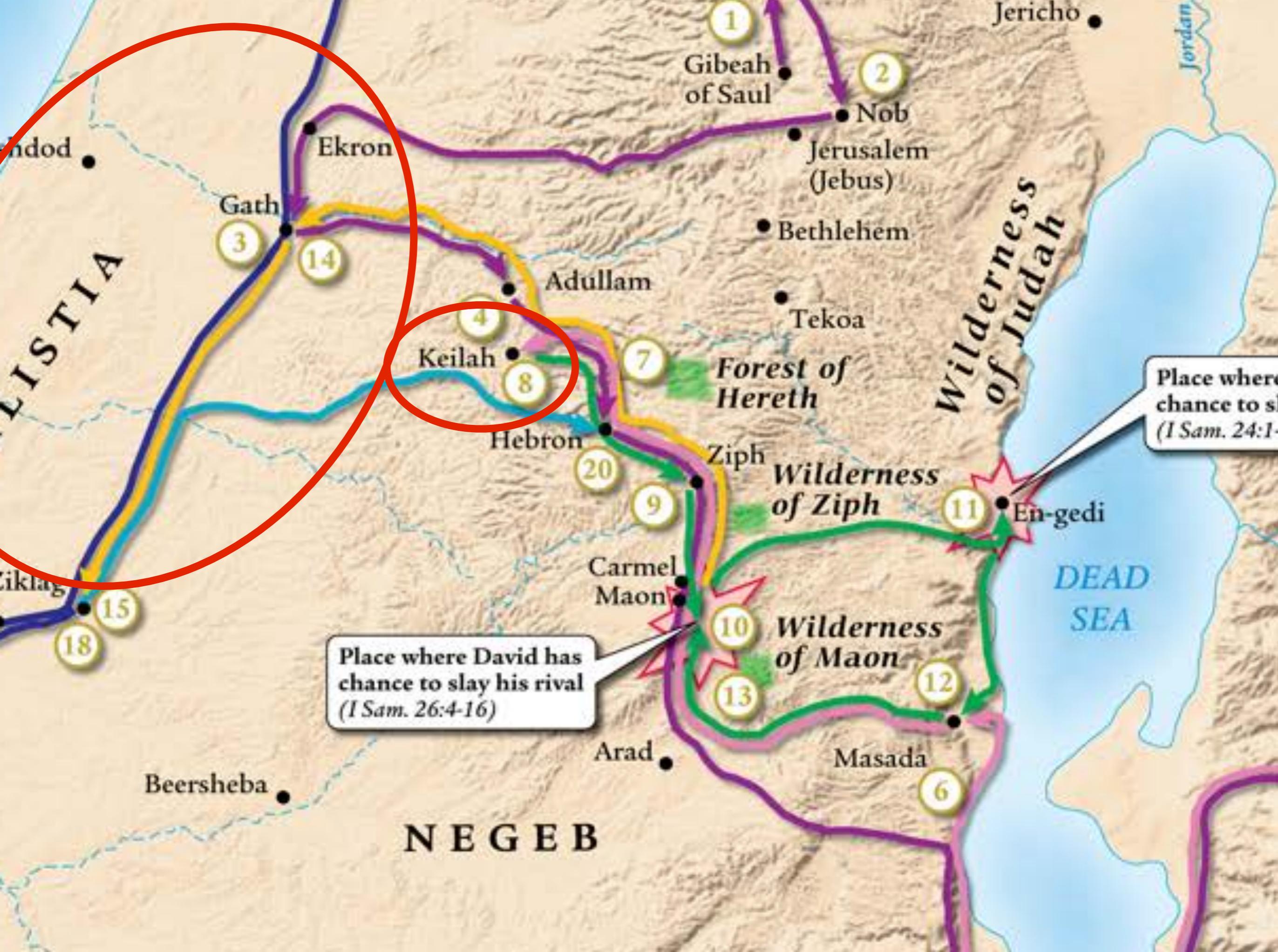


THE BATTLE IS THE LORD'S

DAVID ESCAPES; DIVINE GUIDANCE

1 Samuel 23:1–29

**1 Sam. 23:1, “Then they told David, saying,
‘Look, the Philistines are fighting against
Keilah, and they are robbing the threshing
floors.’ ”**



PHILISTIA

Wilderness of Judah

NEGEB

DEAD SEA

Place where David has chance to slay his rival
(I Sam. 26:4-16)

Place where chance to slay
(I Sam. 24:1-17)

Gath

Ekron

Adullam

Keilah

Hebron

Ziph

Carmel Maon

Arad

Masada

En-gedi

Gibeah of Saul

Nob

Jerusalem (Jebus)

Bethlehem

Tekoa

Forest of Hereth

Wilderness of Ziph

Wilderness of Maon

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Jordan

Dod

Jericho

17

Beersheba

**1 Sam. 23:1, “Then they told David, saying,
‘Look, the Philistines are fighting against
Keilah, and they are robbing the threshing
floors.’ ”**

1 Sam. 23:1–6	David
1 Sam. 23:7–8	Saul
1 Sam. 23:9–13	David
1 Sam. 23:14–15	David in the wilderness of Ziph
1 Sam. 23:16–18	David and Jonathan
1 Sam. 23:19–28	Saul's pursuit of David
1 Sam. 23:29	David retires to <i>En Gedi</i>

1 Sam. 23:2, “Therefore David inquired of the LORD, saying, ‘Shall I go and attack these Philistines?’ And the LORD said to David, ‘Go and attack the Philistines, and save Keilah.’ ”

1 Sam. 22:5, “Now the prophet Gad said to David, ‘Do not stay in the stronghold; depart, and go to the land of Judah.’ So David departed and went into the forest of Hereth.”

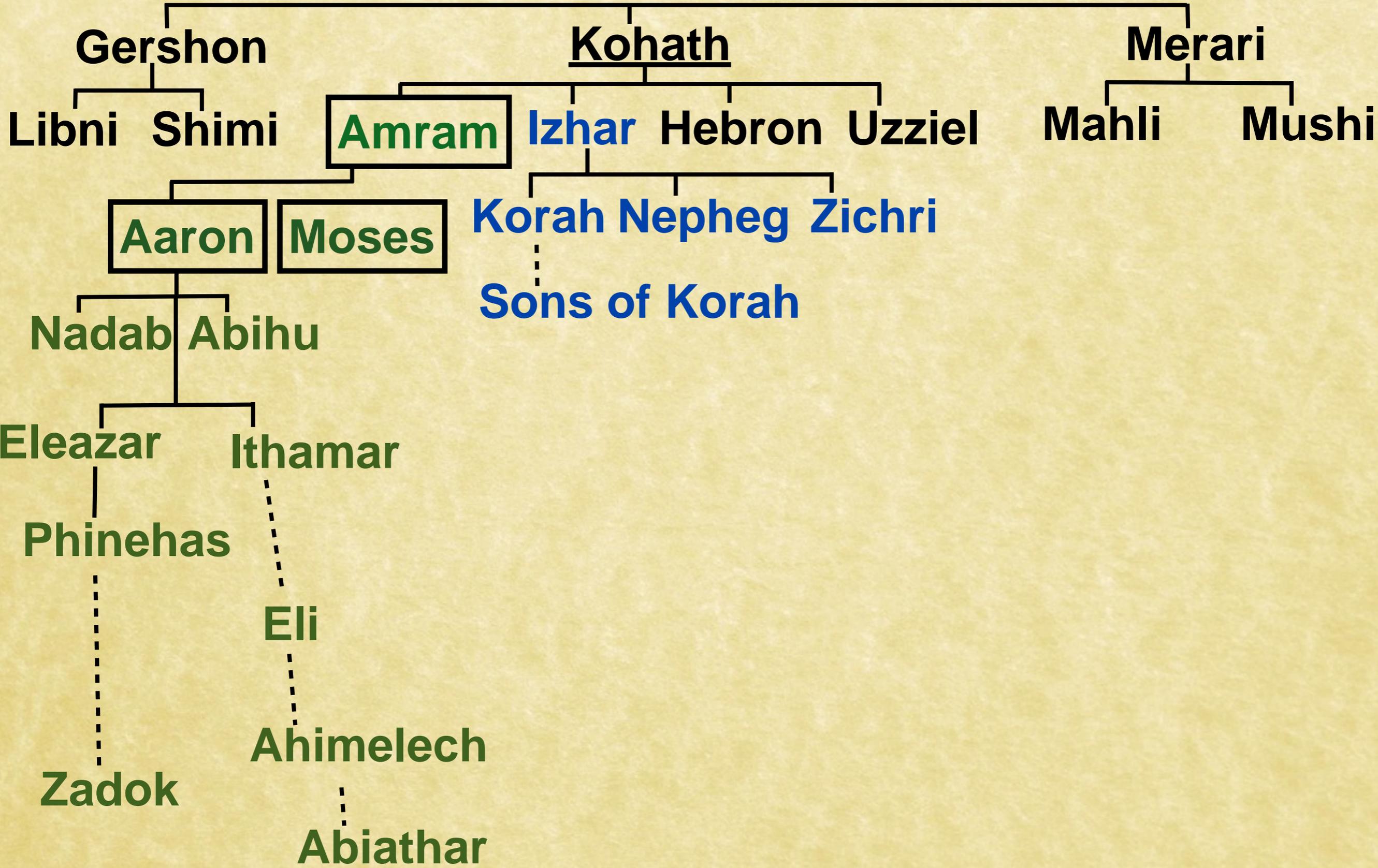
1 Sam. 23:4, “Then David inquired of the LORD once again.

**And the LORD answered him and said,
‘Arise, go down to Keilah. For I will deliver
the Philistines into your hand.’ ”**

1 Sam. 23:5, “And David and his men went to Keilah and fought with the Philistines, struck them with a mighty blow, and took away their livestock. So David saved the inhabitants of Keilah.”

1 Sam. 23:6, “Now it happened, when Abiathar the son of Ahimelech fled to David at Keilah, that he went down with an ephod in his hand.”

Levi Ex. 6:16–25





Num. 27:21, “He shall stand before Eleazar the priest, who shall inquire before the LORD for him by the judgment of the Urim. At his word they shall go out, and at his word they shall come in, he and all the children of Israel with him—all the congregation.”

cf., Exod. 28:6–35

1 Sam. 23:7, “And Saul was told that David had gone to Keilah. So Saul said, ‘God has delivered him into my hand, for he has shut himself in by entering a town that has gates and bars.’”

1 Sam. 23:8, “Then Saul called all the people together for war, to go down to Keilah to besiege David and his men.”

“As portrayed by the biblical writer, the central event in the Keilah episode of vv. 7–13a is *David’s pursuit of divine counsel by means of the ephod*; 48 of the 103 Hebrew words in this section (47 percent) are used to depict this one seemingly minor incident. The author used the ephod-based interchange between David and the Lord to achieve several results relevant to the themes and theological intents of the book.”

~Robert Bergen, 1, 2 Samuel, *New American Commentary*

1 Sam. 23:9, “When David knew that Saul plotted evil against him, he said to Abiathar the priest, ‘Bring the ephod here.’”

1 Sam. 23:10, “Then David said, ‘O LORD God of Israel, Your servant has certainly heard that Saul seeks to come to Keilah to destroy the city for my sake.’”

1 Sam. 23:11, “ ‘Will the men of Keilah deliver me into his hand? Will Saul come down, as Your servant has heard? O LORD God of Israel, I pray, tell Your servant.’ And the LORD said, ‘He will come down.’ ”

1 Sam. 23:12, “Then David said, ‘Will the men of Keilah deliver me and my men into the hand of Saul?’ And the LORD said, ‘They will deliver you.’ ”

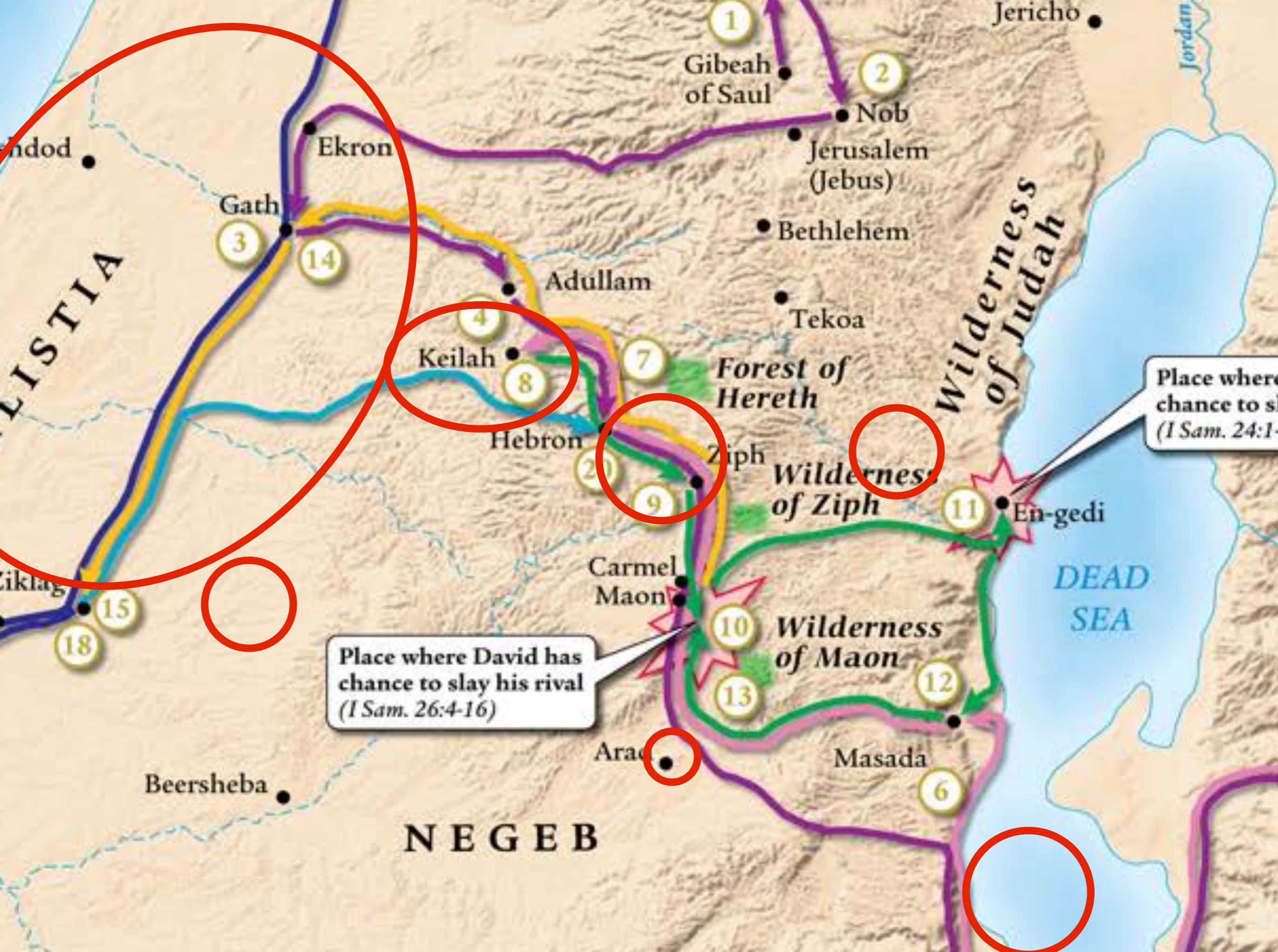
Omniscience means the Lord knows what will and what might have, could have, and should have happened.

Matt. 11:21, “Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.”

1 Sam. 23:13, “So David and his men, about six hundred, arose and departed from Keilah and went wherever they could go. Then it was told Saul that David had escaped from Keilah; so he halted the expedition.”

1 Sam. 23:14, “And David stayed in strongholds in the wilderness, and remained in the mountains in the Wilderness of Ziph. Saul sought him every day, but God did not deliver him into his hand.

1 Sam. 23:15, “So David saw that Saul had come out to seek his life. And David was in the Wilderness of Ziph in a forest.”



1 Sam. 23:16, “Then Jonathan, Saul’s son, arose and went to David in the woods and strengthened his hand in God.

1 Sam. 23:17, “And he said to him, ‘Do not fear, for the hand of Saul my father shall not find you. You shall be king over Israel, and I shall be next to you. Even my father Saul knows that.’

1 Sam. 23:18, “So the two of them made a covenant before the LORD. And David stayed in the woods, and Jonathan went to his own house.”

1 Sam. 18:3, “Then Jonathan and David made a covenant, because he loved him as his own soul.”

1 Sam. 20:8, “Therefore you shall deal kindly with your servant, for you have brought your servant into a covenant of the LORD with you. Nevertheless, if there is iniquity in me, kill me yourself, for why should you bring me to your father?”

1 Sam. 20:16, “So Jonathan made a covenant with the house of David, saying, ‘Let the LORD require it at the hand of David’s enemies.’ ”

1 Sam. 23:16, “Then Jonathan, Saul’s son, arose and went to David in the woods and strengthened his hand in God.

1 Sam. 23:17, “And he said to him, ‘Do not fear, for the hand of Saul my father shall not find you. You shall be king over Israel, and I shall be next to you. Even my father Saul knows that.’

1 Sam. 23:18, “So the two of them made a covenant before the LORD. And David stayed in the woods, and Jonathan went to his own house.”

1 Sam. 23:19, “Then the Ziphites came up to Saul at Gibeah, saying, ‘Is David not hiding with us in strongholds in the woods, in the hill of Hachilah, which is on the south of Jeshimon?’ ”

1 Sam. 23:20, “ ‘Now therefore, O king, come down according to all the desire of your soul to come down; and our part shall be to deliver him into the king’s hand.’ ”

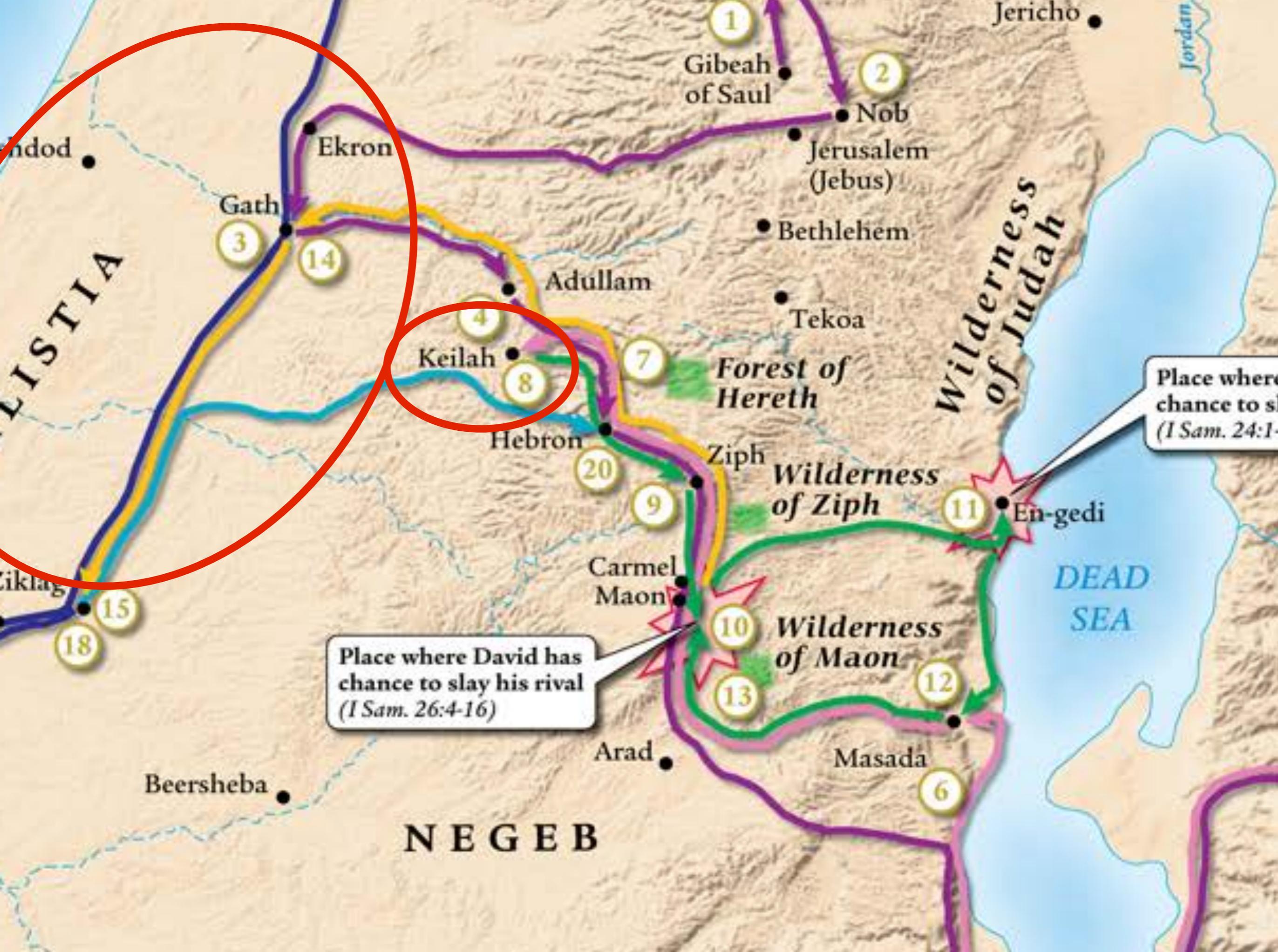
1 Sam. 23:21, “And Saul said, ‘Blessed are you of the LORD, for you have compassion on me.

1 Sam. 23:22, “ ‘Please go and find out for sure, and see the place where his hideout is, and who has seen him there. For I am told he is very crafty.’ ”

1 Sam. 23:23, “ ‘See therefore, and take knowledge of all the lurking places where he hides; and come back to me with certainty, and I will go with you. And it shall be, if he is in the land, that I will search for him throughout all the clans of Judah.’ ”

1 Sam. 23:24, “So they arose and went to Ziph before Saul. But David and his men were in the Wilderness of Maon, in the plain on the south of Jeshimon.

1 Sam. 23:25, “When Saul and his men went to seek him, they told David. Therefore he went down to the rock, and stayed in the Wilderness of Maon. And when Saul heard that, he pursued David in the Wilderness of Maon.”



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Place where David has chance to slay his rival (I Sam. 26:4-16)

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1 Sam. 23:26, “Then Saul went on one side of the mountain, and David and his men on the other side of the mountain. So David made haste to get away from Saul, for Saul and his men were encircling David and his men to take them.”

1 Sam. 23:27, “But a messenger came to Saul, saying, ‘Hurry and come, for the Philistines have invaded the land!’

1 Sam. 23:28, “Therefore Saul returned from pursuing David, and went against the Philistines; so they called that place the Rock of Escape.

1 Sam. 23:29, “Then David went up from there and dwelt in strongholds at En Gedi.”