

# 1 & 2 Samuel Series

## Lesson #091

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Dean Bible Ministries

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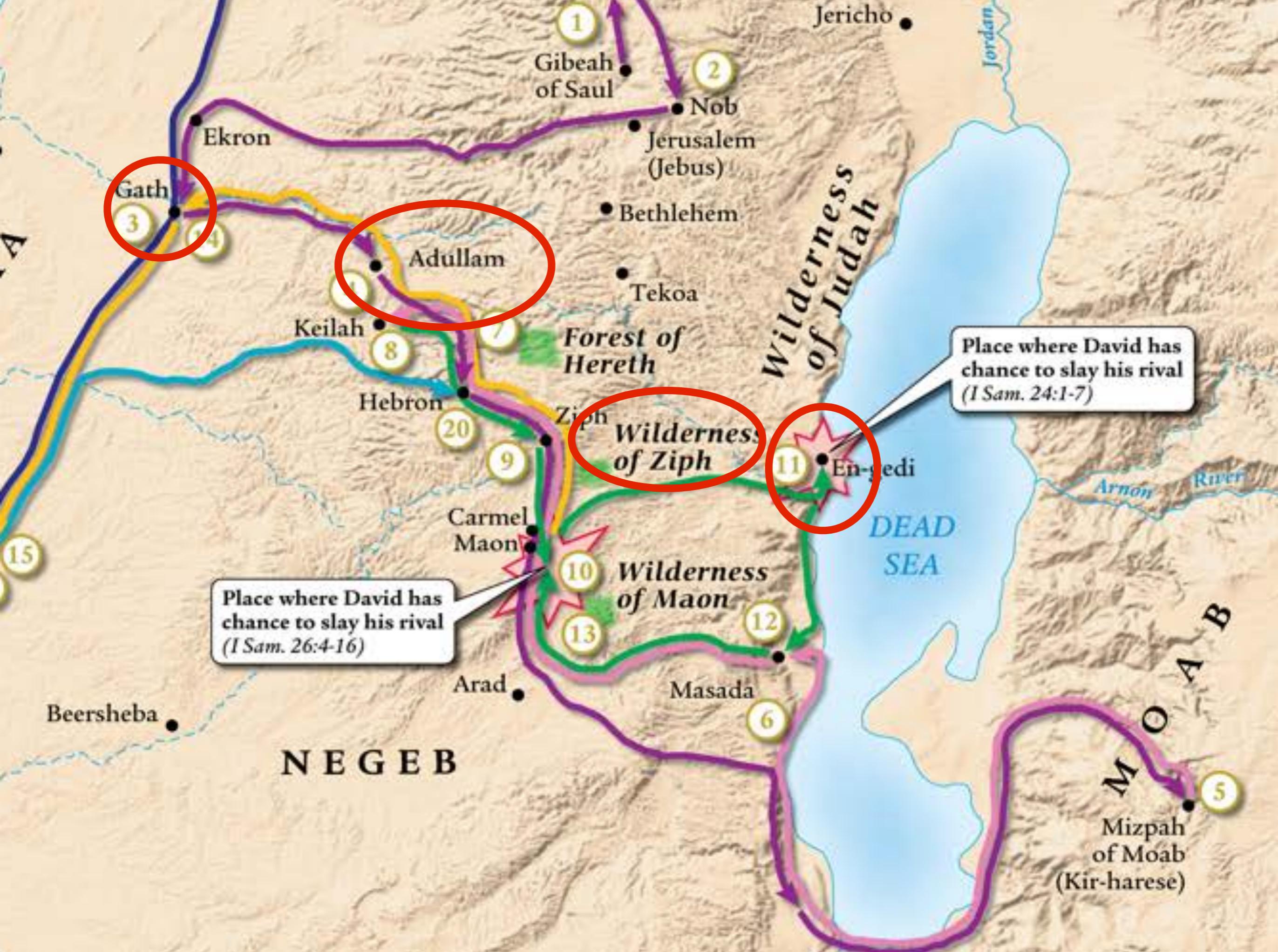
THE BATTLE IS THE LORD'S

DAVID AT EN-GEDI

AUTHORITY

1 Samuel 24:1–22

**1 Sam. 24:1, “Now it happened, when Saul had returned from following the Philistines, that it was told him, saying, ‘Take note! David is in *the Wilderness of En Gedi.*’ ”**



Place where David has chance to slay his rival (I Sam. 24:1-7)

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

3 Gath

4 Adullam

7 Wilderness of Ziph

11 En-gedi

10 Wilderness of Maon

5 Mizpah of Moab (Kir-harese)

Jericho

1 Gibeah of Saul

2 Nob

Ekron

Jerusalem (Jebus)

Bethlehem

Tekoa

Keilah

8

Hebron

20

Ziph

9

Carmel Maon

10

13

Arad

Masada

12

6

Beersheba

NEGEB

DEAD SEA

Wilderness of Judah

Forest of Hereth

M O A B

Jordan

Arnon River

**Nahal Arugot**



**Wilderness of Judah**

**Nahal David**



**En Gedi spring**



**Dead Sea**

**En Gedi area aerial from east**





En Gedi and Nahal Arugot aerial from east



En Gedi and Nahal David aerial from northwest











**1 Sam. 24:2, “Then Saul took three thousand chosen men from all Israel, and went to seek David and his men on the Rocks of the Wild Goats.”**

**יַעֲלַי *yaʿel* mountain goat, Nubian Ibex**



**1 Sam. 24:2, “Then Saul took three thousand chosen men from all Israel, and went to seek David and his men on the Rocks of the Wild Goats.”**

**Saul attempts to kill David approximately 16 times (see 1 Sam. 18:11, 17, 25; 19:1, 10, 11, 15, 20–21, 22; 23:8, 15; 24:2; 26:2).**

**בחר-2 *bachar-2***

**qal passiveP masc sing**

**abs**

**Choice, excellent**



Ibex kids at En Gedi



Ibex male herd at En Gedi



Ibex at En Gedi





**Saul: trusts in man [*batach*—confidence]**

**Jer. 17:5, “Thus says the LORD: ‘Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart departs from the LORD.’”**

**David:**

**Psa. 56:3, “Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You.**

**Psa. 56:4, “In God (I will praise His word), in God I have put my trust; I will not fear. What can flesh do to me?”**

**1 Sam. 24:3, “So he came to the sheepfolds by the road, where there was a cave; and Saul went in to attend to his needs. (David and his men were staying in the recesses of the cave.)”**



En Gedi Nahal David caves



En Gedi Nahal David Dudim Cave

**1 Sam. 24:4, “Then the men of David said to him, ‘This is the day of which the LORD said to you, “Behold, I will deliver your enemy into your hand, that you may do to him as it seems good to you.” ’ And David arose and secretly cut off a corner of Saul’s robe.”**

**1 Sam. 24:5, “Now it happened afterward that David’s heart troubled him because he had cut Saul’s robe.**

**1 Sam. 24:6, “And he said to his men, ‘The LORD forbid that I should do this thing to my master, the LORD’S anointed, to stretch out my hand against him, seeing he is the anointed of the LORD.’**

**1 Sam. 24:7, “So David restrained his servants with these words, and did not allow them to rise against Saul. And Saul got up from the cave and went on his way.”**

**מָשִׁיחַ *mashiach* anointed, appointed one**

**1 Sam. 24:8, “David also arose afterward, went out of the cave, and called out to Saul, saying, ‘My lord the king!’ And when Saul looked behind him, David stooped with his face to the earth, and bowed down.**

**1 Sam. 24:9, “And David said to Saul: ‘Why do you listen to the words of men who say, “Indeed David seeks your harm”?’ ”**

**Psa. 56:5, “All day they twist my words; All their thoughts are against me for evil.**

**Psa. 56:6, “They gather together, they hide, they mark my steps, when they lie in wait for my life.”**

**Psa. 34:13, “Keep your tongue from evil,  
And your lips from speaking deceit.”**

**Psa. 52:1, “Why do you boast in evil, O mighty man? The goodness of God endures continually.**

**Psa. 52:2, “Your tongue devises destruction, like a sharp razor, working deceitfully.**

**Psa. 52:3, “You love evil more than good, Lying rather than speaking righteousness.  
Selah**

**Psa. 52:4, “You love all devouring words, You deceitful tongue.”**

**1 Sam. 24:10, “Look, this day your eyes have seen that the LORD delivered you today into my hand in the cave, and someone urged me to kill you. But my eye spared you, and I said, ‘I will not stretch out my hand against my lord, for he is the LORD’S anointed.’ ” [*Meshiach–Messiah*, “anointed one”]**

**1 Sam. 24:11, “Moreover, my father, see! Yes, see the corner of your robe in my hand! For in that I cut off the corner of your robe, and did not kill you, know and see that there is neither evil nor rebellion in my hand, and I have not sinned against you. Yet you hunt my life to take it.**

**1 Sam. 24:12, “Let the LORD judge between you and me, and let the LORD avenge me on you. But my hand shall not be against you.”**

**1 Sam. 24:13, “As the proverb of the ancients says, ‘Wickedness proceeds from the wicked.’ But my hand shall not be against you.**

**1 Sam. 24:14, “After whom has the king of Israel come out? Whom do you pursue? A dead dog? A flea?**

**1 Sam. 24:15, “Therefore let the LORD be judge, and judge between you and me, and see and plead my case, and deliver me out of your hand.”**

**1 Sam. 24:16, “So it was, 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.**

**1 Sam. 24:17, “Then he said to David: ‘You are more righteous than I; for you have rewarded me with good, whereas I have rewarded you with evil.**

**1 Sam. 24:18, “ ‘And you have shown this day how you have dealt well with me; for when the LORD delivered me into your hand, you did not kill me.’ ”**

**1 Sam. 24:19, “For if a man finds his enemy, will he let him get away safely? Therefore may the LORD reward you with good for what you have done to me this day.**

**1 Sam. 24:20, “And now I know indeed that you shall surely be king, and that the kingdom of Israel shall be established in your hand.**

**1 Sam. 24:21, “Therefore swear now to me by the LORD that you will not cut off my descendants after me, and that you will not destroy my name from my father’s house.”**

**1 Sam. 24:22, “So David swore to Saul. And Saul went home, but David and his men went up to the stronghold.”**

**מְצוּדָה-2 *metzudah-2***

**comm fem sing abs**

**stronghold, fortress, Masada**

**What Does the  
Bible Teach  
About Authority  
and  
Why?**

# **Various individual *authorities* mentioned in Scripture**

- **Of Israel's high priest (Acts 23:5).**
- **Of those in charge of the synagogue (Matthew 9:18, 23; Luke 8:41).**
- **Of members of the Sanhedrin (Luke 18:18; 23:13, 35; 24:20).**
- **Of a judge (Luke 12:58).**
- **Of pagan officials (Acts 16:19).**
- **Of demons whose hierarchies resemble human political institutions (Matthew 9:34; 12:24; Mark 3:22; Luke 11:15).**

**1. God the Son is to submit to the authority of God the Father, 1 Cor. 15:28; John 5:19–30**

**1 Cor. 15:28, “Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.”**

## **2. Angels are to be subject to Christ, 1 Pet. 3:22**

**1 Pet. 3:22, “who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.”**

**3. Every Church Age believer is to submit to the authority of Christ, Eph. 5:24**

**Eph. 5:24, “Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.”**

**4. Servants are to submit to the masters, slaves to their owners, 1 Pet. 2:18; Eph. 6:5**

**1 Pet. 2:18, “Servants, be submissive to your masters with all fear, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the harsh.**

**5. Wives are to submit to their husbands,  
Col. 3:18; Eph. 5:22**

**Col. 3:18, “Wives, submit to your own  
husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.”**

**6. Children are to submit to their parents,  
1 Tim. 3:4; Eph. 6:1**

**Eph. 6:1, “Children, obey your parents in the  
Lord, for this is right.”**

**7. The young are to submit to their elders,  
1 Pet. 5:5**

**1 Pet. 5:5, “Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for ‘God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.’ ”**

**8. Church members are to submit to their leaders,  
Heb. 13:7, 17**

**Heb. 13:7, “Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.**

**Heb. 13:17, “Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.”**

**9. All believers are to submit to government authorities.**

**1 Pet. 2:13, “Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord’s sake, whether to the king as supreme,”**

**Rom. 13:1, “Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and these authorities that exist are appointed by God.”**

**ὑποτάσσω *hupotassō*  
pres mid impera 3  
sing  
“to subject; to  
submit”**

**ἐξουσία *exousia*  
Noun nom fem sing  
“authority, power;  
tribunate”**

**1 Pet. 2:13, “Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord’s sake, whether to the king as supreme,”**

**κτίσις *ktisis*  
dat fem sing  
“creation,  
creaturely  
institution or  
ordinance”**

**ὑποτάσσω *hupotassō*  
pres mid impera 3  
sing  
“to subject; to  
submit”**

**Rom. 13:2, “Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves.”**

**διαταγή *diatagē*  
dat fem sing  
“decree, ordinance”**

**ἀνθίστημι  
*anthistēmi*  
perf act indic 3  
sing  
“to resist,  
oppose, to stand  
against”**

## **God's Use of "Unjust" Rulers**

**Saul, who became a carnal and evil ruler, was anointed king by the will of God (1 Sam. 9:15–16).**

**Isaiah calls Assyria the rod of God's anger, the staff in His hand (Isaiah 10:5).**

**Later Isaiah calls Cyrus God's anointed (Isaiah 45:1).**

**And Jeremiah says that Nebuchadnezzar is God's servant (Jeremiah 25:9).**

# Summary Points

- 1. Authority is not part of the created order but part of the makeup of the Triune Godhead.**
- 2. Authority is necessary for any social group, organization, or order to function.**
- 3. At the very center of all authority is God, who is the Source of all authority.**
- 4. Authority was the ultimate issue in the angelic conflict, so authority becomes the ultimate issue in the believer's spiritual life. Not just the authority of God, but response to other authorities which God has established.**